



SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

September 2010 Issue

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SOWINGS

By Brenda Ealey, SELS Administrator

July 26th marked the 20th Anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section, defines the ADA as follows:

“The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination and guarantees that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else to participate in the mainstream of American life – to enjoy employment opportunities, to purchase goods and services and to participate in State and local government programs and services. It is modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, the ADA is an ‘equal opportunity’ law, not a benefit program entitling specific services or financial assistance.” (ADA: Know Your Rights, January 2010)

As a part of the 20th celebration, Nebraska Advocacy Services developed a personal pledge in honor of the anniversary. It highlights such great points for us to be aware of, that I will share here:

I pledge to help make my community more accessible. Beginning right now, I will do my part to create a more Inclusive community. I choose:

- To use “People-first” language (“person with a disability” vs. “handicapped person”)
- To be aware of and freely allow for differences in the way people prefer to communicate (Braille, Sign Language, Telephone Relay, Slow Speech, Writing...)
- To select, at every possible opportunity, locations for parties and meetings that are barrier-free.
- To support businesses that make an effort to make their spaces easier to navigate for people who use canes, walkers, wheelchairs or any other assistive device.

(Continued on page 4)

Minutes from the Southeast Library System Board Meeting on June 9th, 2010, are now available on our Website at:

http://www.selsne.org/aboutus_page.html



Calendar

Southeast Library Systems

September-October 2010

September-All month - Library Card Sign-up Month - Remind everyone that a library card is the smartest card of all. Visit: www.ala.org/ala/conferenceevents/celebrationweeks/card/index.cfm, you'll find free public service announcements that you can download and customize with your own library's logo (print and audio formats), as well as sample press releases and letters to the editor, *52 Ways to Use Your Library Card*, and an ongoing conversation on Twitter with libraries across the nation.



- Sept. 8th - Get Out & Reach!** Outreach Projects and Health Information at the Nebraska Library Commission, in Lincoln, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the National Network/ Libraries of Medicine.
- Sept. 10th - Nebraska Library Commissioner's meeting:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at Nebraska Library Commission (1200 N Street, Lincoln—[click here](#) for Google map). The meeting is open to the public. For more information contact Maria Medrano-Nehls at: (402) 471-2045, or (800) 307-2665, or email Maria at: maria.medrano-nehls@nebraska.gov.
- Sept. 11th - 9th Annual Moonshell Festival** at Mahoney State Park. NebraskaStoryArts is bringing internationally known storytellers: Sheila Arnold, Michael McCarty, Syd Lieberman and Joyce Slater. Find more information and a schedule of events at: www.nebraskastoryarts.org/moonshell_festival.html.
- Sept. 14th - Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Read**, with presenter Carole Fiore. The conference begins at 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora, 1603 L St. More information on [page 18](#).
- Sept. 16th & 17th - ELS & SELS Youth Services Retreat** at Carol Joy Holling Camp in Ashland. Visit [page 13](#) for registration form and more information.
- September 22nd - 24th - League of Nebraska Municipalities Annual Conference** at the Holiday Inn in Kearney.
- Sept. 24th - Libraries & the Mobile Technology Landscape**, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., via Webcast or satellite downlink. Part of the College of DuPage teleconference series underwritten by Nebraska Library Commission. Register at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventlist.asp?Search=dupage&Mode=Search&Scope=NLC. We'll view this as a group at the CASTL meeting in Aurora.
- Sept. 24th - CASTL Meeting in Aurora** - CASTL Meeting at Alice M. Farr Library in Aurora. Meeting starts at 10:00 and wraps up by 3:30. Before this meeting, if possible, take a look at Dan Pink's talk online at TED (Ideas worth spreading) - on the topic of motivation and rewards for employees. Find it at: www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/dan_pink_on_motivation.html, or go to TED: www.ted.com/ and search by Dan Pink. This year at NLA/NEMA Conference -SELS and CASTL will again sponsor *One Book Many Librarians*, on October 14th—a book discussion group for librarians—and the title we've chosen is *The Passage*, by Justin Cronin. So we're encouraging you to read that title, or one of the titles on the RUSA Reading List in the Horror category. You can choose the winner, *Last Days*, by Brian Evenson, or one of the Read-Alikes: *Pilo Family Circus*, by Will Elliott; *Misery*, by Stephen King; or *Crash*, by J.G. Ballard. Still not tempted? Choose from the Short List: *The House of Lost Souls*, by F.G. Cottam; *The Little Stranger*, by Sara Waters; *The Séance*, by John Harwood; or *The Unseen*, by Alexandra Sokoloff.
- Sept. 25th - Oct. 2nd - Banned Books Week** -Think for Yourself and Let Others Do the Same. For a press kit, more information, ideas and artwork, visit: www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/mediapresscenter/presskits/bbw2010/index.cfm, or: www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/index.cfm.

