



Legislative Day Activities Held

The Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Legislative Day Luncheon was held in February in Lincoln.

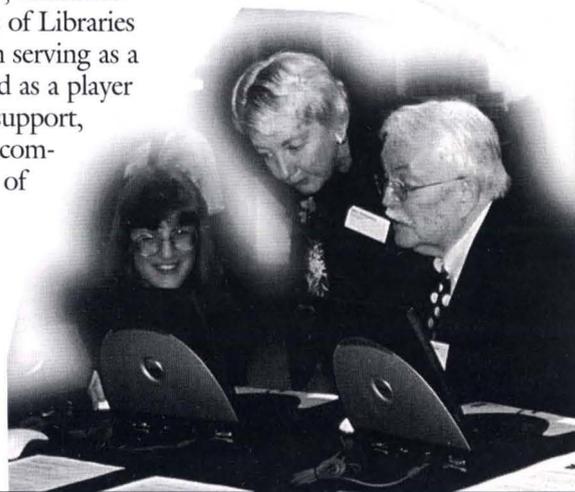
More than one hundred and fifty library staff, trustees, and city officials attended, with thirty-seven legislative districts represented by senators or senators' representatives.

Using the theme, **Lifelong Learning @ your library™**, the daylong event focused on the variety of services that librarians provide for their customers. With a special emphasis on library services to youth, the luncheon featured a recognition ceremony for young people involved with a local public or school library. A morning briefing by NLA Legislative Committee Chair Kathy Tooker, Library

Commission Director Rod Wagner, Speaker of the Legislature Senator Curt Bromm, and NLA Legislative Liaison Ken Winston provided information on current legislation and library issues. An afternoon seminar, sponsored by the NLA Legislative Committee and the Nebraska Library Commission, featured Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director of Friends of Libraries USA. She spoke on serving as a library advocate and as a player in creating library support, addressing how to communicate the value of libraries as institutions that support lifelong learning. For more information contact NLA Legislative Committee Chair Kathleen Tooker,

402-330-7884, 800-627-7884, e-mail: <ktooker@alltel.net>. ▲

Library Commission Staffer Susan Knisely (left) demonstrates online databases to Ann Stephens, Keene Memorial Library (Fremont) Director and Larry Jirsak, Library Board Member.



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Centennial Snapshot: John Kopischke



John Kopischke served as director of the Nebraska Library Commission from 1976—1987. He said, in the August 20, 1976 *Overtones from the Underground*, "climbing into the driver's seat at this point in the Commission's travels must be a little bit like jumping onto the running board of a rocket; the panorama is dazzling and the speed is exhilarating, but the flight plan takes awhile to perceive." Kopischke led the formation of NEBASE, the state's OCLC Network; moved library communications from teletype to computers; reorganized the state's regional library development service

from state-run networks to nonprofit regional system organizations; expanded film service; enhanced children's service with the development of regional Juvenile Resource Centers and a statewide summer reading program; established the Nebraska Education Information Center Network, providing career and business development resources with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation; automated the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; and helped the University of Nebraska Medical Center establish the Consumer Health Information Service (CHIRS). ▲

From the Director: Budget Cuts Interrupt Plans for More Equitable Library Support

In mid-January, Governor Mike Johanns presented his biennium budget proposals. To address an estimated revenue and expenditure gap of more than \$650 million, the Governor proposed state fund reductions of up to 10% for most state agencies (including the Library Commission). These reductions compound the 8% state funding cuts enacted for the current fiscal year for many state agencies (including the Library Commission).

The Legislature's committee on appropriations began budget hearings in February. The committee will present its budget recommendations to the Legislature by late April. Biennium budget decisions will be made by late May, prior to the Legislature's adjournment on June 2. Governor Johanns built his budget proposal on spending reductions and an increase in the cigarette tax. The Legislature will consider additional taxes in developing the biennium budget.

A 10% state funds reduction will eliminate or reduce some Library Commission services and state aid to libraries. Budget cuts will require reductions in personnel, Talking Book and Braille Services, reference and InterLibrary Loan services, federal government documents services, and across the board reductions in all state aid to libraries, including regional library systems, direct aid to public libraries, InterLibrary Loan compensation, library education grants, online database licenses, and children and young adult services grants.

