

January/
February
2007

Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From the Administrator

by Kathy Tooker

Resources Available to ELS Members

One of the new technologies we keep hearing about is downloadable and audio books. Here at the ELS Office we have available for loan a couple of things you might like to try out at your library.

PLAYAWAY BOOKS— Playaway books are really grab-and-go as they are pocket-sized (6 ounces) and pre-loaded. With this audio book, all you need are ear buds or headphones to listen. The controls are very simple to use. You can adjust the volume as well as the voice speed, and the voice quality is very good. A simple keypad on the back allows you to bookmark your favorite passages or go forward or back a chapter. The device runs on one AAA battery.

We have six titles on hand for you to try out to see if this is a service you would like to provide your customers.

Fiction

- Rubio, Gwyn Hyman. *Icy Sparks*
- McDonald, Anne-Marie. *Fall on Your Knees*
- Gruen, Sara. *Water for Elephants*

Non-fiction

- Covey, Stephen. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People & the 8th Habit*
- Sedaris, David. *Dress You Family In Corduroy and Denim*
- Bryson, Bill. *A Short History of Everything*

The cost of a Playaway is higher than a print copy of a book, most are around \$35. The Nebraska Library Commission is offering a 20% off if ordered through them. For a list of titles visit the Playaway site at <www.playawaydigital.com> .

IPODS LOADED WITH AUDIO BOOKS -Not quite as easy to use as a Playaway book but with an iPOD you can download many titles to play back. ELS has two iPODS loaded with ten titles including some children's books. If you haven't used an iPOD before, we can show you how to operate one in about 10 minutes. Titles or music can't be added or deleted to these devices; we do ask you to sign an agreement to this effect. If you are considering adding downloadable books to your collection such as through Overdrive and want to try the technology before investing in it, give one of our iPODS a try.

Two other great resources ELS will loan are Book Bags for age 12-18 book discussion groups and Bifolkal Kits.

BOOK BAGS -Thanks to a grant from Dollar General Store, we have purchased 30 copies of five different titles for loan to school and public libraries with book clubs for kids. The books come in a book bag for easy carrying along with a packet of information about the book. The good news is that ELS has received a Youth Grant for Excellence from the Library Commission and are able now to add nine to ten new titles. If your library currently has a book group for kids or is thinking of one, please check our web page for a list of titles at <www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern>.

BIFOLKAL KITS—We have had these kits for several years and the librarians that have used them for programming love them. Each kit is based on a theme such as Work Life, Pets, etc. and includes activities, slides, cassettes, a video tape plus some realia about the topic. You can adjust the length of the program by using just part of the resources. These kits are marketed for using with senior citizens by generating memories but also could work with a program for other age groups. A list of kit topics can be found on the ELS Web site given above.

If you want to try one of these new technologies in your library or borrow one of the book bags or Bifolkal kits, please call the system office to reserve one now!

Repeat Performance

The Webpage and Blog Workshop was so popular that we are repeating it on **March 23rd**. Those that are on the waiting list will have the first opportunity to attend. We have seven slots left. Please register ASAP to assure your place.

What You Need to Know about Creating & Maintaining Blogs and Web Pages

Sump Memorial Library
222 North Jefferson, Papillion
March 23, 2007
9-12 and 1-3 (lunch on your own)

5 hours CE Credit Cost: \$25

Mail by March 16th with check payable to ELS
to: Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12
Omaha, NE 68144

John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library & Karen Hein, University of Nebraska Omaha, are your instructors.

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Omaha Public Library - Healing Hands Grant

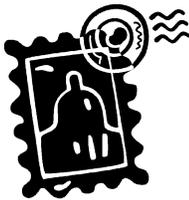
The Omaha Public Library, through a grant from the Urban Library Council, is placing a grief kit for children and one for teens in each of their libraries. The kit will contain both audio visual and print materials. Training for this project was provided by Ted E. Bear Hollow, an Omaha-based non-profit organization, that gives support to grieving children as well as a Teddy Bear. Materials for the kits came from The Centering Corporation, also an Omaha-based non-profit that publishes grief resources and provides grief support.