Calendar continued

- Sept. 28th - Nebraska Association of Institutional Libraries (NAIL) meeting** at the Norfolk Regional Center. Michael Sauers from NLC will be presenting on Google, and Richard Miller of NLC will be presenting on the Grant Process.
- Sept. 30th—Oct. 2nd - Lincoln City Libraries Annual Book Sale** at the Lancaster Event Center, 4100 N. 84th St. ([click here for Google map](#)). More information at: www.lcl.lib.ne.us/info/BookSaleFlyer2010.pdf.
- Oct. 9th - The 15th Annual Plum Creek Children's Festival**, Concordia University, in Seward. Featured authors include: Patricia Polacco, Dan Gutman, Ashley Bryan, Sarah Weeks, Alyssa Satin Capucilli, Pat Schories, and Ralph Masiello. For more information, or to register, visit: www.cune.edu/about/2040. See [page 14](#) for details.
- Oct. 11th - 19th: MOSAIC**—For the 19th year, Lincoln Public Schools Library Media Services is hosting a multicultural book display of new multicultural books for elementary and secondary readers. It features over 500 books; African & African American, Asian & Asian American, Hispanic & Hispanic American, Middle Eastern & Middle Eastern American, European American and Native American. MOSAIC will run from Oct. 11th to Nov. 19th, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Lincoln Public Schools District Office, 5901 O Street ([click here for Google map](#)). There is an opening celebration on Oct. 11th, at 4:15 p.m., featuring Storyteller, Matthew “Sitting Bear” Jones. Bibliographies are available in hardcopy and on CD ROM. For more information, call (402)436-1832, or e-mail Glenda Willnerd at gwilln@lps.org.
- Oct.13th - Black Belt Librarian Pre-conference Workshop**. See [page 19](#) for more details.
- Oct. 13th & 15th - NLA/NEMA Conference** in Grand Island - Celebrating the Past, Creating the Future. For more information go to: <http://nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2010/>.
- Oct. 22nd - SELS Board Meeting** at Seward Memorial Library, 10:00 a.m. ([click here for Google map](#)).
- Nov. 1st, 8th & 15th - Administration Course of Basic Skills** at Seward Memorial Library. For more information, or to register, visit: www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/2604.html.
- Nov. 4th - CASTL Meeting**, Syracuse Public Library. ([click here for Google map](#)).
- Nov. 5th - Nebraska Library Commissioners Meeting**, 9:30 a.m. to Noon, at Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N St., Lincoln. ([click here for Google map](#)). The meeting is open to the public. For more information contact Maria Medrano-Nehls at: (402) 471-2045, or (800) 307-2665, or email Maria at: maria.medrano-nehls@nebraska.gov.
- Nov. 6th - Celebration of Nebraska Books**, from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at Nebraska State Historical Society's Nebraska History Museum, at 141 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln. The event is hosted by the Nebraska Center for the Book. More information is available at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/2593.html, or <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/index.asp>.
- Nov. 12th - Redesigning Today's Public Services—Focus on Reference**, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., via Webcast or satellite downlink. Part of the College of DuPage teleconference series underwritten by Nebraska Library Commission. Register at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventlist.asp?Search=dupage&Mode=Search&Scope=NLC. You are invited to watch as a group at Seward Memorial Library. Let them know by November 11th, if you plan on attending.
- Nov. 13th - National Gaming Day @ Your Library**: November 13th is National Gaming Day 2010. If you register at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ngd10reg, you have a chance to win a free game—Wits & Wagers Family, donated by North Star Games. Registration also puts your library on the national map for promotion of the event, and you can participate in the national Rock Band or Super Smash Bros. Brawl Tournament. National Gaming Day @ Your Library is an initiative of the American Library Association to connect communities around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games. Visit: http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/november2009/ngd09_pio.cfm.
- Dec. 3rd - SELS Board Meeting** at Harding & Shultz, Lincoln ([click here for Google map](#)).
- Dec. 10th - CASTL Meeting**, Webermeier Memorial Library, Milford ([click here for map](#)).
- Feb. 11th - SELS Board Meeting** at Beatrice Public Library ([click here for Google map](#)).
- Apr. 28th - SELS Board Meeting** at James Arthur Vineyards ([click here for Google map](#)).

Southeast Library System Launches New Website!

By Yvonne Weers, SELS Administrative Assistant

SELS is launching a new website and encourages you to explore it, and provide feedback on the ease of its use, and the functionality to you, as our members.

Our calendar will be displayed on the [Home Page](#), along with detailed information regarding upcoming workshops and registration

forms, as well as download links to our newsletters, annual reports, and other useful information.

The [Services/Equipment Page](#) contains lists of available equipment for check out, as well as a link to our online [Catalog](#), hosted by Apollo.

As always, we are here to serve you, our members, and welcome any comments that will help make this website a practical tool that

you will want to visit often. If at any time you would like to have something added to the website for your convenience, please feel free to contact us by clicking on the [Contact Us](#) link on the navigation bar.

Thank you for your time in helping us make this website a functional tool for our members. You may find our website at: www.selsne.org/.

