

Panhandle Sun

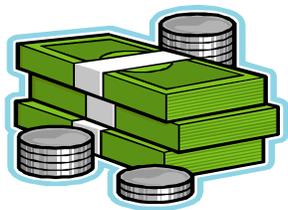


The Newsletter of the Panhandle Library System

December 2008/January 2009

Grant Opportunities Are Available

One of my most frequently asked questions, as the Panhandle Library System Coordinator, is "are there any grants available for my library?" The answer is, yes.



There are a number of grants available right now for various types of libraries. One place I like to look for grants is <http://librarygrants.blogspot.com/> Here you can find a cumulative list of grants relating to libraries. Some of the grants listed now are:

National School Library Media Program of the Year Awards

Deadline: January 2, 2009

Established in 1963, the National School Library Media Program of the Year Award honors school library media programs working to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. The award recognizes exemplary library media programs that are fully integrated into the host school's curriculum. Three winning programs will receive \$10,000 each from Follett Library Resources. One District Award and two Single School Awards will be made. For complete program information, visit the [American Association of School Librarians Web site](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant).

Award Recognizes Library Services for People with Disabilities

Deadline: December 15, 2008

The Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) is accepting applications for the 2009 ASCLA/ KLAS/NOD award. This award recognizes an innovative and well-organized project that successfully developed or expanded services for people with disabilities and may be used for a specific service program or for a library that has made its total services more accessible through changing physical and/or attitudinal barriers. The winners of this award will receive \$1,000 and a certificate provided by Keystone Systems, one of the sponsors of this award program. For more information visit the [ASCLA web site](http://www.ascla.org).

2009 National Library Week Grants

DEADLINE EXTENDED NOV 14, 2008.

Past Deadline: October 17, 2008

ALA and Scholastic Library Publishing invite libraries across the US to apply for the \$3,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public awareness campaign incorporating the 2009 theme, "Worlds connect @ your library@." A grant application form and guidelines are available on The Campaign for America's Libraries Web site at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant>.

A good place for school library media specialists to find grant opportunities is <http://www.grantwrangler.com/>. Type "library" in the search box to limit your search to libraries. Here are some of the grants listed on Grant Wrangler today:

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Thomson Gale TEAMS Award

Deadline: June 15, 2009

<http://www.galeschools.com/pdf/TEAMS-form.pdf>

The Thomson Gale TEAMS Award is open to all K-12 public and private school teachers in the United States who have collaborated with media specialists during the 2008-2009 school year. Three winners will each receive \$2,500 cash, Thomson Gale products, a one-year subscription to Library Media Connection, a feature in Library Media Connection, and their choice of professional publications from Linworth Books. Awards will be presented at a special reception held in conjunction with the American Association of School Librarians in 2009.

Lisa Libraries Foundation

Deadline: Rolling

<http://www.lisalibraries.org/frames.html>

The Lisa Libraries Foundation supplements under-filled bookshelves and provides books to children who may never have owned a book before. The foundation donates new children's books and small libraries to organizations that work with kids in poor and under-served areas. To apply, send a letter about your organization, number of children served, age range of children served, and a breakdown of how the books will be used.

National School Library Media Program of the Year (NSLMPY) Award

Deadline: January 2, 2009

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslawards/natslmpyprogram/aaslnational.cfm>

The National School Library Media Program of the Year (NSLMPY) Award honors school library media programs practicing their commitment to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. The award recognizes exemplary school library media programs that are fully integrated into the school's curriculum. Each winning program will receive a \$10,000 prize donated by Follett Library Resources.

Innovative Reading Grant

Deadline: February 2, 2009

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslawards/innovativereadinggrant/aasreading.cfm>

Sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), the Innovative Reading Grant will give \$2,500

towards the planning and implementation of a unique and innovative program for children that motivates and encourages reading, especially with struggling readers. All applicants must be members of AASL. Programs will be judged based on their potential to promote the importance of reading and facilitate learners' literacy development by supporting current reading research, practice, and policy. Programs should be designed for children (grades K-9) in the school library setting and encourage innovative ways to motivate and involve children in reading.

Another place to look is the Nebraska Library Commission website (<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us>) NLC announces grant opportunities for libraries on the front page. Some of the grants posted are available through the Nebraska Library Commission. However, NLC also lists other grant opportunities for libraries. Grants posted on the website today are:

Library Improvement Grant

Deadline: December 29, 2008

Grant funds are provided under the Library Services and Technology Act program from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Accredited Nebraska public libraries, certain state-run institutional libraries, and Nebraska Regional Library Systems are eligible to apply, as are other organizations in partnership with these entities. In order to be funded, proposed projects must meet one or more of six "LSTA Purposes" as identified in the application materials.