Lyons Public Library

Mary Fritts, director, is happy to say that the fundraising for the library building is now complete. Including the Kiewit grant requiring matching dollars, they have now raised enough money to completely pay for their great new library. This month, within the Lyons Community Foundation, an endowment fund for the library was established, with an initial donation of \$2000.

Hooper Public Library

The mail sent out by the Hooper Public Library gets attention by the receiver. Instead of normal postage stamps, the library uses a stamp that Karla Shafer, library director, created. She used the Internet site "www.stamps.com" and created a real postage stamp with a picture of the Hooper Public Library in full color. Karla took a digital picture and downloaded it during the designing of her stamp. She then formatted the picture with easy-to-follow instructions, chose a border and a color for the # 39. The result is an eye-catching and innovative way to make a noticeable difference to the library's mail. She has gotten lots of good comments from her efforts. There is an additional cost for the postage but Karla considers the promoting value and professional image well worth the cost. She encourages you to have fun creating your "library stamp." And...the Hooper Public Library has formed a library foundation and is in the process of establishing a Friends Group. They are doing some interesting programming including Reading Through the Decades



Scribner Public Library

Director, Jeanette Groppe, reports the library held its annual Tannenbaum Festival of Trees and raised over \$1200. The library tree, one of the over 40 on display,

was called Library Cut Ups as the decorations were made by three groups of children who used AccuCut dies to create the ornaments.

Bennington Public Library

The library has long ago outgrown its space and is working with a library building consultant, George Lawson, to gather information on what community members would like to have in a new building.

Wahoo Public Library

Carrie Trutna is the new children's librarian at the Wahoo Public Library. Among her other qualifications, Carrie also speaks Spanish which will be a benefit to the Hispanic library users.

Springfield Public Library

Another new librarian is the new assistant at the Springfield Public Library. Nancy Davis recently moved to Springfield from Paxton where she taught Art to grades K-12. Nancy has two children and four grandchildren.

Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library

The library met the Enhanced Accreditation requirements for state aid through the Nebraska Library Commission. The library hosted a flu shot clinic. They also received a grant from the 3M company for their easy-reader collection.

La Vista Libraries' Cooperative Grant

Lorelei Perkins, media specialist at Papillion La Vista South High school, Lisa Laviolette, English teacher at Papillion La Vista's alternative high school (IDEAL) and Toni Reese, youth services librarian at Sump Memorial Library in Papillion, wrote a team grant last spring. The ALA grant provided copies of three titles good for "teens at risk" to read. They were:

- **Born Blue** by Han Nolan
- **Stuck in Neutral** by Terry Trueman
- **First Part Last** by Angela Johnson

Each librarian facilitated a different book. The kids, both boys and girls (two were mothers and one was pregnant), were there by choice. The discussions were fascinating and eye-opening. Several of the teens are eager to continue participating and the three librarians are looking for a way to keep the "book group" idea going. There is a definite need for this endeavor.

Toni was particularly thrilled with her book as preparation for it consisted of a conference call with the author himself.

More news



Youth Grants for Excellence Awarded to the following ELS Libraries:

- Keene Memorial Library, Fremont. "BRAK - Boys Read at Keene" - Keene will reach out to middle school age boys in Fremont by connecting with their interests through books. Seven programs for boys and girls age 8-13 will be held over two summer months.
- La Vista Public Library. "Boys & Reading" - The staff will encourage boys to use the library by offering a father/son book club, chess club, family game night and geocaching.
- Springfield Public Library. "Summer Reading Tent" - Teen volunteers and a library staff member will be responsible for a reading tent, set up on the library grounds, for youth age 3-12 during the summer.
- Eastern Library System - "Book Bags for Kids" - to provide multiple copies of a book for book discussion groups.

UNO Library Friends Holiday Basket

winner - Robin Bernstein, Bellevue University, and ELS board member.

The basket was raffled as a fundraiser for children's books for



Steve Shorb, UNO Library Director & Robin

Ralston

The Baright Public Library Foundation hosted a poetry event on January 6th. This was a formal event with hors d'oeuvres and wine and suggested semi-formal attire. The poets featured were all from Ralston and the event was co-sponsored by the Ralston Community Foundation.