Sowings *continued*

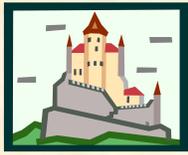
(Continued from page 1)

- To be patient and try to understand when a person's behavior seems different than my own.
- To do what I can, be who I am, and allow all others to do the same.

You can make the pledge online at the Nebraska Advocacy Services web site: www.nebraskaadvocacyservices.org/get_involved/accessibility_pledge.html. Their website is a great source for additional information, including Accessibility Resources and Accessibility Checklist for businesses, individuals and learning communities. Here's a sampling of the resources they list:

- Microsoft demonstrations (Windows 7, XP & Vista) for making your computer more accessible- www.microsoft.com/enable/demos/default.aspx.
- Assistive Technology For All (AT4ALL) for equipment to rent, borrow or purchase – <https://www.at4all.com/>.
- Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for finding a sign language interpreter, or information on the Nebraska Relay System (711) for hearing people to call a deaf or hard of hearing person – www.ncdhh.ne.gov/.
- ADA: Know Your Rights – tips for returning service members with disabilities that explains the rights of soldiers injured while serving in the military who return with disabilities - www.ada.gov/servicemembers_adainfo.html.
- The Great Plains ADA Center (www.adaproject.org) – offering programs and website information covering topics that include: the basics of ADA; employment and the ADA; accessible facilities & public rights of way; reasonable accommodations for employees; service animals in the community and emergency preparedness for people with disabilities.
- Suggested movies and booklists for people living with disabilities – such as the Dolly Gray Award: www.dddcec.org/DollyGray.htm and the Schneider Family Book Awards: www.ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/awardsrecords/schneideraward/schneiderfamily.cfm - along with a checklist by Joan K. Blaska, Ph.D. & Evelyn Lynch, Ed.D to review books for inclusion and depiction of persons with disabilities or chronic illness.
- The 2000 Census reported that almost 42% of older adults (65+ years) have one or more disabilities. The Administration on Aging projects that by 2030 there will be more than 69 million people age 65 and older, making up approximately 20% of the total U.S. population. The U.S. Census 2000 reports 250,534 Nebraskans have a disability. This is approximately 14% of the total population of Nebraska.





CASTL

Conversation Among Small Town Librarians

CASTL Recap

By Brenda Ealey, SELS Administrator

In August, the CASTL group met at Deshler Public Library with Director Joyce Schmidt as host. We listened to Karen Hyman's presentation from the Public Library Association Conference, titled: *Shortcuts to Greatness or 10 things that great libraries know and maybe you don't*. Here's a portion of what was shared in Hyman's presentation:

What makes a library great? A belief that you could be better.

Great libraries have great leadership – there is no alternative. One of the traits of a great leader must be courage – which is a choice, not a personality trait.

Visionary leadership relies on wonderful staff. There is no alternative. Keep in mind that technical skills can be learned – personality does not change.

Mother's Day is over, or the maternal approach to library service, or wanting customers to not only do things in the right way, but to **want** to do things right. Instead – customer focused libraries, where we ditch the rules and burn the signs; show respect and affection for the customers; we adjust to the customer, not vice versa; if we aren't the library that people want, that's our fault – and when we keep in mind that the library is as friendly as your least friendly public service employee.

Great libraries need vision and driving value statements that inspire key players (customers, non-users, funders & staff) – and meet their needs.

Hyman shared examples of these library vision statements:

- *The nicest library in America*—West Palm Beach Florida
- *More than you expect!* Glen Carbon Centennial Library
- *A thriving community where wisdom prevails*-Columbus Metropolitan Library
- *We open doors for curious minds*-Anythink: Rangeview Library District (CO)
- *Your place. Stories you want, information you need, connections you seek*-Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library



CASTL

Conversation Among Small Town Librarians

2010 Schedule

- **Sept. 24th: Alice M. Farr Library, 1603 L St., Aurora** ([Google map](#))
- **Nov. 4th: Syracuse Public Library, 496 6th St., Syracuse** ([Google map](#))
- **Dec. 10th: Webermeier Memorial Library, 617 2nd St., Milford** ([Google map](#))



The Unnamed Column

By Becky Baker, President of SELS Friends

The SELS Friends hope to regularly put news in the SoLiS to help keep everyone up to date with what is going on with the group. One of our first requests of you as readers is to help us name the column! Something catchy incorporating the Friends idea would be ideal, and the winning suggestion will earn its submitter a free bag of candy! Send your ideas to info@selsfriends.org and help name the unnamed!

Ruth Carlock is our newest SELS Friends member, and she was also the lucky recipient of



SELS Friends (left to right): Brenda Ealey, Julie Beno, Tom Schmitz, Karen Frank, and Becky Baker at the Iron Librarian

the very LAST commemorative leather bookmark given to new members upon joining. Congratulations and thank you Ruth!