Even though state budget reductions will be made for the coming 2003–2005 biennium, the Library Commission's long term goal is to increase the level of state aid to local Nebraska libraries. Progress toward that goal has been interrupted, but the commitment remains.

Rod Wagner ▲

NEBASE Annual Meeting-West Planned for Gering

The NEBASE Annual Meeting-West will be held at the Gering Civic Center on April 17. This year's meeting offers a variety of topics and three simultaneous afternoon sessions.

Before the meeting, an informal "Meet and Greet" session will feature Network Services and NEBASE staff demonstrating new database interfaces and OCLC products, as well as answering questions. Luncheon roundtables will feature a variety of hot topics. The afternoon sessions include OCLC's Connexion cataloging, Book Repair, and netLibrary.

Library staff from all over Nebraska are welcome to join us. Register at <www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/nam.html> or contact Jeannette Powell, Network Services Staff Assistant, 402-471-7740, 800-307-2665, e-mail: <jpowell@nlc.state.ne.us>. ▲

NEMA Technology Training Institutes Set

The Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA) has scheduled technology training sessions for:

- ▲ May 3, Fairbury High School
- ▲ June 7, Grand Island Walnut Middle School
- ▲ July 31, Gering High School
- ▲ September 20, South Sioux City Middle School

Registration Deadline is April 25. To register see <nema.k12.ne.us/Techreg.pdf>. For more information see <nema.k12.ne.us/techinfo.pdf> or contact Dr. R. J. (Becky) Pasco, Assistant Professor, College of Education, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 402-554-2119, e-mail: <rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu>. ▲

NCompass

Spring 2003 • Vol. 10 No. 2

NCompass is a quarterly publication of the **Nebraska Library Commission**, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023. Phone: 402-471-2045 or 800-307-2665 (in Nebraska only). Fax: 402-471-2083. **Home Page:** <www.nlc.state.ne.us> ISSN: 1075-9719.

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Nebraska Library Commissioners: **Karen Warner**, Norfolk, term expires 2003; **Robert King**, Holdrege, term expires 2003; **Wally Seiler**, Chair, Alliance, term expires 2004; **Richard Jussel**, Kearney, term expires 2004; **Velma Sims-Shiple**y, Fremont, term expires 2004; **Kristen Rogge**, Johnson, term expires 2005. Commission meetings are held the second Friday of every other month, or as scheduled by public action of the board.

This publication was supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act.

Library Commission Distributes State Aid

The Nebraska Library Commission annually provides direct state aid payments to eligible public libraries. This money augments local support for library services and is used by local public libraries to meet a wide variety of growing needs. To be eligible for this annual state aid payment a library must be accredited and must submit Public Library Statistical data online using Bibliostat™ Collect. Additionally, local income must be equal to or greater than that of the three previous years. State Aid Award letters were mailed at the end of February.

One hundred sixty-six public libraries met the eligibility requirements and more than \$270,000 was distributed in direct state aid payments.

Libraries report that state aid payments are used to fund continuing education opportunities for staff, to provide enhancements to children's programming, to pur-

chase valuable reference materials, and to round out library print collections in areas of special interest. For more information contact Kit Keller, Library Data Services Coordinator, 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail: <kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us>. ▲

Average State Aid Award Amounts

Statewide	\$2,220 . . .	\$0.91 per capita
Libraries serving less than 5,000	968 . . .	\$1.06 per capita
Libraries serving more than 5,000	7,503 . . .	\$0.24 per capita

Training Offered Across Nebraska

Network Services staff are providing workshops throughout the state this spring to train library staff to help Nebraska citizens use online database resources provided by the Nebraska Library Commission. Training focuses on using the **netLibrary eBook** collection and changes to two of the Commission's statewide databases, **Wilson and bigchalk eLibrary**.

