

*The Newsletter of the*

**Western Library System**



## Sidney Library Director Doris Jensen Retires



On April 1st the Sidney Public Library staff pictured here with Doris Jensen celebrate her 25 years of service to the library and also her birthday.



**Share Your Library Highlights From 2014 - 2015**

Requested from all System members: 1-3 highlights you would like to share with the Western Library members at the Annual Meeting, Wednesday, July 22, 2015.

List the main/most important event(s) or project(s) in your library during the past year. 1-3 sentences about the event/project and who to contact for more information. These highlights will be printed and handed out at the July 22, 2015 WLS Annual Meeting.

Please be brief, space will be limited!

Library/Media Center reporting: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number / E-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Event /Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail or fax your highlights by Friday, June 15, 2015 to:**  
**Western Library System, 115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361**  
**Fax: 308-632-3978**

# Western Library System Annual Meeting – 2015

**When: Wednesday, July 22, 2015**

**Where: Legacy of the Plains**

**2930 Old Oregon Trail**

**Gering, NE 69341**



**Registration: 9:00 – 9:30 am**

**Speakers: Legacy staff will share information about the museum along with tours of their many collections including their library/archive. This holds the Paul and Helen Henderson Oregon Trail Collection, in addition to other significant historical materials.**

**Cost: \$15.00 – (meal included in registration)**

**Please make check payable to the Western Library System**

**Please register by Friday July 3rd, 2015 with the WLS Office**

**WLS Board Meeting after Lunch**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Library/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Register: Phone: 308-632-1350, Fax: 308-632-3978, Toll free 888-879-5303

Email: [eric.green@nebraska.gov](mailto:eric.green@nebraska.gov) or Jeri at [wlsasst@gmail.com](mailto:wlsasst@gmail.com)

## Western Library System Award Nomination

(You may nominate yourself or someone else)

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the following award:

\_\_\_\_\_ WLS Advocacy Award

\_\_\_\_\_ WLS Distinguished Leadership Award

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Library: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of library-related services: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person making the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Library: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach two letters of recommendation stating why this person deserves the award:

**The Advocacy Award** is for someone that gives outstanding support and promotion of the library, its services and programs, and it is intended for a library board member, volunteer or another person who is or is not employed in a library.

**The Distinguished Leadership Award** is for a library employee in a management position who has shown initiative and contributions in their library position/profession.

The nomination form and letters of recommendation are due Wednesday July 1, 2015.

Awards will be announced at the WLS Annual Meeting in July, 22 2015. If you have questions, please contact Michele Parks email: [ptparks@allophone.com](mailto:ptparks@allophone.com); #308-635-0838.

Send completed form and letters to:

**Western Library System**

**115 Railway St. # C-114**

**Scottsbluff, NE 69361**

## *Western Library System Scholarship Application*

The Western Library System has established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Provisions of the Scholarship include:

1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or up to two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended.
2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received.
3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year.
4. Scholarships will be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.
5. Priority will be given to events within the state.
6. Individual applicants will be limited to requesting scholarships once in a three-year period.
7. Budget, event, amount requested, and the number of applicants will dictate approval or denial of the scholarship requests. More than one scholarship request from the same library agency during a two-year period will need to be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.
8. Scholarship recipients are requested to provide a brief article about the event attended for the System newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity. The article is submitted to the PLS office.

Scholarship Committee  
Western Library System  
115 Railway Street  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

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### *Western Library System Scholarship Application*

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

Library/School/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Scholarship Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth. Be as specific as possible with the date, location, and function of the activity. Revised 9-14-2012



*Free Land? 1862 and the Shaping of Modern America*, is part of a four-year Chautauqua series (2012-2015) presented by Humanities Nebraska. In 2015, the final year of *Free Land* Chautauqua takes place in **Alliance** (June 9 – 13) and **Kearney** (June 17 – 21). Each evening, humorist Mark Twain moderates one of five presentations of these historical figures: Union General and railroad builder Grenville Dodge, author Willa Cather, Ponca Chief Standing Bear, homesteader and inventor George Washington Carver, and homesteader and author Laura Ingalls Wilder. Central to the Chautauqua experience are the scholar portrayals of historical figures under the Chautauqua tent. Each Chautauquan gives a 40-minute, first-person presentation as his or her historical character, then answers questions. Workshops for children and adults along with other activities are held throughout the Chautauqua week. *Free Land* Chautauqua allows the audience to experience and explore the impact of landmark legislations through the historical lens of homesteading, migration, and displacement on the Great Plains. The Homestead Act, the Morrill Act, and the Pacific Railway Act all were passed within six weeks of each other in 1862, and set into motion sweeping changes for the Great Plains region and the American West. The impact of this legislation was felt by millions of people: war veterans, Easterners looking for new opportunities, immigrants, women, African-Americans and Native Americans. As part of the Chautauqua residency, six scholars explore the lasting impacts of the 1862 legislation and how those events affect Americans today.