The SELS Friends held their annual membership and board meetings on Saturday, August 28 at the Platte Valley Antique Mall. Minutes from both meetings can be found at <http://selsfriends.org/members.html>. Following the meetings a small but fiercely competitive (no, not really – well, perhaps just a little competitive) group vied for the title of Iron Library 2010! Karen Frank emerged as the victor, winning the traveling trophy for a year. And if laughter is truly good for a person's health, this year's participants have to be the healthiest people in the Southeast Library System! It was a truly fantastic afternoon, and one you should all plan to attend in the future! The SELS Friends are still accepting recipes



Karen Frank of Greenwood Public Library reigns as the 2010 Iron Librarian Champion of the Year!

for a future cookbook. SELS Board member Wanda Marget mentioned that she should submit all of her favorite recipes, so they would all be together in one book. What a great idea for all of us, and what a great gift for our families! Information on how to submit recipes is at www.selsfriends.org. You do not have to be a Friends member to be a part of this venture.

Watch for details on upcoming events in the next newsletter, and please consider joining the SELS Friends or renewing your membership soon.

Patron Runs Into Seward Memorial Library

By Becky Baker, Director, and SELS Board Member

We are very glad summer is over and school is back in session. Our summer numbers were down a little from last year, but not much. The summer reading club earned over 25,000 points!

We have had an interesting time with our building of late. In early August a patron drove forward instead of backward and damaged a pillar that supports our pergola. Then yesterday part of our east stairway fell to pieces! All in all a very interesting August so far.

We are looking forward (for many reasons) to a great fall session of programs. Besides our usual slate of story times, after school programs, teen programs, and computer classes, our annual *All Seward Reads Together* program would have typically ended in August or September. However, John Hart, the Edgar Award-winning author of our 2010 title *Down River*, has agreed to visit Seward next April, so we are interested in keeping the mystery theme going until then. If you have any mysterious program ideas, we would



love to hear them!

Read Aloud Nebraska is sponsoring, along with PLTS of NLA, a visit to Nebraska by Michael Sullivan, self-described as an author, reading specialist, storyteller, and chess coach. The Nebraska

Regional Library Systems, SCYP, and NEMA are also helping promote this program. I heard him speak at MPLA in Oklahoma City in April and he was fantastic! He will be in Nebraska for nearly 2 weeks during April of 2011, speaking at several sites across the state. He will also make some school visits and do a least one parent program while he is here. Watch for details to come, and please plan to attend his program, you won't be sorry!





Morton-James Exhibits the Art of Sue Eickhoff

By Barbara Hegr, Director, and SELS Board President

Kimmel Gallery Exhibit is Watercolor Artist, Sue Eickhoff. Friends of the Library used book sale is September 18th. The library with assistance from the Harry & Grace Moller Library Endowment Fund and Friends of the Library are participating in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library where children from birth to age 5 can register to receive a free book each month. Applejack

activities are Edgerton Explorit Science Discovery Day on September 18th at the library. The week of September 19th is Open House Week. Events planned are Runza's annual Great Books for Great Kids fundraiser, Business After Hours on Thursday evening and we are hand printing a wall in the children's library. Information stations will be placed throughout the building to explain collections, services, and programs. Tours are available to anyone.

What's Happening at Lincoln Public Schools

By Glenda Willnerd, Lincoln Public Schools District Office, and SELS Board Vice President

Lincoln Public Schools opened its doors to 35,600 students this year. Here is a glimpse of a few changes at LPS for this coming school year.

- Chinese will be added to exploratory feature at two middle schools – Park and Goodrich.
- Library Media Services has added several new resources for students this year. This includes PebbleGo Earth and Space and World Book Online
- This year middle and high school students and parents will have access online to attendance, assignments and grades.
- Physical education and health will pilot a new program called Math and Movement in the elementary schools.
- Social studies will feature a new Habits of the Mind curriculum that will help students become better problem solvers and critical thinkers.

Two schools moved off site for renovation. They are Zeman and Kahoa.

LPS Media Services will be hosting international speaker, Jamie McKenzie for three days in September. He will speak to

school librarians, principals and other staff members on the topic – It's all about the question.

LPS will host three author visits in October – Patricia Polacco, Ashley Bryan and sisters - Susan Stevens Crummel and Janet Stevens.

LPS will be sending school librarians to the SLJ Leadership Summit in Chicago and to the 21st Century Learning Summit in Chicago.

LPS Media Services will open their 19th MOSAIC display of multicultural books on October 11th with guest presenter – Matthew Sitting Bear Jones.



Levitt Library Kicks Off a New School Year

By Ruth Carlock, Assistant Director, and SELS Board Secretary

We have our new school year started. Last week we had meetings, picnics, registration, etc. Classes began August 23rd. We are very pleased with the number of students. We don't have an official count yet, but President Eckman sent us an email saying there are approximately 480 students enrolled. This is a 10% increase over last year, and a 20% increase over two years ago. Now we are making some adjustments to be able to accommodate this many students in our classes.