Updates on Upgrades: Learn about the new Wilson and bigchalk eLibrary interfaces brings library staff up-to-date on recent enhancements to the Wilson OmniFile Full Text Select and Biographies Plus Illustrated and to the bigchalk eLibrary (formerly Electric Library) databases. Participants will explore the new features and capabilities of

each database with hands-on exercises.

netLibrary Training provides an overview of netLibrary eBooks, including searching and checking out titles. Participants will also explore the eBook Tool Kit to learn how to promote the netLibrary collection. Information on the new shared collection of netLibrary titles available from the Nebraska Library Commission will also be included.

Database Roadshows are also planned for seven sites across

Nebraska from June through October.

For more information and to register online see <www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/training.html> or contact Jeannette Powell, Network Services Staff Assistant, 402-471-7740, 800-307-2665, e-mail: <jpowell@nlc.state.ne.us>. ▲



Commission staff Allana Novotny (standing) provides training at Metro Community College in Elkhorn.

Library Services and Technology Act Passes House

On March 6, The U.S. House of Representatives passed the **Museum and Library Services Act** (H.R. 13) on a 416 – 2 vote. H.R. 13 reauthorizes the Library Services and Technology Act for a five-year period. Nebraska Congressional Representatives Doug Bereuter, Tom Osborne, and Lee Terry voted in favor of the bill. Rep. Bereuter's

remarks in support of H.R. 13 are included in the Congressional Record. The Senate must now enact similar legislation.

An important feature of the legislation is a provision that changes the funding formula for the Library Services and Technology Act. The formula would be revised to increase the base amount (not

changed since 1971) and authorize the overall amount at \$300 million for FY2003 and "such sums" for the next four years. The change in the base amount would help smaller populated states. For more information see the ALA Washington Office Web site at <www.ala.org/washoff/>. ▲

Accreditation Review in Process

The July 2002 Library Commission long range plan, *Making a Difference @ your library™ Nebraska Library Services and Technology Act Plan for Library and Information Services 2003-2007*, calls for the evaluation of the Public Library Accreditation program to address changing library and information needs.

The accreditation process establishes expectations for governance, services, and resources for public libraries. The anticipated outcome is that Nebraska citizens will have access to quality library and information services from public libraries that meet statewide guidelines. **Public Library Accreditation Guidelines** were developed for Nebraska public libraries to promote and support improvements in Nebraska public library services. Library Commission staff are currently attending library meetings across the state to solicit input on these guidelines. They will be available at the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Public Library Section Spring Meetings on May 12, 14, and 16 in Sidney, Gibbon, and Nebraska City.

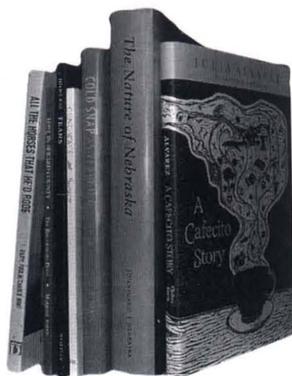
The guidelines and process will be revised based on responses and feedback. This draft will be distributed, inviting feedback and suggestions. The process is scheduled for completion by October 2003.

Issues related to accreditation include:

- ▲ Variation in local income, including sources and per capita amounts
- ▲ Property tax lids and impact on maintenance-of-effort
- ▲ Outdated guidelines inconsistent with changing environment
- ▲ School/public combinations
- ▲ Grant eligibility
- ▲ Staff competencies

Information about the Accreditation program and open-ended questions about the process are available on the Library Commission Web site at <www.nlc.state.ne.us>, search on Accreditation. Nebraska library staff and board members are invited to review these materials and comment to Kit Keller, Library Data Services Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail: <kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us>. ▲

Nominate Books for Nebraska Awards



The Nebraska Book Awards, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, recognizes and honors books written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relating to Nebraska. Nominations must be submitted by **June 30**. For more information and entry forms see the Library Commission home page, <www.nlc.state.ne.us>, search on Book Awards. Enter by sending the entry form, three copies of the book, and the \$40 entry fee to NCB Book Awards Competition, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023. ▲

Basic Skills Class Set for Spring

Public Services is the Basic Skills class planned for Spring 2003. One of four Basic Skills courses required for certification of librarians in public libraries, this course is sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and Nebraska's Regional Library Systems. It addresses public service attitude, reference service, reader's guidance, planning, policy development, and developing needs-based services and programs. Participants who are not taking the course to fulfill the requirement for certification will earn six Continuing Education (CE) credits.