Bancroft

The John G. Neihardt Foundation held a reading and discussion event with Nebraska poet and author, Jim Reese.

Have You Seen This?

Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

Most e-mail users have seen this message when a message has bounced. Here at the Eastern Library System office we hate to see it as that means a message we thought our members might be interested in is not reaching them. This happens most often when we send a message to our ELS mailing list which is maintained by the Nebraska Library Commission. So if you are a subscriber and haven't been receiving any messages from els@nlc.state.ne.us, please check to see if your firewall is denying us access.

If you are not subscribed to the ELS mailing list and want to join, go to www.nlc.state.ne.us and click on Commission Services Index then scroll down to you see Mailing Lists. This is where you can subscribe to our mailing lists and others maintained by the Library Commission.

The 2007 Spring Colloquium will be held on April 21, 2007, at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Kate Marek, Associate Professor at Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science and former Southeast Library System Administrator. Kate will spend an hour sharing some of the most interesting things she has been reading and talk about why you need to read them too. She encourages you to "bring a 'you shouldn't miss this' suggestion of your own to share."

Mark your calendars and look for a registration form in the next issue of the

Other public library happenings.....

- Bellevue has a new Teen Advisory Board and now has their catalog on the web.
- LaVista received a Wal-Mart grant.
- Ralston is now is OCLC lending library.

Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

Check this issue of *Eastern Express* to find the flyer for the Summer Reading Program Workshop at Keene Memorial Library in Fremont on February 23. Come early and visit with jugglers, magicians, storytellers, and more.

ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) has published its list of **Best Books for Young Adults 2006**. The list is available at <www.ala.org/yalsa>. Click on Booklists and Books where you can view or print the list. If you aren't a member of YALSA you only have access to the unannotated list, but it will give you full bibliographic information.

YALSA has also announced a new **electronic discussion list** which is open to both members and non-members to discuss how libraries can use music in all its forms to serve the teens in their communities. Librarians are encouraged to discuss recommended practices in collections and programming, as well as specific media, including CDs, MP3s and new emerging technologies. People wishing to subscribe to YAMUSIC may do so at <www.lists.ala.org/www/info/ys-music>.

Visit the following sites for ideas and activities related to Martin Luther King Jr.

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scavenger Hunt - <www.tstrong.com/mlking>
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service—

<www.mlkday.org>

- About.com—Martin Luther King Jr. Day for Elementary Educators—<k6educators@about.com/cs/martinlutherking/a/mlkingjr.htm>

[Seen in *Library Sparks*, January 2007]

Take a look at this cute online story site. **One More Story** is an online library of children's classics and contemporary literature. With a simple point and click process, children can choose a book, see the illustrations, and have the book read to them. Go to <www.onemorestory.com> to try it out. Cost of one year for a library is \$100 per library or branch; school cost is \$100 minimum or \$1 per student per year. Concurrent users are allowed.

The Librarian Returns to King Solomons Mines, from creator Dean Devlin (Independence Day, Stargate), comes this new adventure. Flynn Carson, guardian of mystical artifacts scattered throughout world history. Originally appearing in the popular made-for-cable movie, "The Librarian: Quest for the Spear", Carson is back and joined by beautiful Emily Davenport in the search to locate King Solomon Mines. An This 96 page graphic novel also had 12 pages of special features. Atlantis Studios, \$14.95; ISBN: 978-142432150.

The next CLICK meeting is February 5, 2007, 9:30 a.m. at the La Vista Public Library. Please let Joni Wilder know if you are coming.

jwilder@lavistamail.mccneb.edu

This is the first in a series of Eastern Library System member interviews by Nancy. ELS serves public, school, academic and special libraries. One representative of each type will be featured in the articles.

Marrs Middle School & Doug Keel, media specialist extraordinaire



What a beautiful library this Omaha Public School enjoys. Notice the soffit- those are "Read" posters of teachers, students, maintenance staff, cafeteria staff, office staff, any one Doug could photograph. There are so many great displays and bulletin boards in this library that you must visit Doug's website and see for yourself.

<http://webmail.ops.org/~keelda/>

Marrs is a 5th - 8th grade magnet school with an emphasis on mathematics, technology and economics. There is an actual bank branch in the school where students may deposit, withdraw, save, and anything else that can be done with money at a financial institution.