Several things have happened on our campus this summer. Childress Hall was remodeled to hold the Bookstore and Mail Room, and where they were located in the Mackey Center has been remodeled to be our

Admissions Office. The construction for a new elevator in Middlebrook Hall is still in progress. Due to the elevator, we lost our exercise/weight room. It has been announced that construction on a new 3000 square foot Baker Training Facility will begin this fall, and they hope to have it completed by the spring semester.

In the library, the walls around the main floor computer lab were painted making it more attractive. We have nearly completed our periodicals barcoding project.

I've been very busy recently making some changes and updates to the Online Cataloging and Classification class that I will be teaching in the State Library Program this fall through Central Community College. The class started August 23rd.

Million Dollar Library Lawsuit

By Adam Prochaska, Attorney for Harding and Schultz Law Firm, and SELS Board Member

My law firm is evaluating LEXIS for Microsoft Office – a program which converts legal citations in word documents and/or e-mails to active hyperlinks. The hyperlinks direct the user to the specific page of the cited authority. As one of two non-librarians on the Board, I also want to express my appreciation of libraries. Having children has substantially

increased my love and appreciation for the public library. In the last few months, there have been some interesting cases involving libraries. These involve the termination of a library employee resulting in a settlement for over one million dollars, a lawsuit involving a student's right to complain about teachers on Facebook, and a ruling by the Washington State Supreme Court on filtering. Details about these cases were provided at the Board Meeting.

Tomsu & Wyant Win Visit From Author

By Sally Snyder, Coordinator of Children and Young Adult Library Services at Nebraska Library Commission

Let's all give a cheer for Lindsey Tomsu and Gordon Wyant who are the lucky winners of the recent *Still Sucks to Be Me* Launch Contest and have won a visit to the La Vista library from the author Kimberley Pauley. The author combined their entries when she learned how close their libraries are. Visit her announcement [here](#) and find out what percentage of the vote the Nebraska entry received. (Woo-hoo!) Thanks for voting!!! (Copied directly from my blog post at:

www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/2010/07/what_sallys_reading.html.





News and Notes

Celebration of Nebraska Books Planned for November 6th

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

The celebration is open to the public and will include a program by Dr. Joseph J. Wydeven on *The Home Place* by Wright Morris, the **2010 One Book One Nebraska**. One Book One Nebraska is a statewide reading program encouraging all Nebraskans to read and talk about the same book. Throughout 2010, Nebraskans have been reading, discussing and learning about Wright Morris, *The Home Place*, and the interaction between photo and text. 2010 One Book One Nebraska is hosted by the [Lone](#)

[Tree Literary Society](#) and is sponsored by the [Nebraska Center for the Book](#), [Nebraska Humanities Council](#), [Nebraska Library Association](#), [Nebraska Library Commission](#), and the [University of Nebraska Press](#). Public nominations for the **2011 One Book One Nebraska** were submitted in June and July. Finalists will be revealed in the fall and the 2011 selection will be announced at the Nov. 6 celebration.

The celebration will feature presentation of the Nebraska Book Awards and Jane Geske Award. The **2010 Nebraska Book Awards** honor authors and publishers of books with a Nebraska connection published in 2009. Featured winning authors will read from their work and sign copies of their books. The **2010 Jane Geske Award** will be presented to an organization, business, library, school, association, or group that has made an exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or literature in Nebraska.

The Jane Geske Award commemorates Geske's passion for books, and was established in recognition of her contributions to the well-being of the libraries of Nebraska. Jane Geske was a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book, former director of the Nebraska Library Commission, and a long-time leader in many Nebraska library and literary activities.

The **Nebraska Center for the Book Annual Meeting** will also be held at the November 6 celebration. An **Awards Reception** honoring the winning authors will conclude the festivities.

For more information contact [Mary Jo Ryan](#), 402-471-3434 or 800-307-2665 or see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/index.html> or the [Facebook](#) pages (www.facebook.com) of the Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission, and One Book One Nebraska.

[Click here to register!](#)


Nebraska Libraries
 CELEBRATING THE PAST CREATING THE FUTURE

Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association

Annual Conference - October 13-15, 2010

Holiday Inn-Midtown/Howard Johnson Hotels, Grand Island, Nebraska

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference>

News and Notes



Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read

September 25–October 2, 2010

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

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

viewpoints for all who wish to read and access them.

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

the availability of information in a free society.

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

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

NLC Announces Broadband Grant Recipients

The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Commerce has awarded the Library Commission a **\$2,416,403** grant to fund Nebraska's public computer center project, *Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities*. The three-year project is designed to expand broadband capacity; upgrade public computing resources in libraries; and advance access to employment, learning, health information, and E-Government services. The Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), provides funding to expand broadband access and adoption in communities across the US. and intends to increase jobs, spur

investments in technology and infrastructure, and provide long-term economic benefits. In addition to the federal grant, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will provide **\$1,251,786** in matching funds, including a grant and technical assistance to support the project. The total project budget is **\$3,668,189**.