The Big Read

Deadline: February 3, 2009

www.NEABigRead.org

The purpose of The Big Read is to revitalize the role of literature in American popular culture. Grants ranging from \$2,500 - \$20,000 are available to encourage local communities to inspire reading by developing and carrying out programming revolving around a single work of literature. Programming must be conducted between Sept. 2009 and June 2010. This will be the only application deadline in 2009.

IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf

Deadline: Apply between January 5, 2009, and March 9, 2009 www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will offer a third, and final, round of competition to distribute an additional 1,000 copies of the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf.

Panhandle Library System News

PLS Annual Meeting Announced

The Panhandle Library System Annual Meeting Committee has set the date and location for the 2009 PLS Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held July 17 at the Harms Advanced Technology Center in Scottsbluff. Please mark this date on your calendars!

Scholarships Awarded

The Scholarship Committee of the Panhandle Library System has awarded two scholarships this fiscal year. The Goodall City Library in Ogallala received a one-hundred dollar scholarship for staff to attend the 2008 NLA/NEMA Conference. Lori Hartman, Director of the Morrill Public Library, also received a one-hundred dollar scholarship to attend the NLA/NEMA conference.

Apply for a PLS Scholarship

There are still three scholarships available! The PLS Scholarship Committee will award five scholarships this fiscal year—\$100 per scholarship. The Committee has already awarded two scholarships, so there are three left. Send in your application today. There are many great continuing education opportunities coming soon. ALA Midwinter is in Denver this year. There is also the Mountain Plains Library Association Conference this spring. Contact the Panhandle Library System office for an application.

Journal Rotation

Don't forget to sign up for the Panhandle Library System journal rotation. If you would like to receive one of our professional journals on a rotating basis, please call the office ASAP. The journal rotation begins January 2009.



Seven students participated in the Basic Skills classes this fall. The topic was Library Administration. Three sessions were held in the meeting room of the Gering Public Library. It was a great class!



Seven librarians met at Bridgeport Public Library for the Central Panhandle Public Librarian's Meeting on November 19th. Library staff from Bridgeport Public Library, Broadwater Public Library, Scottsbluff Public Library, and Gering Public Library met to talk about Friends groups.

News From Libraries in the Panhandle

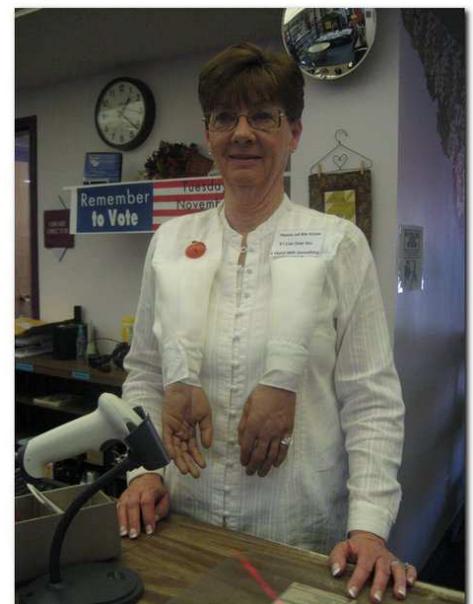
Banner County Schools LOVES to READ! The READ letters are from the 2008 NEMA/PLS workshop. Pictured below, the elementary classes demonstrate just how much they love their library.



**Banner County School
Elementary Library**

**Mrs. Karl Gifford
Media Specialist**

Gering Public Library staff REALLY go out of their way for library patrons. Look at the photo! Gering librarian, Becky Romick, is all dressed-up for Halloween. She wears a sign that says, "please let me know if I can give you a hand with something."



More News...



Meet Your SACL Representatives

The Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL) is established by the Nebraska Library Commission to advise the Commission on statewide library development and planning. Deb Carlson, Children's Librarian with Scottsbluff Public Library and Pat Gross, Gering High School Media Specialist, serve on the Council to represent libraries in the Panhandle. These ladies travel all over the state, three times a year, to attend meetings. As you can see, they do it all with a big smile!