As I stepped into the library one of the first things that caught my eye was a beautiful chess table ready for students to sit

and play. The table was purchased by Doug at a local Goodwill store. He artfully painted a chess board on top with some very handsome borders and says it is a real attraction in the library. "Even the unruly kids quiet down when playing." These chairs are normally not empty.

There are so many things Doug has going on in his library. Even though it is one large room it feels like many smaller areas working together as one. The reference area with "The Big 6" questions boldly placed over the computers; the graphic novel display which is nearly empty due to heavy use; Golden Sower area which must include both YA and grades 4-6; a rotating audio book collection used by all the middle schools; instruction area where Doug presents background information for subjects in the classroom; and a teen area to hang out and read, financed by the PTSA (parent/teacher/student association.) Doug has an office in conjunction with the work room, however, he is rarely in it as he prefers to be out with the students. He is especially proud of the Golden Sower Club and the Manga Club (Japanese literature read back to front.) The library also houses the media retrieval system where teachers may access videos and DVDs by dialing up, turning to the appropriate channel and viewing it on a mounted television in every classroom.



Doug and Claudia ("she lives to organize")

If you go to Doug's website click on "About Mr. Keel" and you can read all about him and even see his picture as a little boy. But you really need to meet him in person to have any idea of how passionate he is for his profession, his students and his fellow media specialists. Well-educated and well-traveled, his favorite accomplishments come from hearing a parent say, "Mr. Keel, you made my daughter a reader" - or from a student, "I can't wait to get back to school and read more books."

As a language arts teacher Doug saw how excited kids are when they're reading. He then decided to be a media specialist, to encourage that love of reading in all students. He feels it is important for students to see him reading also. Doug volunteers at the Omaha Literacy Center. He is working on his Spanish. I thought he sounded great when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in both English and Spanish.



Nebraska Library Commission

Michael Sauer has been named the new Technology Innovation Librarian for the Nebraska Library Commission. He will begin work in Commission's Network Services department on March 1, 2007. This newly created position will be responsible for introducing Nebraska libraries to and training library staff on new and useful technologies in order to improve library services.

Michael is currently the Internet Trainer for the Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR) in Aurora, Colorado, where he provides training and support on a variety of technology topics to an eleven-state region. In addition to his current position, Michael is both an active presenter and writer on current technology topics in the library community. He received his M.L.S. from the University of Albany, School of Information Science and Policy and a B.S. from the State University of New York at Brockport.

Golden Sower Website

Please be aware that the Golden Sower Award website will be moving to a different server in the very near future. THIS MOVE SHOULD NOT HAVE AN IMPACT ON USERS UNLESS...

- 1) For unforeseen reasons, the move does not go smoothly and results in users seeing a brief interruption of access or broken links.
- 2) Your browser/bookmarks/favorites is NOT pointing at: <http://www.goldensower.org/>
Previous web addresses, such as <http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/golden/sower.htm> or <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/golden/sower.htm> will no longer forward users to the current address once the move is complete. Thank you for your support and promotion of the Golden Sower Award program! Happy Reading! GSA Web Chairperson, MEhlers mehlers@mpsomaha.org

Happy 10th Anniversary NEA's Read Across America! March 2, 2007

Ten years ago, Nebraska Education Association (NEA) and its members started a reading revolution. It began with a one-day celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday and has now become a year-round literacy campaign reaching nearly every home, school, and community. Find more information at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>.

ONE BOOK - The Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center in Chadron will be coordinating the "One Book, One Nebraska" program for 2007, featuring the book *Crazy Horse* by Mari Sandoz. In contrast to this year's contemporary novel, this will be a return to a classic work by a Nebraska author from the past.

National Library Week 2007

The theme of this year's NLW is "Come Together @ your library." It is scheduled for April 15-21.