The news release (to be released to the media today) is located on the Commission's *Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities* website at www.nlc.state.ne.us/lbbnc/index.html. Also on this website is a Project Fact Sheet www.nlc.state.ne.us/lbbnc/NLCProjectFactSheet.pdf and a list of participating libraries at www.nlc.state.ne.us/lbbnc/libraries.html. Thanks to 140 library partners across the state, we are pleased to begin the three-year implementation process to make this grant project a reality.

We will continue to add new information to our blog (<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/nlc/index.html>) as it becomes available. See www.nlc.state.ne.us/lbbnc/contact.html for contact information. Mary Jo Ryan, Communications Coordinator Nebraska Library Commission.

Congratulations to the following libraries in SELS who will be participating: Auburn Memorial Library; Beatrice Public Library; Crete Public Library; Fairbury Public Library; Fairmont Public Library; Falls City Library & Arts Center; Gilbert Public Library (Friend); Bruun Memorial Library (Humboldt); Lincoln City Libraries; Pawnee City Carnegie Public Library; Struckman-Baatz Public Library (Western); Dvoracek Memorial Library (Wilber); Wymore Public Library; and Kilgore Memorial Library (York).

One Book Many Librarians—*The Passage*, by Justin Cronin

By Brenda Ealey, SELS Administrator

We hope you'll join us for One Book Many Librarians at NLA/NEMA in Grand Island this year. We may shake things up a bit with this year's selection – *The Passage* by Justin Cronin. Cronin's previous novels have won the Penn/Hemingway Award (*Marion O'Neal*) and the Stephen Crane Prize (*The Summer Guest*), and he's a professor of English at Rice University, where he teaches a course in creative writing – so, he's no slacker as an author. My interest was piqued by an interview by Scott Simon on NPR in June of 2010 – who described the book this way:

“The biggest book of summer so far is Justin Cronin's *The Passage*, a

massive novel in which a band of people attempt to survive in a small colony surrounded on all sides by vampires. But these are not the sexy, debonair vampires of TV and *'Twilight.'* Justin Cronin's vampires are real monsters.”

The idea for the book came from Cronin's 8-year-old daughter, Iris – who worked with him on planning the novel. She'd suggested that he write his next book “about a girl who saves the world and that it should be interesting.” You can listen to or read the transcript of Simon's interview with Cronin online at NPR – www.npr.org.

Amazon (www.amazon.com) listed *The Passage* as one of the Best Books of the Month for June 2010, and reviewer Daphne

Durham said: “Cronin is a remarkable storyteller whose gorgeous writing brings depth and vitality to this ambitious epic about a virus that nearly destroys the world, and a six-year-old girl who holds the key to bringing it back...*The Passage* is a grand mashup of literary and supernatural, a stunning beginning to a trilogy that is sure to dazzle readers of both genres.”

Please join us for one of our favorite times at conference - One Book Many Librarians on Thursday, October 14th at 3:45. It's a great chance to join your colleagues in a book discussion group, complete with beverages and snacks to contribute to the fun. Get started now in reading *The Passage* by Justin Cronin and we'll look forward to





Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival

Children's Day Registration Form

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010

Note to Teachers: Pre-registration is required. Children's sectionals are free of charge. Seating is limited and registration requests will be taken in the order received. No phone reservations will be accepted. Complete and return the following form ASAP. Please print information legibly.

IF REGISTERING MORE THAN ONE GRADE, PLEASE FILL OUT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL.

School _____
 School address _____
street address city state zip
 Grade level _____ Teacher _____

Contact Person: (registration materials will be sent to this person at the address above)

Name _____ E-mail **(required for registration)** _____
 Day phone () _____ Evening phone () _____
 Number of children attending _____ Number of adults attending _____

Activities begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. See the schedule for complete information.

List the times that you will _____ on and _____ from campus.
arrive depart

Event Options

The following is a complete listing of event options. Indicate your top 4 preferences by numbering in the space provided. Use #1 to indicate your first choice. Please take note of the developmental appropriateness of each sectional.

Alyssa Capucilli
Author

Grades K-1 _____
 Grades 2-3 _____

Pat Schories
Author and illustrator

Grades K-1 _____
 Grades 2-3 _____

Sarah Weeks
Author

Grades 2-3 _____
 Grades 4-5 _____
 Grades 6-8 _____

Ralph Masiello
Author and illustrator

Grades K-2 _____
 Grades 3-5 _____
 Grades 6-8 _____

Ashley Bryan
Author and illustrator

Grades 2-3 _____
 Grades 4-5 _____
 Grades 6-8 _____

Patricia Polacco
Author and illustrator

Grades 1-2 _____
 Grades 3-4 _____
 Grades 5-6 _____

Dan Gutman
Author

Grades 1-3 _____
 Grades 4-6 _____

MUSIC ALIVE!*
CU Music Department

Grades 6-8 _____

Folktales and Fractured Fairytales*
CU Theatre Department

Grades 3-5 _____

Art Workshop - Color Celebration
CU Art Education Department

Grades 3-4 _____

Author talks by Concordia pre-service teachers
 (Interactive, hands-on presentations of 45 min.)
 Grade level requested _____

You may want to allow time for:
 (No pre-registration is needed for these activities.)

