



**March/April  
2006**

# Eastern Express

## The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From the Administrator *Kathy*

### Partnerships



### Work!

#### The Library

Snyder Public Library, smallest public library in the Eastern Library System, is open only nine hours a week but in that time, Director Betty Niewohner and her Board of Trustees work to serve their community of approximately 230 people. The library is an important part of the community and has a core of dedicated readers and an active children's program. They have also worked tirelessly to raise funds to remodel the library so the space is more inviting and usable. A wall will be partially removed, new paint, lights, floor covering are among the changes coming but they were unsure about how to arrange the stacks, the computers and the circulation desk to the best advantage.

#### The Class

Enter Dr. Becky Pasco, Coordinator of the Library Science Education Program at the University of Nebraska @ Omaha, a firm believer of service learning. Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning, teach civic responsibility, and strength communities. She decided that helping the Snyder Library would be a good project for 16 graduate students in the Library Administration/Management of Information Agencies class.

The class split into three groups with one group visiting the Snyder Library (65 miles west of Omaha) one evening; the other two groups giving up part of their Saturday to see the library. After visiting with board member, Theresa Wilcox and the library director about the library's customers, programs and the community, the students got out their measuring tapes and digital cameras as each group will be responsible for creating a floor plan that supports enhanced information services for both youth and adults as well as areas for administration. Along with the floor plan, students must provide a narrative analysis/explanation of each suggestion that focuses on how their ideas support information literacy. One member from each of the three groups will present their plans to the Snyder Library Board in early May.

### A win-win solution for both the library and the class!



Dr. Becky Pasco, Lisa Voss, Haishu Zhu, Kathryn Kelley, Sue Block, Sean Story



**Duane Abbott, Lola Gilbert, Marianne Fenwick,  
Ashley Phillip, Verna Simons**



**Ed Domes, Beth Steffensmeier, Joy Stortvedt, Kathryn  
Willis, Martha Grenzebeck, Lee DeWald**

**New Scholarships Available!**

The Nebraska Library Commission established the 21st Century Librarian Scholarships to provide financial support to eligible Nebraskans seeking masters, bachelors, or associate degrees in library science/school library media.

The Nebraska Library Commission will award scholarships of \$1000 for students working at the bachelor's or the associate level and \$2,500 each year for students working on master's degrees. Scholarship funds can be used for tuition, course-related materials, and fees associated with the degree programs.

To apply, go to <http://www.nlc.stat.ne.us/libdev/scholarship.html>.

Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12  
Omaha, NE 68144  
402-330-7884 or 800-627-7884  
FAX 402-330-1859  
[www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern)

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Kathleen Tooker, Administrator  
[ktooker@alltel.net](mailto:ktooker@alltel.net)

Nancy Meyer, Administrative Assistant  
[nrmeyer@alltel.net](mailto:nrmeyer@alltel.net)

## Outstanding Youth Volunteers Honored at Library Legislative Day 2006

Those honored from the Eastern Library System were:

### Elizabeth Harman and James Harman from the McGoogan Library of Medicine.

This brother and sister team has volunteered during summer and holiday breaks for the past 5 years. Their activities include filing for the catalog department and helping the special collections department recover hundreds of unique physician research projects and theses. They participated as actors in an educational film produced by McGoogan Library staff and they helped McGoogan staff raise funds for an inner city school library's book budget. They also assisted with cleaning and shifting collections following a library renovation. Elizabeth recently assisted the reference department with a project to gather usage statistics for the collection. James most recently helped with a project to organize and distribute over 8,000 examination review books to medical students preparing for licensing exams. This family effort not only accomplishes significant tasks, but also brings a refreshing spirit to the environment.