My Hometown Helper Grant Program

Hamburger Helper announces funds to lend a "helping hand" to neighborhoods across the U.S. Funds will support to organizations to provide one or more of the following: lights or bleachers for baseball, soccer, or football fields; repairs to a band shell; **computers for schools or libraries**; play-ground equipment; holiday decorations; money for choir, band, or science trips; new uniforms for Little League teams; clean-up projects; and training for volunteer firefighters. Eligible applicants include independent school districts, nonprofits, and community-based organizations. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2007. Awards ranging from \$500-\$15,000 are available. For further information, go to: <http://www.myhometownhelper.com/>

Award Nominations Requested

At a previous *Coming Up Taller* awards ceremony, Mrs. Laura Bush remarked that "the arts and humanities are critical building blocks for a child's development, and they provide a strong foundation for a lifetime of learning. The study of the arts and humanities gives children the chance to be extraordinary -- the power to be themselves." The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) invites nominations for the 2007 *Coming Up Taller* Awards. In partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), we embark on the tenth year of the *Coming Up Taller Awards*, which recognizes the accomplishments of exceptional arts and humanities after-school and out-of-school programs. *Coming Up Taller* finalists receive \$10,000, an individualized plaque, and an invitation to attend the *Coming Up Taller* Leadership Enhancement Conference. The 2007 nomination application is available at www.ims.gov/pdf/2007CUTAApplication.pdf. The postmark deadline for nominations is Wednesday, **January 31, 2007**.

If you have questions, contact the President's Committee at (202) 682-5409.

Message from Cheri Longmuir, System Coordinator for the Panhandle Library System

After a long career in teaching and library work, I will be retiring on April 27. It has been wonderful working with all of you, and I will continue to see and communicate with you during the next few busy months. If you know of someone who might be interested in applying for this position, please encourage them to do that. Thank you for making western Nebraska libraries such special places, and in turn, having made my four years here so rewarding.

Trustee Tips

By Charles Gordon

Greetings! As I begin my term as TUFSS Chairman, I want to tell you a bout the newly revised Trustee Manual. You should all have a copy in your library. This revision is a wonderful product developed by a team of hardworking library people throughout the state.

The manual is broken into chapters with a gold-enrod colored "Discussion Guide" at the end of each chapter. Perhaps it could be a goal of your board to set aside twenty minutes at each meting to discuss a couple of chapters. Ask your library director to make the manual available to you so all can study it. This way by the end of the year, the whole manual could be covered and you could get Continuing Education points as well.

Next February 14, 2007, is Legislative Day at the Unicameral in Lincoln. In the past, Library Trustees have acted as greeters for the State Senators as they join us for lunch. I need five trustees who are willing to serve as greeters. If you can help out, please send me an email at mkgandc@tvsonline.net. Tell me your name, email, address, and phone number. Thanks!

The Library Board Manual is also available online at www.nlc.state.ne.us by clicking on Commission Services Index and then on Library Board Manual.

I second Mr. Gordon's recommendation that the manual be used for CE at library board meetings. Several libraries are already doing this and report it has been very well received and generates good discussion plus a board can earn CE credits.

Remember to call me if you want me to attend your board meeting. I always enjoy meeting new board members and reconnecting with those of you I have met before.

Kathy Tooker

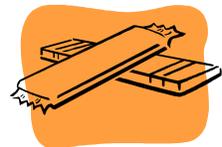
Feature on Nebraska Book Club Kits Titles

Lisa Kelly – Nebraska Library Commission

Peace Like a River by Leif Enger c2001 was the 2004 One Book/One Lincoln Selection <http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/info/obol/obol2004/front.htm> and was also a selection in my own book group. I recently spoke to someone who was on the selection committee for this book and she shared her struggle in selecting this title. I was honored to help choose the 2005 and 2006 One Book/One Lincoln selections and can fully appreciate this difficulty first hand. Selecting a title that will be read by young and old, men and women is no small feat and personal passion always figures into the process. In the end, I thought this was a successful selection although there is always disagreement amongst readers. This is the joy of a book discussion. Book discussions help us learn to talk about what we like and dislike without anything getting in the way. Politics, religion, and even sports are topics where neutrality is not always easy, but disagreeing over a book is a great place to begin getting to know someone. There are few books that I put into a category labeled beloved but this is one of those titles. There are elements of mystery and the miraculous throughout the entire book. It felt like a classic, old and well-worn tale. *Peace* has sometimes been compared to *To Kill a Mockingbird* and I would agree given the close relationships between father and children. You may find yourself casting the book into a movie while reading or remembering Atticus Finch, Scout, and Jem. Should you decide to select this title for your book group, there are many peripheral things you can do to liven the discussion. You can read excerpts of cowboy poetry and rustle up some cowboy music. Camping food complete with smores for the finale would be perfect for the meal. One way I gauge the success of a title are the collective opinions of readers I know to have different tastes than mine. With this title, my mom, my sister, and my book group all had generous things to say about Enger's writing. Here's a recipe to entice you towards selecting this title for your next book group:

ROCKY ROAD SMORES BARS

- 1/2 c. butter or margarine
- 1/2 c. packed brown sugar
- 1 c. flour
- 1/2 c. graham cracker crumbs
- 2 c. miniature marshmallows
- 16 oz. chocolate chips
- 1/2 c. chopped walnuts



Beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add combined flour and crumbs; mix well. Press onto bottom of greased 9 inch square pan. Sprinkle with remaining ingredients. Bake at 375 degrees for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.

Worth Checking Out & Worth Attending

* February 14—Nebraska Library Legislative Day.

Plan to invite your senator, your trustees, your Friends and Foundation members, and don't forget city officials, to attend this important event. Ted Smith and the Nebraska Library Association Legislative Day has planned a full day of events starting with coffee & doughnuts at 8:30, followed by a briefing, luncheon and seminar. There is a registration form and itinerary in this newsletter. This is your opportunity to show support and tell what your library is doing in your community, school, or campus. BE THERE!

* Now is also the time to let the ELS Office know if you want to ride the bus to the Mountain Plains Library Association Conference in Albuquerque. The bus will leave Omaha on March 13 and make the trip in one day.



Yes, it will be a long day, but there will be movies to watch, others to visit with, time to take a nap or read. The bus will return on March 17, again another long day, but you will return so full of plans and ideas the time will speed by. The cost is FREE or NEARLY FREE, so please get your name in now to reserve your very comfortable seat. Look for the flyer in this newsletter.

*Plan to attend The Customer-Centered Library workshop with presenter Karen Hyman On April 4 at the Columbus Public Library. Providing the services that your customer needs and wants is what it is all about today. The workshop registration form is on our website <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern/>

Additions to the ELS Professional Collection

- An Evening with Jamie LaRue, Fall Colloquium 2006, DVD. If you missed seeing LaRue, director of the Douglas County Colorado Libraries, borrow this DVD. His message was how to market your library to the entire community. His budget has grown from \$1 million+ to over \$17 million + so evidently his methods work!
- Rosso, Henry A. *Rosso on Fund Raising: Lessons from a Master's Lifetime Experience.* Jossey-Bass, 1996. Fund raising's best values and practices. Anyone who wants to understand fund raising from the inside should read this book.

Web Sites Too Good to Miss

- Nancy Pearl's Book Lust Wiki—booklust.wetpaint.com Nominate your choice for Best Book of 2006, find out what Nancy is reading, share your best book ideas, locate out of print books, download book reviews, and more.
- Net Lingo—www.netlingo.com - Here is where you find what NALOPKT means (not a lot of people know that). It is on the Top 20 Internet Acronyms Every Parent Needs to Know (and librarians?). Also on this interesting site are: Top 20 Tech Terms That Are Now Common Expressions and 20 Newbie Terms Everyone Needs to Know. These were terms that only the person really new to computer technology wouldn't know.

Digital Greeting Cards Sites

- Blue Mountain—www.bluemountain.com Some free cards, but must subscribe for \$13.00 year for the best ones.
- Rubber Chicken Cards—www.rubberchickencards.com - Costs to subscribe but unusual and quirky.
- Hallmark—www.hallmark.com - Offers more than cards and no cost.
- NetFunCards—www.netfuncards.com - Free with lots of choices.
- EGreetings—www.egreetings.com - One month free trial and then \$13.95, but where else can you find a card for Freckle Pride Day?
- American Greetings—www.americangreetings.com - Also one month free trial and then \$13.99 year for a huge selection of cards