Sites and dates are listed on the Library Commission home page Announcement and Calendar,

<www.nlc.state.ne.us>. The cost for the course is \$35 for online or onsite participation (lunch not included). A notebook of curriculum material will be provided. For more information contact Pam Scott, 402-471-2694, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail:

<pscott@nlc.state.ne.us>. To register contact Jodene Glaesemann, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N St., Suite 120, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-2023, 402-471-4009, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail: <jglaesemann@nlc.state.ne.us>. Payment is required prior to attendance at the first class. ▲

E-Rate Support Reported

One hundred and twenty-seven public libraries in Nebraska were refunded more than \$245,000 in discounts on their telecommunications costs through the e-rate program. The discounts range from 20% to 90% based on the eligibility for free and reduced price school lunch and the cost of telecommunications in the library service area. This funding helps public libraries provide more effective services to customers by improving the type and range

of technology access available in libraries. E-rate is a federally managed program that promotes the use of telecommunications in schools and libraries. For information about the current round of funding contact Pam Scott, Library Development Consultant, 402-471-2694, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail: <pscott@nlc.state.ne.us> or see the Library Commission home page, search on E-Rate Universal Service. ▲

Telling the World about Talking Books

There is more than one way to promote the **Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service**. In fact, currently there are four ways. Activities underway include:

- ▲ Radio stations, particularly in Western Nebraska, aired public service announcements produced by the Library of Congress.
- ▲ A news release concerning the 50th anniversary of the Talking Book and Braille Service generated newspaper articles, including a feature story in the *Hastings Tribune*.
- ▲ Nebraska public libraries distributed posters throughout their communities to encourage qualifying individuals to pick up talking book application forms at their public library. These posters, along with

application forms, are provided free to any Nebraska library.

- ▲ A direct mailing to Nebraska optometrists and ophthalmologists helped get the word out that they can certify applications for patients who qualify for talking book service. Librarians can also certify applications for individuals with visual or physical impairment that limits their ability to use regular print.

Library staff and board members are encouraged to use these tools to reach out to this potential customer group. For more information see the Library Commission Web site, <www.nlc.state.ne.us>, search on Talking Books, or contact Dave Oertli, Talking Book and Braille Service Director, 402-471-4005, 800-742-7691, e-mail: <doertli@nlc.state.ne.us>.



Reading is for everyone

Free talking book and magazine service for individuals with visual or physical disabilities

Pick up application forms @your library™

Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service
1200 N Street, Suite 120 • Lincoln, NE 68508-2023 • 402-471-4038 • 800-742-7691
talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us • www.nlc.state.ne.us/tbb

Talking Book Studios Go Digital

The studios of the **Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service** are being converted to digital audio to improve the sound quality and functionality of books and magazines recorded in Nebraska. Up to thirty books each year are recorded in the studios. Since

tape recorders currently in use are more than fourteen years old, this upgrade will reduce staff and volunteer production and service time. Borrowers will continue to use the same players they have now. New features will become available as digital players are introduced. In the future, cus-

tomers will have the option of linking directly from the table of contents to a specific article or linking to footnotes. For more information contact Bill Ainsley, Talking Book and Braille Service Studio Manager, 402-471-3246, 800-742-7691, e-mail: <bainsley@nlc.state.ne.us>.

Computers and Training Provided to Nebraska Libraries

The **U.S. Library Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** awarded funding to 206 Nebraska public libraries for new computers, software, and Internet access. Some of these public libraries qualified to purchase computers with local funds and to receive (at no charge to the library) software, training, technical support, software documentation, and upgrades. The Library Commission provided funding to help support these purchases.

Installation of computers and training provided by the Gates Foundation began with Before Your Computer Arrives workshops held in eight sites across Nebraska. Three hundred and seventy library staff and supporters viewed a demonstration of the computers and learned about ordering the hardware. They also received media kits developed by the Library Commission (using Gates Foundation materials) to help

spread the word about expanded community public access to the Internet.