The Farm and Ranch Museum Library/ Archives is Open for Business

Volunteers have been working hard at the Farm and Ranch Museum. The Archive Room is now open. They have added shelving, file cabinets, computers, tables, chairs, and office furniture to the room. Not to mention over 500 catalogued books! They are currently working on adding equipment manuals and photos to the library's database. Check out their website: <http://www.farmandranchmuseum.com>



Best Wishes to Diane Davis

Diane Davis, Director of the Rushville Public Library, is moving to Omaha and will be resigning her position at the Library. Diane will be greatly missed by the Rushville community and her colleagues in the Panhandle. She really worked hard in her position—it's obvious as soon as you enter the Library. Diane was also a Panhandle Library System Board of Trustee. We will miss Diane's contributions to libraries in the Panhandle.

Grant County Library—Working Hard and Moving Forward

Grant County Library had their annual fundraising event in October with a craft and bake sale. The Library raised \$1,000. They are having a holiday open house and book sale December 10th. The library will soon offer wireless connectivity to the community. Grant County Library was 1 of 3 libraries in the Panhandle to receive a grant from the Nebraska Library Commission, with money from the Gates Foundation, for WiFi access.

Panhandle Library System Upcoming Events



December 9, 2008 E-rate Training

Instructor: Richard Miller from the
Nebraska Library Commission
Location: Paxton Public Library, 110 North Oak,
Paxton
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Please register with the PLS office by December
4, 2008.

January 13, 2009 PLS Board Meeting

Location: Bluffs Business Center, 1517
Broadway, Main floor conference room
Time: 10:00 a.m.

January 20, 2009 PLS Public Librarians Meeting, Northern Panhandle

Location: Cravath Memorial Library, 243 North
Main Street, Hay Springs, NE
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Topic: Latch-key & Unattended Children

February 6, 2009 Teresa Dickson Workshops Presented by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems

1st Session: Fifty Plus

Time: 9:30 a.m. to noon

2nd Session: Supervising Friends and Former Peers

Time: 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Location: The Harms Advanced Technology
Center, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff
Cost \$ 10 for one session, \$15 for both sessions.
Make checks payable to Nebraska Regional
Library Systems. 5 CE credits for both sessions

**Please send in registration by January 26, 2009 to Ne-
braska Regional Library Systems, c/o Eastern Library
System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144**

February 10, 2009 Legislative Day

Lincoln

February 13, 2009 College of DuPage Soaring to Excellence

Targeting the Ages: Programming that Hits the Mark.
Time: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (MST)

Online

Register with Nebraska Library Commission at: [http://
www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us) and search on the
Training Calendar by using DuPage

February 20, 2008 PLS Public Librarians Meeting, Central Panhandle

Location: Scottsbluff Public Library, 1809 3rd Avenue,
Scottsbluff
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Topic: Fundraising

March 10, 2009 PLS Board Meeting

Location: Bluffs Business Center, 1517
Broadway, Main floor conference room
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Michael Sauers Workshops:

March 17, 2009 I Blog, You Blog, Weblog

Location: Harms Advanced Technology Center,
2620 College Park.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to Noon

RSS: A New Way of Communicating

Location: Harms Advanced Technology Center,
2620 College Park.
Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

March 18, 2009 Welcome to the Social Web

Location: Harms Advanced Technology Center,
2620 College Park.
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

March 19, 2009 Introduction to Web Page Creation with XHRML

Location: Harms Advanced Technology Center,
2620 College Park.
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

March 20, 2009 Style Your Web Site with CSS

Location: Harms Advanced Technology Center,
2620 College Park.
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Register with Nebraska Library Commission

at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us> and click on "Library
Training" Or call their toll free number—800-307-2665

Public Library Statistical Survey

The annual Public Library Statistical Survey for Nebraska, which is submitted online via Bibliostat™ Collect, will be released for data input in December this year, instead of October. Libraries will have the same amount of time in which to complete the survey as in the past, but the beginning date will be delayed to accommodate the conversion to an updated edition of Bibliostat™ Collect. The new submission deadline will be about the middle of March 2009, depending on when the new version is ready for release.

The new version of Bibliostat Collect has a lot of useful improvements, especially in the interface, which should make it much easier for libraries to input their data. So we have decided to use it for the FY 2008 survey.

Here are some of the improvements in the new version:

- New, more User-Friendly Interface
- Browser-Independent, allowing for use with non-Internet Explorer browsers
- Popup Blocker hassle eliminated
- Survey can be read-only to allow for Printing after Submission
- Customizable Notes
- Improved use of Narratives and easier to save them
- Email Confirmation provided after submission
- Improved PDF Format
- Automatic Total calculation (no need to click “update” after every totaled field)
- Easier field and Edit Check Navigation

For more information about this change, please contact John Felton at the Nebraska Library Commission.