Give Your Library the Book You Want to Read

I hope you know that Amazon allows your library to make a wish list of book, DVDs, and such that donors may purchase for the library. Many libraries have their Friends or Foundations set up an account. In a fun twist, the Fairfax County Public Library Foundation (FCPL) in Virginia allows the book donor to be the first person to borrow the book from the library. When books are purchased off Amazon, they are sent to the library. They FCPL Foundation then notifies the donor that the donation has been received and allows them to be the first to read it. Make your customers and your library happy at the same time—genius! [From the *Library Administrator's Digest*, October 2006]

Maximizing the Value of Friends

with

Sally Reed

Executive Director, Friends of Libraries USA
(FOLUSA)

The Nebraska Library Commission recently purchased memberships in Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) for all Nebraska public libraries to ensure that their library staff, Friends, Trustees, and Foundations can take advantage of FOLUSA's services to enhance fundraising, advocacy, and public awareness. As a component of this initiative training supporting library Friends and Boards of Trustees will be presented in Spring 2007.

March 27, 1:00–3:30 p.m. in North Platte, Holiday Inn Express, 300 Holiday Frontage Rd

March 28, 9:30–Noon in Fremont, Keene Memorial Library

The workshop will cover the following topics:

- Starting and Strengthening Your Library Friends
- Fundraising and Friends
- Friends as Advocates

Effective Friends groups are invaluable for raising money, promoting the library, and engaging in advocacy. But for Friends to live up to their potential, they must be nurtured and encouraged. Active, well-informed Friends are clear about their roles in relationship to the library staff. In this workshop, Sally Reed will help library supporters and library staff work together to make sure that Nebraska library Friends groups are growing and active, that they are great fundraisers, and that they are prepared to work in partnership for library funding, referendums and/or bond issues.

Register as early as possible (due to space limitations) at www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp, search on Sally Reed.

Deadline: March 20, 2007

CE Credits: 2.5

Sponsored by: Nebraska Library Commission and Regional Library Systems

One Book for Nebraska Kids 2007

Sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission & the Regional Library Systems - 2007



Wouldn't it be great if kids all over Nebraska were talking about books? We are starting a new program where kids can all read and discuss the same book. This year's book is aimed at fourth to sixth graders. It is about a boy who risks a lot to try to rescue a bear cub: **Rescue Josh McGuire** by Ben Mikaelson. A book bag containing 15 paperback copies of the book along with discussion questions, activities and background information is available from the regional library system offices.

Plans are underway to set up one or two opportunities for youth to interact with the author via the computer. Date(s) and time to be announced.

February and March are the designated months for this year's book discussion, however, this is a great book to read anytime and librarians may borrow the book set whenever it is available and fits into their library or school's schedule. In the future we plan to promote the One Book for Nebraska Kids or One Book for Nebraska Teens for January and February as the designated months.

This is the kick off of an ongoing event that will alternate between upper elementary age level and middle school age level titles. A title for middle school age, the "One Book for Nebraska Teens," will be selected for the 2008 program.

College of DuPage Continuing Education Teleconference Series 2006-2007

- *Next Gen Librarianship: Were Do We Go From Here* February 9, 2007
- *Library Transformation: Making it Happen* March 23, 2007
- *The Best from the Web* April 13, 2007
- *The Relevance of Libraries in a Digital Age* May 11, 2007

Contact the System Office for site locations.

Eastern Library System 2007 Children's / Youth Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit children and young adults. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for children and/or young adults. (Schools should submit an application from the district, not from an individual school.) Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

- Collection development (1) to replace worn or discarded books and / or 2) from recommended lists (Golden Sower, Caldecott, Newberry, Notable Books, etc.) Provide list of what will be purchased.
- Children's literature course from any university or college.
- New program or service for children or young adults.

Instructions: Complete the following form and submit six (6) copies by March 1, 2007, to: Kathleen Tooker, Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144. **Faxes will not be accepted.** Applications will be reviewed by the Eastern Library System Continuing Education Committee.