As computers arrive, libraries are receiving hands-on training at their individual sites, as well as attending training at nearby libraries. As of mid-February, Nebraska libraries had received 388 computers, 60 content servers, 137 printers, 143 Spanish keyboards, and 134 24-port auto-sensing switches. Five hundred and thirty-nine library staff and supporters attended training on using the equipment and software, with sixty-five attending training on using content servers. Lincoln City Libraries recently dedicated their Gates computer lab, located on the second floor of Bennett Martin Library. Photographs chronicling their progress are located on their Web site at <www.lcl.lib.ne.us/info/bmpllab.htm>.

For more information about the Gates Foundation project, including award



Customers line up to use Lincoln's Gates Computer Lab on opening day.

amounts, see <www.nlc.state.ne.us>, search on Gates or contact Pam Scott (contact information on page 4) or Richard Miller, 402-471-3175, 800-307-2665, e-mail: <rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us>.

LSTA Timelines Set

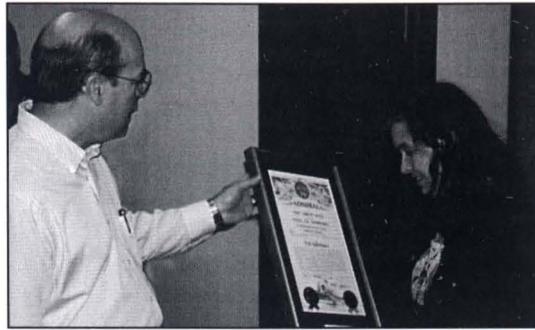
The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) provides federal funding to state library agencies to support statewide programs and library grant projects. This year, the LSTA grant application process will identify three priorities for funding: digitization projects, programs and projects for serving English-Language Learners, and the development of a statewide virtual library. Other projects will be considered, but priority will be given to those projects that meet the parameters established for these target areas.

Applications will be available online on October 1 and due at the Library Commission on December 31. Successful applicants will be notified by March 8, 2004. For more information contact Kit Keller, Library Data Services Coordinator, 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, fax: 402-471-2083, e-mail: <kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us>.

This year \$213,856 in LSTA funding was awarded through the Nebraska Library Commission to fifty Nebraska communities:

▲ Atkinson Public Library	\$6,330
▲ Blair Public Library	2,946
▲ Columbus Public Library	18,000
▲ Creighton Public Library	5,393
▲ Emerson Public Library	2,889
▲ Fairbury Public Library	2,264
▲ Genoa Public Library	7,854
▲ Grand Island Public Library	17,246
▲ Imperial Public Library	4,200
▲ Kearney Public Library and Information Center	3,440
▲ La Vista Public Library	4,744
▲ Lyons Public Library	6,147
▲ Meadow Grove Public Library	1,643
▲ Neligh Public Library	3,070
▲ Norfolk Public Library	7,944
▲ Pierce, Lied Pierce Public Library	12,076
▲ Schuyler Public Library	4,191
▲ Seward Public Library	23,057
▲ Shelby Public Library	1,688
▲ Shelton Township Library	7,519
▲ South Sioux City Public Library	5,362
▲ Stromsburg Public Library	2,573
▲ Valentine Public Library	8,694
▲ Wayne Public Library	5,032
▲ Wymore Public Library	7,500
▲ York, Kilgore Memorial Library	1,565
▲ Nebraska Regional Library Systems for twenty-four Nebraska public libraries	40,489

Volunteer Named Admiral



Commission Director Rod Wagner (left) presents Admiralty to Pat Schreurs.