One Book-One Nebraska

Bess Streeter Aldrich’s book, *A Lantern in Her Hand*, has been chosen for the next One Book-One Nebraska title to be read statewide. To learn more about Bess Streeter Aldrich and her works go to <http://www.bessstreeteraldrich.org>. For more information on the state-wide reading program, One Book-One Nebraska go to <http://www.onebookonenebraska.org/>

Nebraska Public Documents Website Gets a Grant

The Nebraska Public Documents web site got a boost November 18th when the State Records Board awarded a \$25,000 grant to the UNL Center for Digital Research in the Humanities at Love Library to add more digitized reports. The site is a searchable database of digitized versions of the print collection known as Nebraska Public Documents. It consists of reports of Nebraska constitutional and state agencies spanning 1890 to 1956. So far the database includes 118,000 images for the years 1891-1929. The new grant will be enough to digitize an additional 40,000 of the estimated 114,000 that are needed to add the years 1930-1956.

In 2005 a partnership of the Library Commission, University of Nebraska at Lincoln and at Omaha, and Nebraska State Historical Society began a project to digitize microfilm copies of the documents. The Historical Society purchased the microfilm from New York Public Library with a \$10,000 grant from the Library Commission. Grants of \$38,000 from the Library Commission, \$23,000 from the State Records Board, and \$12,000 from the University of Nebraska Omaha were made to the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities at UNL The Center, which hosts the site, contracted with OCLC for digitization and used open source software to create and host the database.

For more information about the Nebraska Public Documents web site visit <http://cdrh.unl.edu/nepubdocs/index.html> or contact Katherine Walter, Chair of Digital Initiatives & Special Collections, Love Library kwalter1@unl.edu.

For School Library Media Specialists...

Defining Advocacy by Deb Levitov

Defining Advocacy

Although I have been involved in advocacy for school libraries for many years and at many levels, it took me a long time and a lot of help from many people to sort out what advocacy means and how it differs from marketing and public relations. The following definition of advocacy was developed by the AASL Advocacy Committee (a committee that I had the privilege of chairing):

Advocacy is the ongoing process of building partnerships so that others will act for and with you, turning passive support into educated action for the library media program (www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/definitions.cfm).

For school library media specialists, advocacy is essential and marketing (selling an idea) and public relations (a one way message, promotion) add flavor and interest. Each have a place in the school library plan, but advocacy is essential. It goes beyond reading promotions, the book fairs, the guest readers, visiting authors (all of which are important for an energized program that creates memories for those engaged). It goes beyond newsletters, email announcements, flyers, bulletin boards, and general communication. Advocacy goes to a deeper level, to the heart of gaining support through the voices of other people.

Not About Us—About Them

Advocacy is about those people most important to school libraries...administrators, teachers, students, families, community members, board members, legislators, etc. It is about showing how school libraries link to *their* agendas and priorities. It involves using their language and showing them how the school library supports what is important to them. It means making links to the library program through the school improvement plan, academic goals, state and national standards, and classroom objectives.

The school library media specialist serves as an essential communication link to the people with power to use, support, fund, staff, and defend school libraries. To reach these people, the library media specialist must possess personal skills, leadership skills, and skills of an educator. They must have the ability to connect with others. The library media specialist must be a mover and a shaker and a life-line for the school library and the library media specialist must have a long term, ongoing plan for advocacy.

Leadership

The library media specialist must serve as a leader for the library media program through vision, planning, and actions. This requires the library media specialist to stay abreast of educational trends and latest literature—they must be a professional learner to lead. Advocacy starts with the library media specialist who builds and nurtures relationships that will attract and create advocates. The library media specialist must guide others to see and experience the importance of the school library in ways that match their needs and their agendas. This is an ongoing effort—not a one time initiative.

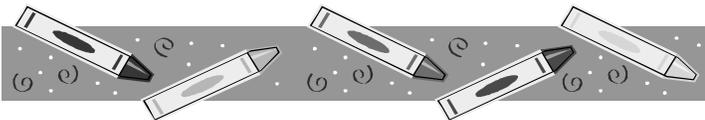
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A Rewarding Role

A strong school library program needs others who will speak up and join forces to support and defend it. To create these advocates, the library media specialist can not afford to be complacent. The library media specialist must be a learner, a teacher, a visionary, a leader, and a connector (Levitov, 2007). If not, they will find that their program can be easily threatened, diminished, and compromised. Advocacy is hard work and demands excellence. But, in the end, the library media specialist will be a better professional, will have a better program, and will create a chorus of people that are willing to join in to make the school library program viable, appreciated, and recognized. Although advocacy is not easy work, it is important and rewarding work.