Library Name: _____

Grant Director: _____ Title: _____

E-Mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? _____

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s). **Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

Project Title

Project Description (must address each of the following):

Identify need

Goals

Objectives

Implementation

Letters of support or partnerships (optional)

Evaluation

Estimated cost / budget and total cost

Benefit to children / young adults. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

Starting and completing dates

Grant Director

Date

Eastern Library System 2007 Adult Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit adult library customers. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for adults. Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

- Collection development either recommended fiction or non-fiction titles.
Provide list of what will be purchased.
- New service or program for adult customers.

Instructions: Complete the following form and submit six (6) copies by March 1, 2007, to: Kathleen Tooker, Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144. **Faxes will not be accepted.** Applications will be reviewed by the Eastern Library System Continuing Education Committee.

Library Name: _____

Grant Director: _____ Title: _____

E-Mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? _____

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s). **Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

Project Title

Project Description (must address each of the following):

Identify need

Goals

Objectives

Implementation

Letters of support or partnerships

Evaluation

Estimated cost / budget and total cost

Benefit to adult customers. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

Starting and completing dates

Grant Director

Date

Eastern Library System Board Meeting

November 17, 2006

Creighton Health Sciences Library

Present: Denise Lawver, Carrie Turner, John Seyfarth, Sam McMullen, Dorothy Willis, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer, Mary Jo Mack, Kenny Oyer, Becky Sims, Becky Pasco, Lupe Mier and Robin Bernstein. Guests: Laura Johnson of the Nebraska Library Commission and Jim Bothmer with the Creighton Health Sciences Library.

President, Denise Lawver called the meeting to order. Introductions and brief comments were made.

The minutes from the September 15, 2006, meeting were reviewed. The minutes will be filed as written.

The treasurer's reports for September and October 2006, were reviewed. No corrections were noted and the reports will be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Kathy read thank you notes from Angela Kroeger with UNO and Karla Shafer with the Hooper Library. Both were awarded Eastern Library System Scholarships to attend the 2006 NLA/NEMA conference. Kathy also read an email from Lynn Schnoor who is resigning from the Eastern Library System Board. Kathy mentioned that the Board will need another member to replace Lynn and this Board member must be a library user.

Administrator's Report: See written report.

Committee Reports: Dorothy Willis gave the continuing education committee report stated that the summer reading program workshop will be held on February 23rd at Keene Memorial Library in Fremont. Plans are being made to hold a Spring Colloquium in April. Additional workshops being considered are a book repair workshop and a pre-building workshop

Old Business: Gerald Donlan with Davidson Titles, Inc. placed an ad in the newsletter. Midwest Storage is also considering taking an ad.

New Business: Advocacy. There are 22 new senators coming into office. Each person on the Board is encouraged to meet with a new senator. Kathy stated that she is willing to go along with someone for a senator visit. It was suggested that Kathy send out an email suggesting points to be covered when talking with a senator.

Strategic Planning Meeting date: Kathy is working with Brenda Ealey on arranging a joint event.

Audit: The completed audit was reviewed. Motion carried to accept the audit.

Becky made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dorothy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting:
January 19, 2007
Papillion La Vista South High School

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Mack, secretary

?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
?	Did you know?										?
?	•	that all board meetings are open to any interested party									?
?	•	that ELS board members also serve on working committees									?
?	•	that board members represent all types of libraries									?
?	•	that there are also library users on the board									?
?	•	that serving on the ELS board is informative and fun									?
?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	

Upcoming Events

February 5 - CLICK Meeting, La Vista Public Library, 9:30 am

February 9 - DIRECT Meeting, Wahoo Public Library, 9:30-11:30 am

February 14 - NLA Library Legislative Day (see registration in this issue)

February 23 - Summer Reading Program Workshop, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont (see flyer in this issue)

March 13-17 - MPLA Road Trip 2007 (see flyer in this issue)

March 23 - Webpage & Blog Workshop Repeat (see page 2)

March 28 - FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries USA) Workshop, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont (see page 10)

April 4 - Customer-Centered Library (see flyer in this issue)

April 21 - Spring Colloquium with Kate Marek, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, 5:30-9:30 pm

June 8 - ELS Annual Meeting, Bellevue University

July 9-13 - Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (see brochure in this issue)

Check out the Nebraska Library Commission's web page calendar (<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libcal/libcal.html>) for a schedule of events.

For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.

***Eastern Library System
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