### Courtney Dunker from the North Bend Public Library.

As Courtney was growing up she became more and more active in helping us with summer reading. By the time she was in the upper elementary grades, she began helping staff prepare for the upcoming summer reading programs. She created decorations, stuffed treat sacks prepared and organized crafts among other preparation tasks. Each week she helped the younger children with crafts and often read at story time. Later, Courtney began helping staff at the desk. When the main floor was being repainted, not only did she come to help move



books, but she enlisted friends to help. Following basement renovation, Courtney and her sister came to re-shelve materials and ready the space for re-opening. She is definitely a role model for youth.

*There were several deserving nominees that were not chosen this year, but nevertheless are outstanding youth volunteers.*

**Allison Gill and Karen Anderson, Omaha Public Library.** Allison and Karen have logged many hours as a volunteer team. They have set out to give each spoken cassette/compact disc item in the Willa Cather Branch Library a Braille label. They each bring a Braille Typewriter. Their dedication is special because Karen is blind. Together they are making great strides to enhance accessibility for the sight-impaired community.

**Elliot Scheffler, Blair Public Library.** Elliot has volunteered in a variety of ways since 2003 and not task is too insignificant for him. He reads shelves, files cards and periodicals, shelves materials, assists with the withdrawal process and collects materials for recycling. And Elliot's volunteer hours at the library are in addition to his part-time job and senior year responsibilities.

**Jennifer Lynes, Blair Public Library.** Jennifer has been a willing and effective participant in our Teen Volunteer Program for the past two summers. She grasped the basics of the tasks assigned and moved beyond, demonstrating understanding of how library functions dovetail with each other. When another teen volunteer was vacationing, Jenny was always willing to rearrange her private life in order to take an extra shift. She would come early and stay late. Her infectious laugh pleases users of all ages.

**Jaclyn Sharples, Gretna Public Library.** Jaclyn performs a variety of tasks to make a significant difference in our efforts. She shelves books, straightens and reads shelves and helps prepare projects for our summer programs. She helps with the children and puts them at ease with her giant smile and tender care. She never complains when it is messy clean-up time. Jaclyn was at the library nearly everyday throughout the summer whether filling her own shift or that of someone else.

# System News



## Gretna Public Library

L.E.A.R.N.—Library Entertainment and Reading Niche is a program for adults held once a month. Topics have included travel logs, bird watching, quilt-making, Nebraska Humanities programs, Omaha speakers Bureau guests, movies and, of course refreshments. Chris Christensen used one of the system's Bi-Folkal kits (Food! On the Menu) for a pie-eating, bingo-playing program. Participation was enthusiastic and some wonderful food memories were raised. Liver and spinach were the two foods that met with the most disgust. Chris said, "The best way to measure success of these programs is when everyone is participating and everyone is enjoying themselves." Tom Tingle, a member of the Choctaw nation, presented a multicultural storytelling program to over 150 people who attended this wonderful event sponsored by the Gretna Public Library.

## Sump Memorial Library, Papillion

To celebrate Mardi Gras and to raise money for the New Orleans Public Library, The Friends of the Library sponsored a "Mardi Gras Float Competition." Participants built "shoebox floats" from directions included in special kits available for a modest entry fee. The kit included a rubber duck with a Mardi Gras hat. The floats were judged and prizes awarded. Individual donations were also accepted for the worthwhile cause. The event raised over \$200.00.

## Springfield Public Library

If you are diving by the library you can find out what is happening inside by their new outside sign. The Friends of the Library will be sponsoring a Nebraska Humanities Council program, "From Every Land," with scholar Richard Kimbrough on April 2, 2 pm, at the library.

## Baright Public Library, Ralston

The library will host an open house for their new teen space on March 31 at 4 pm. "Harry and the Potters" will entertain with rock music at 6 pm. They are two brother from Massachusetts who play "Wizard Rock." You will have to go and listen to figure out just what kind of music that is.