- Autographing sessions
- The Bartels Gems Museum
- Marxhausen Gallery of Art
- Literacy activities on the lawn

***Regrettably, building is not handicap accessible.**

Upon receipt of this form, we will structure your festival schedule based upon your preferences. **You will receive a confirmation e-mail, followed by a detailed schedule and packet later in the summer.** Once capacity has been reached, the sectionals will close. If you have any questions, please call 800-535-5494, ext. 7483.

Please forward this registration form to:
 Concordia University
 Attn: Vikki Gremel
 800 North Columbia
 Seward, NE 68434
 Or fax to 402-643-3328

Nebraska Regional Library System Snowman Raffle



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

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

Tickets are \$3 each or 2 for \$5. You may purchase tickets at your system office now or at the System booth at the NLA/NEMA Conference in Grand Island. You do not need to be present to win.



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

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

Letters About Literature is a national reading and writing promotion program.

Sponsored in cooperation with the Nebraska Center for the Book, the Nebraska Library Commission, and Houchen Bindery Ltd.

Participation Guidelines for Readers

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

How to Enter

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

Level 1 — Grades 4–6

Level 2 — Grades 7-8

Level 3 — Grades 9–12

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

- Did the characters, conflict or setting mirror your life in some way? If so, how? If not, why not?
- What strengths or flaws do you share with a character or characters in the book?
- What did the book show you about your world that you never noticed before?
- What surprised you about yourself while you were reading this book? Why was this work meaningful to you?

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

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

- Correspond, don't compliment! Your letter should inform rather than flatter the author.
- Do not summarize the book's plot! The author wrote the book and knows what happened. What the author doesn't know is how the book affected you.

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

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

STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS

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

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

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

How to Submit Your Letter

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

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

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

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

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

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

- **Content** (the writer's achievement in addressing the contest theme).
- **Writer's Voice** (the writer's style and originality of expression).
- **Exposition** (the writer's use of language skills, organization and grammar).

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

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

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

Note for Teachers Submitting Class Sets:

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

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



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

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

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

Book/Story Title _____ Author _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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

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

School/Library: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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

Teacher/Librarian Contact: _____ E-mail: _____

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

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books

Presenter: **Carole Fiore**

September 14th or 15th, 2010

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



September 14th
Alice M. Farr Library
1603 "L" Street
Aurora NE

OR

\$20 per person
(includes lunch)

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

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

Carole will teach you how to:

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

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

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books Registration

Circle one: **Aurora** or **Paxton**

Name: _____

Library: _____

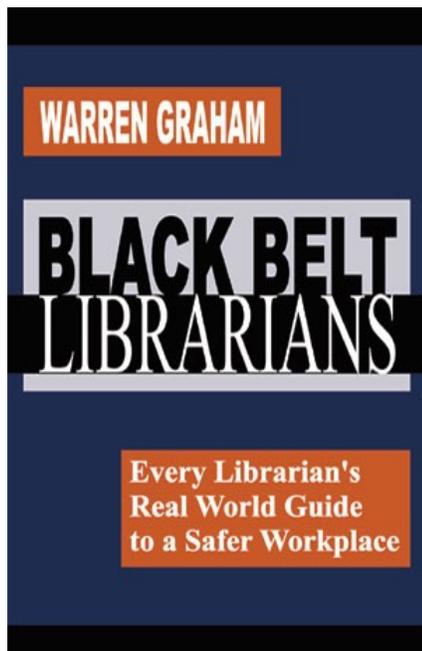
City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail \$20.00 check and registration by **September 1, 2010** to:
Republican Valley Library System
2727 W. Second Street # 233
Hastings, NE 68901-4684
800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975
E-mail: rvtasst@inebraska.com

Nebraska Regional Library Systems Pre-Conference at NLA/NEMA Conference



October 13, 2010
Midtown Holiday Inn
Grand Island
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Grand Island, NE 68803

Cost is \$20 (includes lunch)
6 Continuing Education Credits

Warren Graham will discuss:

- Handling difficult customers for public service staff and managers
- Complete security staff training
- Analysis of existing procedures and recommendations for improvement
- Customized training for specific needs
- Self-defense tactics for front line staff



Register at the NLA/NEMA
Conference Website:

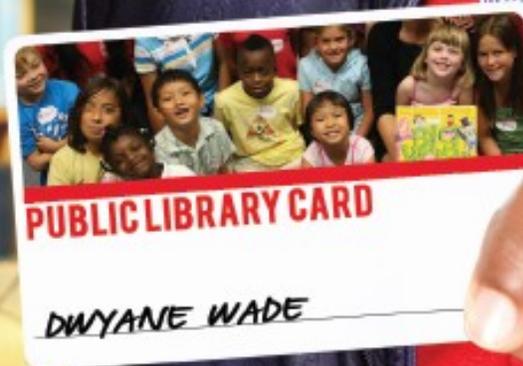
www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2010

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

“The library card is the
smartest card in my wallet.
Sign up for yours today.”