AASL Advocacy Definitions of Advocacy PR Marketing. www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/definitions.cfm

Levitov, Deborah. "One Library Media Specialist's Journey to Understanding Advocacy." *Knowledge Quest* Vol. 36 no. 1(September/October, 2007): 28-31.



Deb Levitov is the managing editor of *School Library Activities Monthly* and *Crinkles* magazines for *Libraries Unlimited*. Her first 25 years as a library media specialist was in schools and at the district office as coordinator for library media services for Lincoln Public Schools. She is also a presenter for the AASL Advocacy Institute and has served on the AASL Advocacy Committee as former chair and current committee member.

2008 Nebraska Book Awards

The 2008 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB), recognizes and honors books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or concerning Nebraska. This year's winners are:

Nonfiction

150: A Commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of Hall County, Nebraska Edited by Pete Letheby
Publisher: Grand Island Independent

Nonfiction

Honor Africa on Six Wheels: A Semester on Safari by Betty Levitov
Publisher: University of Nebraska Press

Fiction

Dead Ex by Harley Jane Kozak
Publisher: Doubleday

Cover/Design/Illustration

Husker Numbers: A Nebraska Number Book by Rajean Luebs Shepherd, Illustrated by Sandy Appleoff
Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press.

Poetry

Book of Grass by JV Brummels
Publisher: Grizzly Media

Anthology

The Big Empty: Contemporary Nebraska Nonfiction Writers Edited by Ladette Randolph and Nina Shevchuk-Murray
Publisher: University of Nebraska Press

Anthology

Honor Nebraska Presence: An Anthology of Poetry
Edited by Greg Kosmicki and Mary K. Stillwell
Publisher: Backwaters Press

Award winners were honored at the Nebraska Book Festival on Saturday, October 18, 2008. Books published in 2008 will be eligible for the 2009 Awards program

PANHANDLE SUN

**Panhandle Library System
Board Minutes, Tuesday, September 9, 2008
Bluffs Business Center, 1517 Broadway, Scottsbluff**

President Vickie Retzlaff called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Board members present: Kendra Caskey, Terry Christensen, Diane Davis, Glenda Gamby, Vickie Retzlaff, Dixie Riley, Jane Schlager, Kathy Terrell, and Beth Trupp. Floyd Smith III was absent. Also attending the meeting were Margie Harrison, Debbie McCall and Rod Wagner.

The September 9, 2008, agenda was approved.

The minutes from the last meeting, July 25, 2008, were approved.

Round table: Margie Harrison announced that she reorganized round tables into three new groups, due to an increase in the number of new board members affiliated with public libraries. One group will consist of school, academic and special librarians and the other two will include public librarians.

Terry Christensen reported that Julie Kunzman is the new Media Specialist at Alliance Middle School. Julie comes from St. Agnes Academy, in Alliance, where she worked for many years. Allison McBride, Media Specialist at Alliance High School, is training a new Para. Christensen also reported that Wally Seiler will conduct a Banned Books event in Alliance. William Kloefkorn will present at the Alliance Public Library and at the Alliance High School English class in October.

Kathy Terrell hosted a job a like at Morrill last fall where she elicited suggestions for new ways to reorganize the school library shelves. She took Diane Downer's suggestion and spent the first couple weeks of school moving things around. Through rearranging and weeding, Kathy got rid of four double sided metal book shelves. Now there are two butterfly chairs in the fiction section. Teachers and students have complemented Kathy on the new design, and the students seem to take better care of the library now. Kathy trained a new Para, and another Para starts in October. Author, Buck Wilder, aka Tim Smith will present at Morrill elementary October 3.

Glenda Gamby reported that Chadron State College has more students this year. She said the Reta King library was quite busy last weekend. Milton Wolf, Chadron State College, Reta King Library Director, has started a lecture series which takes place every other Tuesday night. The lectures have been very successful. Glenda coordinated Author Tour site arrangements.