*Pat Wagner, Pattern Research, Denver, presented at both the La Vista and Baright Public Libraries last month. Pat's topic at La Vista was communication. She spent two days in Ralston discussing strategic planning for both the library and the community.*

## Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library

The library is hosted a special display from January 21st through the month of February in conjunction with an exhibit at the Joslyn Art Museum. The exhibit, running through April 16th, features the Saint John's Bible, the first handwritten and illuminated bible commissioned since the advent of the printing press more than 500 years ago. While the manuscript is still in progress, the Joslyn exhibit features 100 pages from the first three finished volumes. Commissioned by St. John's University in Minnesota, this unique Bible is a richly ornamented masterpiece, written and illustrated by hand on oversized vellum with hand-ground pigments and gold leaf. A modern English translation is used, with illuminations reflecting a multicultural world and humanity's strides in science, technology and space exploration. The Elkhorn Library's display is comprised of copies of the first published volume of the St. John's Bible, Gospels and Acts, book on the making of the bible, plus examples of other illuminated manuscripts and calligraphy books.

## La Vista Public Library

Rose Schinker, library director, was featured in an article in the *La Vista Sun* newspaper. "Rose has been library director since 2001.



Her management duties may keep her behind the scenes, but her philosophies keep the library patron-friendly."

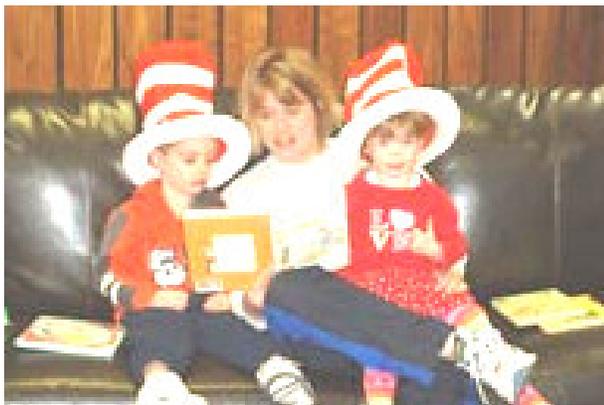
From Gary Katz, director of the library -  
You can search the Kripke Jewish Federation Library CATALOG online at:  
<http://www.jewishomaha.org/>

**Do you need a scholarship to attend a workshop or other program go to: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern/ScholarshipPolicy.htm>**

## Bellevue Public Library

Dr. Seuss activities at the library are promoted with a large “Cat in the Hat” wooden cut-out on the front of the library. It was made by students at Bellevue West High School and painted by the staff at BPL. The library celebrated “Seuss Week” with:

- \* A twin bed that kids could climb on
- \* A pajama storytime in the evening
- \* A *Cat in the Hat* craft
- \* A wacky day with wacky décor (like plastic flowers growing out of the bookshelves)
- \* Their third-annual Seuss-athon, a 12-hour reading marathon (120 people participated in this event)
- \* “Foot book” day, patrons wore silly shoes, socks or slippers



## Winners

Jennifer Jazyuka and the Gretna Public Library won the printer and Jeanette Groppe and the Scribner Public Library won the computer in last month’s ELS equipment raffle.

**John Moritz Library** is now located on the new Nebraska Methodist College, Josie Harper Campus in Omaha. The library is located on the second floor of the Clark Center, 720 N. 87th Street. The newly constructed John Moritz Library is an inviting, student-centered facility that accommodates both individual and group study including a spacious lounge area. Access to library information is available 24 hours per day/seven days a week through their web site:

[www.methodistcollege.edu/library](http://www.methodistcollege.edu/library)

## Award Winner

Denise Lawver, children’s librarian at the Wahoo Public Library & ELS Board Vice-President, was awarded the C.W. Anderson Award at Wahoo’s annual chamber of commerce banquet in January. This award is given to local individuals or businesses based on the five famous sons of Wahoo. Denise’s award description is as follows: “Clarence Anderson was a writer, his audience was children. This inspired him to be creative and innovative and known world-wide for his approach to life, work and education. Winner Denise Lawver goes above and beyond when it comes to her time at the Wahoo Public Library. Her commitment to the reading programs and youth activities in general make her a fine choice for this award.”