<http://humanitiesnebraska.org/program/chautauqua/>



Chautauqua Presenters/Actors last June in Gering

## Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians Schedule 2015

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Registration dates</u>
6/1 –6/12	Library Finance	4/23 - 5/22
6/15 6/26	Library Technology	5/8 - 6/5
7/20 - 7/31	Collection Management*	6/12 - 7/10
8/24 - 9/4	Library Policy	7/17 - 8/14
9/14 - 9/25	Programming & Outreach	8/7 - 9/4
9/28 - 10/9	The Community and the Library *	8/21 - 9/18
10/19 - 10/30	Management and Supervision	9/11 - 10/9
11/2 - 11/13	Leadership	9/25 - 10/23
11/30 - 12/11	Library Services to Children and Youth	10/23 11/20

### \* Required Classes

For further information, contact Laura Johnson, Continuing Education Coordinator by phone, at 402-471-2694, or 800-307-2665 or Email: [laura.johnson@nebraska.gov](mailto:laura.johnson@nebraska.gov)

### Upcoming Events

**Tuesday June 9th - 13th** - Chautauqua - Alliance Public Library ( Kearney -June 17 – 21)

**June 25th - 30th** ALA Annual Meeting-San Francisco

**July Wednesday 22nd** - The annual Meeting of the *Western Library System - Legacy of the Plains* (Formally *Farm and Ranch Museum*) Gering (See page 3)

**September 23rd-25th** - Wyoming Library Association (WLA) and Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Joint Conference Cheyenne Wyoming

**October 14th - 16th** NLA - Lincoln (Information coming soon)

**October 22nd-24th** Colorado Association of Libraries Annual Meeting - Loveland Colorado

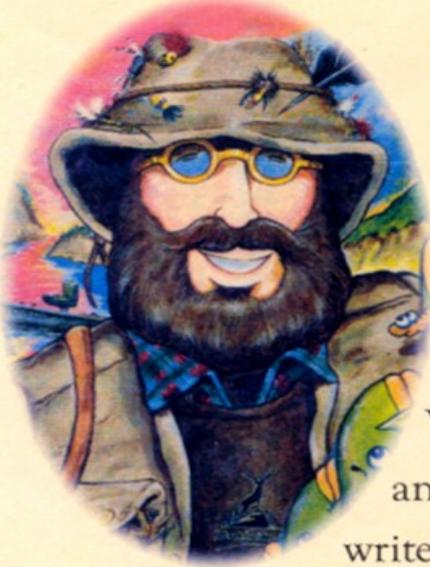


The annual book sale at the Gering Public Library during *National Library Week* in April

# Western Library System

with the aide of a Nebraska Library Commission Youth Grants for Excellence presents

## Buck Wilder aka Tim Smith



**BUCK WILDER,  
AUTHOR**

**M**Meet a real author and learn how Buck Wilder, author of *The Small Fry Fishing Guide* and *The Small Twig Hiking and Camping Guide*, writes his popular books.

Buck Wilder will be coming to a school near you in September 2015!

Wilder will be available to visit classes grades K-4 in the Western Library System September 21 through October 2. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring a nationally known author directly to your students and school. If you are interested in having Buck Wilder present to your students and/or are interested in being a host school for other schools, please let us know as soon as possible! Contact the Western Library System at 308-632-1350, Kathy Terrell at [kathy.terrell@mpslions.org](mailto:kathy.terrell@mpslions.org) or Allison McBride at [amcbride@apschools.org](mailto:amcbride@apschools.org) by May 22 with any questions or if you would like Buck Wilder to come to your school and/or would be willing to be a host site.

**Western Library System Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 13, 2015**  
**Railway Office Plaza**  
**115 Railway St. Scottsbluff, NE 69361**

President Allison called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and quorum for doing business was achieved upon the arrival of Kathy Terrell at 10:06. There were no additions to the agenda.

Board members present: Allison McBride, Stephanie Mika, Rick Caudillo, Michele Parks, and Kathy Terrell and Roberta Boyd. Also present were WLS Coordinator Eric Green and office assistant Jeri Clapper.

Minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting were read and amended. Jeri Clapper will send out copies with the corrections to all board members. Michele moved and Stephanie seconded the minutes be approved as amended. Motion carried.

Reports: District Reports:

Schools – Allison reported that Gering High School won \$8,000 in the Follett Challenge. Rick reported that Banner County Schools has expanded their Summer Reading Challenge to other levels.

Other Districts – Stephanie reported on programs at the Sidney Public Library including the retirement of Library Director Doris Jensen in April.

Committee Reports: Annual Meeting – Chairperson Maryruth had sent notes to WLS Coordinator Eric as she was unable to attend. The annual meeting is set for July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Legacy of the Plains Museum west of Gering. Nancy Haney, the interim director will present a program about the museum and recent improvements/changes. Menu has not been decided upon yet.