PLS Committees: Vickie Retzlaff said that Floyd Smith III agreed to be chair of the CE/Tech Committee. The Public Relations Committee chair is Beth Trupp. Margie Harrison reported that the Author Tour is going as scheduled. Some schools are requesting site changes, but everything is on tract. The Planning session is at Bayard tomorrow, September 10th, from 3 to 4 p.m. New Public Relations Committee members are: Beth Trupp, chair, Deb Carlson, Nancy Escamilla, Pat Gross, Stephanie Mika, Lillian Diedrichsen, Laurie Bauer, and Carla Schwartz.

Terry Christensen asked how we choose the Author Tour sites, and there was discussion about why Bayard was selected as a site rather than Alliance. Overall, the Panhandle Library System Board thought we should try rotating the Author Tour from Bayard to Alliance next time and see how it works. Alliance will look into hosting the next Author Tour.

Nominating committee: Diane Davis (chair) and Dixie Riley.

Annual Meeting: Jane Schlager (chair), Sharon Ulbrich, Kathy Wasserburger, Betty Armstrong and Stacie Hermes.

CE/Tech: Floyd Smith III (chair), Terry Christensen, Carole Matthews, Sandy Nelson, and Kathy Terrell.

Scholarship/Awards Committee: Kendra Caskey (chair), Glenda Gamby, Sue Arndt, Carol Luna, Floyd Smith III, Sandy White.

Nebraska Library Commission report: Rod Wagner discussed Nebraska Learns 2.0, which is a fun way to learn and try various kinds of Web 2.0 software. NLA and NEMA have donated money for prizes.

Rod reported on news from the Gates Foundation. Approximately ten libraries participated in the Internet connectivity grants the Foundation, which assist libraries without Internet connections, or with dial-up only connection. Approximately 47 public libraries applied for the Gates Foundation funded Wi-Fi project. These libraries will get Wi-Fi equipment including a lap top computer.

December 2008/January 2009

The Gates Foundation will replace computer equipment in Public Libraries that were installed several years ago. Nebraska's turn comes up in 2009. Richard Miller and Rod will attend a meeting in Seattle to get the details. Rod expects a large number of Nebraska public libraries will qualify as they did before. Differences in this new program include a local match of funds, and advocacy training. The actual placing of computers will happen towards the latter part of 2009, and lots of information will go out prior to that.

Rod reported on NLC's budget requests. Requests include support for the Talking Book and Braille Service's transition to digital talking book players, licenses for Nebraskaccess targeting elementary and middle school age groups, and funds to cover the annual fee increases that we receive through the vendors. State aid requests include Regional Library Systems, direct Public Libraries state aide grants, interlibrary loan compensation, and state funds to be used toward an open source integrated library system project. Scholarship grant money is running low. A new grant application will be submitted in December to the Museum of Library Services.

The Center for the Book Board will soon decide which book will be the 2009 One Book One State based on over 100 recommendations.

Rod Wagner answered questions about Open Source.

Coordinator's Report: Margie Harrison reported on various activities she has completed over the past two months. She pointed out a \$200.00 savings in newsletter printing costs by switching to a copier. Margie announced that PLS received a C.E. grant through NLC.

Budget: Margie Harrison presented the status of the PLS budget. PLS has received its first quarter funding from the Nebraska Library Commission, and the remaining funding for the fiscal year will be received in one lump sum in October, 2008.

Old Business: PLS Coordinator's Evaluation: Margie Harrison is a State Employee of the Nebraska Library Commission and she just received her annually performance review by Rod Wagner, which is confidential. The PLS executive committee decided not to do an annual evaluation for Margie Harrison. Vickie Retzlaff noted that the PLS Policy and Procedures states that the Executive Committee, which includes the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer can evaluate the PLS Coordinator after six months probation and annually after that. Vickie Retzlaff said the Executive Committee had met their requirement for the Coordinator's evaluation. Comments were Margie is doing a great job.

New Business: PLS Needs Assessment: The PLS Board received this in their July Board Meeting packet. Margie used a format that she found from a few years ago, as the format used last year only asked for programming suggestions. No school libraries responded to the assessment, and there was discussion on when it should be distributed. It was decided that the assessment will be revised and sent out in January 2009.

Annual Meeting Evaluation: Everyone liked the speaker. The Committee should be aware of food allergies for next year's Annual Meeting lunch. The Annual Meeting is rotated throughout the Panhandle.

Audit: Gary Riggs conducted a compilation which is approved through the Nebraska Library Commission. Gary will send PLS a draft of the audit and the official report in October. It will be presented to the PLS Board at the November Board meeting.