DWYANE WADE,

NBA Champion and Olympic Gold medalist. <http://www.wadesworldfoundation.org/>



SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

Visit your library today. It is a community hub of activity. In tough economic times, your library card gives you free access to books and computers, homework help, assistance with resumes and job searches, accurate financial information, adult education courses, CDs, DVDs and much more.

For more information, please visit: www.atyourlibrary.org

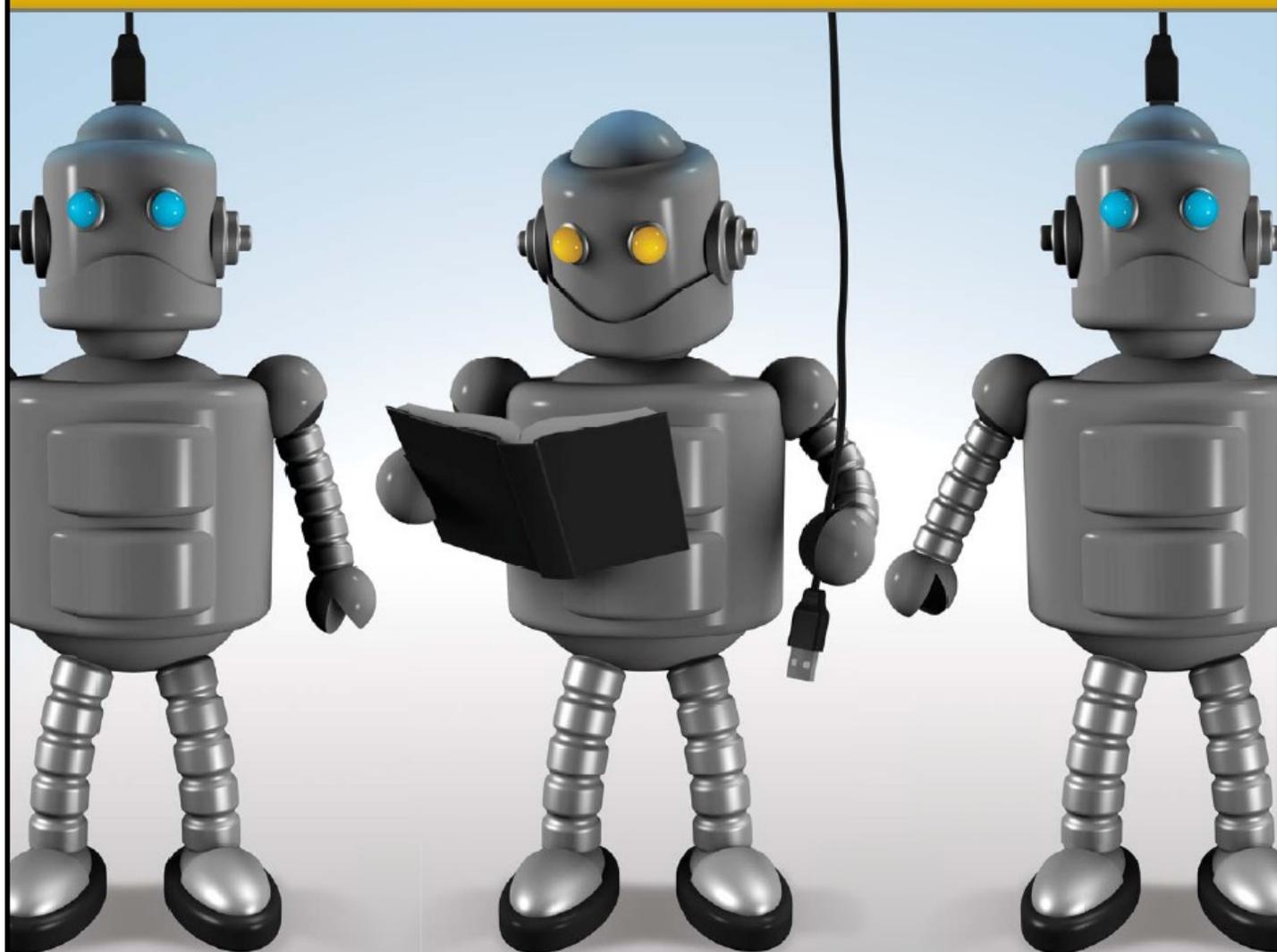
ALA American
Library
Association



@your library
The Campaign for America's Libraries

Think for Yourself and Let Others Do the Same

Books Challenged or Banned in 2009–2010 | Robert P. Doyle



BANNED BOOKS WEEK Celebrate Your Freedom to Read www.ala.org/bbooks

Sponsored by: American Booksellers Association, American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, American Library Association, American Society of Journalists and Authors, Association of American Publishers, and National Association of College Stores. Endorsed by: Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the
counties of:

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

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September 2010 Issue

*"A censor is a man who
knows more than he
thinks you ought to."*

-- Laurence Peter,
professor of education,
1977

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.) 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.