Pat Schreurs, long-standing Talking Book and Braille Service volunteer, has been named an Admiral in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. This honorary title, in recognition of twenty years of volunteer service, was bestowed upon Pat at a recent Nebraska Library Commission reception in her honor. Thousands of Nebraskans

who receive magazine cassettes from the library benefit from Pat's dedicated service as a quality-check volunteer in Tape Duplication. Pat is dedicated and reliable. She juggles her personal schedule around her volunteer job and is willing to work until the job is done. ▲

Celebrate @ your library™ in April

The American Library Association (ALA) provides online resources to help libraries and media centers promote **National Library Week, April 6—12 and School Library Media Month**. National Library Week features the @ your library™ brand for The Campaign for America's Libraries, ALA's multi-year public effort to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century. See the ALA Web site for more information, <www.ala.org/pio/factsheets/NLW.html>, and for promotional ideas, see <cs.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlw.cfm>. ▲

State Advisory Council Appointments Made

The Nebraska Library Commission appointed five new members and reappointed two members to the **Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries**. New members will serve three-year terms.

New members are: Jan Boyer, Dean, University Library, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Theresa Jehlik, Training and Staff Development Coordinator, Omaha Public Library; Diana Johnson, Director, Stromsburg Public Library; Sharon Osenga, Administrator, Meridian Library System; and Rebecca Pasco, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Library Science Programs, University of Nebraska at Omaha. Reappointed members are: Jim Bothmer, Health Sciences Library, Creighton University, Omaha and Karen Drevo, Youth Services Librarian, Norfolk Public Library.

Information on Council membership, agendas, and minutes are available on the Library Commission home page, see <www.nlc.state.ne.us>, search on Council Minutes or Council Agendas. ▲

NLA Seeks Nominations

The Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Citations Committee invites nominations for the **2003 Meritorious Service and Mari Sandoz Awards**. Deadline for nominations and letters of support is May 30. Mail to Dave Oertli, NLA Citations Committee Chair, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023, e-mail: <doertli@nlc.state.ne.us>. See Announcements on the Commission home page, <www.nlc.state.ne.us>. ▲

News of Nebraska Libraries and People

- ▲ **The Nebraska Library Commission** received a First Lady's **Outstanding Community Service Award** in the Volunteer in the Arts category at the 2003 Governor's Conference on Community Service.
- ▲ Recipients of the Nebraska Library Commission Master of Library Science Scholarships are **Susan Franklin**, Hastings; **Jane Raglin Holt**, Lincoln; and **Harold Brick**, Omaha, all attending the University of Missouri. Each will receive \$1,000 to support their pursuit of graduate level library education. For more information see the Library Commission Web site, search on Scholarship.
- ▲ **The Morton-James Public Library in Nebraska City** and the **Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library** recently hosted the exhibit, *The Great Experiment: George Washington and the American Republic*, organized by the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., and the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office.
- ▲ On March 19, **Governor Mike Johanns** signed a proclamation declaring April 6-12 as National Library Week in Nebraska and recognizing the "**Letters About Literature**" state award winners. Seven young writers were honored for their letters to authors. Winners included **Erin Metzler**, **Hannah Potter**, and **Elliott Scheffler**. Alternates included **Kelsey Butterfield**, **Nolan DeWispelare**, and **Adam Olson**, with **Jed Miller** receiving Honorable Mention. The Nebraska Center for the Book, as an affiliate of the National Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and the Weekly Reader Corporation sponsored the statewide contest.
- ▲ **Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center Librarian Joy Winkler** was recently awarded the Barbara McDowell Award for Excellence in Hospital Librarianship from the Mid-Continental Chapter of the Medical Library Association.
- ▲ **Kimberly Bisanz**, a Tekamah Public Library volunteer and 2002 Girls State Director of the Nebraska Library Commission, was honored with the Nebraska Governor's Points of Light Award, Youth Division, during a ceremony in the Warner Chamber in the State Capitol in January.
- ▲ New Library Directors include: Auburn Memorial Library, **Sherry Black**; Chadron State College School of Arts & Sciences, **Dr. Lois Veath**, Interim Dean; Clarks Public Library, **Pat Wilson**; Culbertson Public Library, **Dana Wade**; Grand Island Veterans Home, **Janice Rihn**; Greeley Public Library, **Brenda Kehler**; Greenwood Public Library, **Karen Frank**; Hayes Center Public Library, **Heather Hawn**; Hebron Secrest Library, **Christy Johnson**; Lincoln Diagnostic & Evaluation Center, **Earl West**; Milligan Public Library, **E'Lonna Gesch**; Neligh Public Library, **Kate Ostenrude**; Oshkosh Public Library, **Carol Kyser**; Oxford Municipal Library, **Becky Hoffman**; Ravenna Public Library, **Pam Miska**; Saint Edward Public Library, **Phyllis Matz**; Tecumseh Public Library, **Susie Kerner**; and Valley Public Library, **Frankie Kirkwood**.
- ▲ **Cherie Longmuir** has been appointed **Panhandle Library Services Coordinator**, based on a partnership between the Panhandle Library System Board and the Nebraska Library Commission. Cherie currently serves as Book Circulation Coordinator in the Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service. Her work experience includes five years as a teacher, eighteen years as a school librarian, two years as an information specialist, and five years as a curriculum specialist. She has a Bachelor's degree in Education and a Master's degree in Library Media, with postgraduate work in educational methods.
- ▲ **Sally Snyder** has been appointed **Acting Children and Young Adult Services Coordinator** for the Nebraska Library Commission. Sally is currently serving as the Commission's Federal Aid Administrator. Her work experience includes two years as a teacher, three years as a children's librarian, and three years as volunteer services coordinator for the Library Commission. She has a Bachelor's degree in Education and a Master of Public Administration degree.
- ▲ Three **NLA Scholarships** will be awarded this spring. Application deadline is **April 15**. Scholarship recipients will be announced this spring. For information see <www.nol.org/home/NLA/scholarship.htm> or contact Dr. R. J. (Becky) Pasco, Assistant Professor, College of Education, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 402-554-2119, e-mail: <rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu>. ▲