Bylaws: Margie Harrison pointed out that we may need to revise the Bylaws to reflect the recent changes that were made to the Policies and Procedures. The PLS Board will discuss possible revisions at the September 13th Board meeting.

New Policy Regarding Committee Chairperson: There was discussion about the feasibility of requiring that a Board member chair a PLS committee, due to a possible awkward transition from one group of committee members to another. The group brought up options such as co-chair or spokesperson, in place of requiring that the Board member chair the committee. PLS Board members will discuss this topic with their committees. No action was taken.

Upcoming events were highlighted.

Next meeting date: Thursday, November 13, 2009 at Gering Public Library, 1055 P Street, Gering, lower level room.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Non Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Permit 260

Panhandle Library System
1517 Broadway, Suite 129
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Coordinator's phone: 308-632-3168

Assistant's phone: 308-632-1350

Toll Free: 888-879-5303

Fax: 308-632-3978

Website: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/panhandle



PLS Board of Trustees:

Vickie Retzlaff, President

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Terry Christensen, Secretary

Jane Schlager, Treasurer

Kendra Caskey

Diane Davis

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Floyd Smith III

Kathy Terrell

Beth Trupp

Counties Served:

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes,
Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball,
Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux

Marjorie Harrison, PLS Coordinator

E-mail: mharrison@nlc.state.ne.us

Debbie McCall, PLS Administrative Assistant

E-mail: debm@charterinternet.com

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December 2008/January 2009

W O R K S H O P S

The Nebraska Regional Library Systems Present



Fifty Plus: Getting Ready to Hand Over the Reins:

The aging of the US population has implications for libraries, both at the service desk and behind. This workshop works on getting you ready to serve the public and preparing public libraries to prosper when large numbers of Baby Boomer librarians exit and join with this new demographic. It will include information on emerging trends and how those affect libraries, and how libraries can respond successfully to a growing segment of our customer population, as well as prepare for the impact of a profession with a significant percentage of retirements and the need for recruiting to fill those vacancies.

Supervising Friends and Former Peers: This workshop explores the challenges of accepting growing responsibilities and what that means for the new supervisor. Examines the reasons for seeking out promotions and added responsibilities, both the pluses and the added stresses of supervisory duties, whether or not it includes friends and former peers.

Presenter: Theresa Dickson is the Associate Director of the Pioneer Library System in Norman Oklahoma and a well-known State, Regional and National presenter.



See back for registration.....

Registration

Schedule:

9:30 a.m. to noon—Fifty Plus

Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.—Supervising Friends and Former Peers

Please check the session(s) you wish to attend. If you are attending both sessions please check both.

Fifty Plus

Supervising Friends and Former Peers

Cost: \$10 for one session, \$15 for both sessions. Each session will qualify for 2.5 CE credits or 5 CE credits for both

This workshop will be presented at these locations on the following dates:

Please indicate which date and site you will be attending.

February 2 at Wahoo Public Library, Wahoo, NE

February 3 at Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College in Norfolk, NE

February 4 at Beatrice Public Library in Beatrice NE

February 5 at Lexington Public Library in Lexington NE

February 6 at Harms Advanced Technology Center in Scottsbluff, NE

Please send registration by January 26, 2008 to Nebraska Regional Library Systems, C/O Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144.

Please make checks payable to Nebraska Regional Library Systems.

.....

Name _____

Library _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

In case of inclement weather please contact your system office to find out if the workshop is being held.

E-RATE WORKSHOP

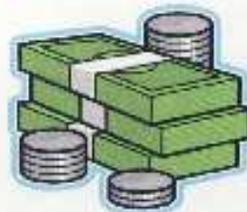
December 9, 2008

Location: Paxton Public Library,
110 North Oak, Paxton, NE

Time: 1:30 p.m.



Richard Miller from the Nebraska Library Commission will discuss forms 470 and 471, certification, audits and documentation.



Please register by Wednesday December 4, 2008 with Panhandle Library System, 1517 Broadway, Suite 129, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Fax: 308-632-3978



Home Search Site Map Contact Us
<http://www.mpcc.edu>

McCook Community College 800-658-4348
 North Platte Community College 800-658-4308

Starting January 1, 2009...