Nominating – no report

Public Relations – Kathy Terrell reported on several authors and the cost for their services. She has been in contact with Tim Smith who writes a series under the name Buck Wilder. His books are on the outdoors with materials geared to K-4<sup>th</sup> grades. He apparently is willing to do many presentations in a geographic area as he just finished a two week stint in one area. Plus his rates are extremely reasonable. This would be different from prior events where a big name author comes for a limited number of appearances. Kathy needs updated email addresses for the school libraries in the system.

Scholarship – no report

Technology – no report

WLS Coordinator Report: Eric presented his report in writing. Highlights included the office has switched from Charter to Allo for communications and from Falco back to Gary Riggs for auditing; WLS now has two die cut machines from the Republican Valley System; purchased new telephones and chairs; and he is teaching the NLC Basic Skills Class on Intellectual Freedom. For the upcoming Summer Reading Workshop, in addition to Sally Snyder, Scott Childers from SELS has a presentation on comic book heroes and the Bridgeport Library has agreed to lead the art and craft part of the workshop.

**board cont.**

Nebraska Library Commission Report was provided in writing as no one from NLC attended.

**Old Business:**

Budget/Financial Documents – board reviewed these

Reconfiguration of Library Systems – discussed the upcoming board nominations and elections reference the reconfiguration. We added the new district but apparently cannot add another board member unless we change the policy and procedures. It is assumed that this will take a membership vote at the next annual meeting. So the nomination form will only have the three open positions not a fourth one. Eric will do the revisions and send the form as soon as possible. WLS Plan of Service for 2015-2017 was provided for board members to peruse for consideration at the May meeting. It duplicates the prior plan of service except for revisions changing Panhandle to Western as needed. Eric also provided a WLS Membership Resolution that he said we could toss as he has to re-write it. Subsequently it was discovered that he had not handed out the item he wanted us to discard and we did need to discuss the WLS Membership Resolution. Eric said that signed or not, his office would provide service to a library in the system so he sees no need to have it signed and could just post it on the website. This also will be discussed further at the May meeting.

**New Business:**

Attendance Policy - Other systems have a board attendance policy and we do not. Discussed those policies and what we might want to have in ours. This would mean amending our by-laws. Allison will send out copy of the attendance policy we discussed for consideration at the May meeting.

Elections – discussed in Old Business under Reconfiguration of Library Systems.

**Upcoming Events:**

Gering Library Book Sale during National Library Week and Lied Scottsbluff Public Library Adult Reading Program were mentioned. In addition, Eric included a list in his report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m. Next meeting will be Tuesday May 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Railway Plaza in Scottsbluff.

**Roberta J. Boyd, Secretary pro tempore**

**WESTERN LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MEMBER ELECTION**  
**RESULTS 2015**

**District A - Winner: Carole Matthews - Hay Springs Public School**

**Public Library - Winner: Roberta Boyd - Lied Scottsbluff Public Library**

**School Library - Winner: Jill Hurtt - Hemingford High School**

**Retiring WLS Board Members:**

**Sue Shaver - District A - Hemingford Public Schools**

**Rick Caudillo - School Library - Banner County School**

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Stephanie O'Connor Director of Alliance Public Library (Left) hosts the PLTS Spring Meeting. Also included Todd Schlechte, Chair NLA Public Library and Trustee Section and Presenter Valerie Gross President and CEO of Howard Library System Maryland.



Alliance Public Library Bookstore



Job-A-Like on April 8th. Rosella Tesch of Chadron Public Library talks library business also including the night time activities of Elizabeth their library ghost!



The Chadron Public Library's 3-D Printer and some of the interesting items it can produce for staff and patrons.



The new coffee shop at the Library Learning Commons, Chadron State College



Story time art in the Children's area of the Morrill Public Library

WLS Summer Reading Workshop March 25th 2015, WNCC Campus - Sidney



Deb Carlson and Kathy Powers of Lied Scottsbluff Public Library share craft ideas



New Superheroes *Garden Man* and *Book Lady*?

# The Western Sun



## Western Library System

115 Railway Street  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Phone: 308-632-1350  
Toll Free: 888-879-5303  
Fax: 308-632-3978

## Webpage :

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>

## WLS Board of Trustees:

Allison McBride, President  
Stephanie Mika, VP  
Roberta Boyd  
Sara Brennemann, Secretary  
Sue Shaver  
Michele Parks  
Maryruth Reed  
Kathy Terrell  
Ruth Walker

## Counties Served:

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel,  
Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff,  
Sheridan, Sioux, Hooker, McPherson, Perkins, Chase,  
Dundy, Hayes and Hitchcock

## WLS Staff

Eric Green WLS Coordinator

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Jeri Clapper

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\*All photos by Eric Green except page 10 photo of Alliance  
Public library bookstore taken by Tiffany Hickcox & Page 6  
Photo taken by *Humanists Nebraska*

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**WLS**