Mary Jackson, Children's and Young Adult Services Coordinator, retired after eighteen and one-half years with the Nebraska

Library Commission. She was honored at the Library Commission in February. Commission staff and library representatives from throughout the state shared refreshments and good wishes. Mary received a card signed by Commission staff, numerous cards from well wishers statewide, a memory book containing fond recollections of "Mary moments," and a gift book from Commission staff, *When They Were Young: A Photographic Retrospective of Childhood* by Robert Coles. Thank you, Mary, for all you have done for library services for Nebraska's children and young adults. ▲

Commission Awards netLibrary Grants

The Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded \$2,707 in grant funding to help twenty-seven small public and school libraries purchase the new SOLINET/NEBASE netLibrary eBook Collection. The public libraries and schools listed below will receive up to \$125 towards the purchase of the netLibrary Collection:

netLibrary Grant Recipients

- ▲ Ainsworth Public Library
- ▲ Alma, Hoesch Memorial Public Library
- ▲ Bassett, Rock County Public Library
- ▲ Bayard Jr./Sr. High School
- ▲ Elkhorn, Mount Michael High School
- ▲ Fairbury Public Library
- ▲ Gering High School
- ▲ Hay Springs School
- ▲ Hemingford Public Schools
- ▲ Lindsay, Holy Family School
- ▲ Mitchell Jr./Sr. High School
- ▲ Morrill Public Library
- ▲ Norfolk, Lutheran High Northeast
- ▲ Omaha, Brownell-Talbot School
- ▲ Ogallala High School
- ▲ Orchard Public Library
- ▲ Ord Township Library
- ▲ Pierce, Lied Pierce Public Library
- ▲ Paxton Consolidated Schools
- ▲ Ponca Public Library
- ▲ Scribner-Snyder Community School
- ▲ Seward Public Library
- ▲ Shelton Township Library
- ▲ Spalding Public Schools
- ▲ Springfield, Platteview High School
- ▲ Sutton Public Schools
- ▲ Wisner-Pilger Jr./Sr. High School

For more information on the grant funding see the Nebraska Library Commission Web site, <www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/netlibrary-funding.html>. For more information about the SOLINET/NEBASE netLibrary eBook Collection see the Nebraska Library Commission Web site, <www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/netlibrary2003.html>. ▲



Nebraska Library Commission

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**NEBASE Annual Meeting-West
April 17 at the Gering Civic Center.**

See <www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/nam.html>.