**LIBR 2200 INTRODUCTION TO
 LIBRARY COLLECTION MANAGEMENT**

3 Semester Hours / 4.5 Quarter Hours

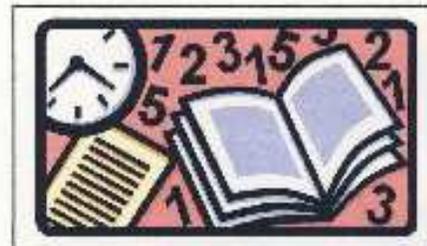
Online

Spring Term, 2009

January 12 – April 2009

This course will provide students with an understanding of principles and best practices in collection management, including:

- Collection Management Policies
- Selection Practices and Procedures
- Material Acquisition
- Intellectual Freedom
- Collection Evaluation
- Intellectual Property Issues
- Weeding, Donations, Resource Sharing
- Materials Preservation, and more



Requirement for the Library Technology Assistant Associate of Arts Degree option that is being offered through the Nebraska Community Colleges.

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Introduction to Library and Information Services, from Metropolitan Community College (Omaha) which may be taken at the same time, or with instructor approval.

Interested? Call Mid-Plains Community College Today:

Sherry Mihel, Student Advisor
mihels@mpcc.edu
 (800) 658-4308 Toll Free
 (308) 535-3710
 North Platte Community College
 A Division of Mid-Plains Community College
 South Campus
 601 West State Farm Road
 North Platte, NE 69101

Rick Michaelsen, Student Advisor
michaelsenr@mpcc.edu
 (800) 658-4348 Toll Free
 (308) 345-8102
 McCook Community College
 A Division of Mid-Plains Comm. Col.
 1205 East Third Street
 McCook, NE 69001
 308-345-3305 Fax

General registration for Spring 2009 term begins November 19, 2008

Class Instructor: Patty Birch pbirch@esu16.org 308-532-8667

**Panhandle
Library
System**

New Workshops

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

Instructor: Michael Sauers, Nebraska Library Commission—Innovative Technology Librarian

All these workshops are held at The Harms Advanced Technology Center, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff - Across the street from WNCC-Scottsbluff.

March 17, 2009 | Blog, You Blog, Weblog—Blogs are an easy way to receive information and blog-based publishing may be the way for you to present your libraries information to the public.

Time: 9 a.m. to noon

For more information and to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8804>

March 17, 2009 RSS: A New Way of Communicating—RSS, also known as feeds allows users to subscribe to content that they wish to receive in a timely manner. Feeds also allows information providers to send information in the format necessary for users to subscribe. This three hour hands-on workshop will introduce attendees to both providing and consuming content via RSS.

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

For more information and to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8805>

March 18, 2009 Welcome to the Social Web—Social software is one of the hottest concepts on the Internet today. This full-day workshop will introduce you to the most popular Web sites in this area and attendees will get a chance to play with several social services of most use to librarians.

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

For more information and to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8806>

March 19, 2009 Introduction to Web Page Creation with XHTML

This six-hour workshop will give you a basic understanding of how the eXtensible HyperText Markup language works and to create Web pages using it through a hands-on approach. By the end of the day attendees will be able to create new pages from scratch and have a solid foundation on which to build their future Web page creation skills.

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information and to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8807>

March 20, 2009 Style Your Web Site with CSS

Cascading Style Sheets is the language that gives you the power to make your pages look the way you want them to. CSS allows you to accomplish more work, in less time, and make your site easier to manage.

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

For more information and to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8808>

PLS Public Librarians Meetings

Locations throughout the Panhandle



If you are a public librarian or any PLS member you are invited to attend one or all of the public library meetings held throughout the Panhandle. Earn CE credit for attending.

January 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting, Northern Panhandle

Location: Cravath Memorial Library, 243 North Main, Hay Springs, NE

Time: 2:00 p.m.

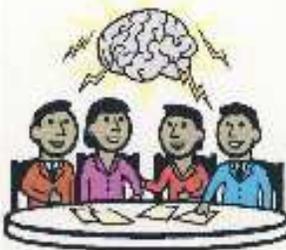
Topic: Latch-key and unattended children issues

February 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting, Central Panhandle

Location: Scottsbluff Public Library, 1809 3rd Avenue, Scottsbluff

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Topic: Fundraising



March 2, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting Southern Panhandle

Location: Chappell Memorial Library, 289 Babcock, Chappell

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Topic: Latch-key and unattended children issues

Please register 5 days before your meeting, with the Panhandle Library System office. Toll free 888-879-5303, Phone 308-632-1350, Fax 308-632-3978. Margie's E-mail: mharrison@nlc.state.ne.us or Debbie's E-mail: debm@charterinternet.com

Lunch or dinner reservations may be made following the meeting.