## Tekamah Public Library

Joyce Grass, director, received a donation of 108 John Wayne videos. She is willing to loan them. You can email her at [teklibrary@microlnk.com](mailto:teklibrary@microlnk.com) for more information on titles.

## The CHIRS (Consumer Health Information Resources Service) Road Team is Coming Your Way!

by Teresa Hartman

Is it a NASCAR racing team? Is it a lost Paris-Dakar rally team? No, it is the CHIRS Road Team of 2006! CHIRS librarians will be traveling Nebraska highways this April to visit public libraries. During each visit, team members will deliver new display materials, discuss upcoming CHIRS training opportunities, and describe plans for the new Go Local Nebraska initiative (<http://www.unmc.edu/library/golocal/>). Each visit will also be a time to catch up on ways that your library and patrons use the CHIRS services, and how the CHIRS librarians can best work for you and with you in the years to come. The CHIRS Road Team will be making their travel schedule during March, and plan to visit as many public libraries as they can. **If you would like the CHIRS Road Team to visit your library, please send an email to [thartman@unmc.edu](mailto:thartman@unmc.edu).**



## Resources For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists

### Silly Web Sites

7UP Mind Reader ([www.digicc.com/fido](http://www.digicc.com/fido)) Correctly guess a number you have written down.

Planarity Flash Game ([www.planarity.net](http://www.planarity.net)) Place your mouse pointer on a dot, click and drag the attached line so none intersect.

Amusing Facts ([www.amusingfacts.com](http://www.amusingfacts.com)) Covers many topics and in addition to facts has brain teasers, strange news, jokes, etc.

Test Your Geography ([www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz](http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz)) A fun way to improve your geography knowledge.

**The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)**, a division of ALA, has announced a new edition of "*More Outstanding Books for the College Bound*." The purpose of this book is to provide reading recommendations for students grade 9-12 who plan to continue their education beyond high school; it is updated every five years. Organized into five academic disciplines: history, humanities, literature, science and technology, and social sciences, it also includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, biography, and drama.

The book is available free online at [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa) or can be purchased for \$31.50 (ALA members) or \$35 (non-members) through the ALA Store at [www.alastore.org](http://www.alastore.org) or by calling 800-545-2433. Booklets are also available in packs of \$50 for \$27 (members) or \$30 (non-members). *This could be a good resource for public libraries doing summer reading programs for teens.*

*Library Sparks*, a Upstart publication, has been added to the periodicals available to system members for routing. The magazine has practical, ready-to-use lessons centered around a theme. Included in each bi-monthly issue are: So Many Books...So Little Time, Library Lessons, Curriculum Connections, Story time, Meet the Author or Illustrator, Book Activities, Keep 'em Reading, and Freebies, Doodles and Helpful Hints, plus a Monthly Calendar. To be placed on the routing list for this magazine, contact either Kathy or Nancy at the system office.

**Want to add something new to your children's and young adults programs?** There are many ideas for fun stuff to do from raps, to musical activities, to readers' theater for both children and young adults in *Something Funny Happened at the Library* by Rob Reid. We can lend this great resource to you so you can find something new and funny to add to your programming, just call the system office!

**School Media Specialists**— For a copy of *School Libraries Work!*, an updated research paper that supports what we all know—school library media specialists and school libraries do have a positive benefit on student academic achievement go to [www.scholastic.com/libraries](http://www.scholastic.com/libraries). Slip a copy into your administrator's mail box.

**If you work with teens** and are looking for ideas and programs to attract teen to the library or media center, read *VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)* A sample of articles of interest includes: reading lists, author talks, teen spaces, reviews, and much more. You can have access to this magazine by letting us know you want you name added to the routing list. All it takes is a phone call or message!

**CLICK** (Children's Librarians Information Coffee Klatch) will meet at the Gretna Public Library on April 3 at 9:30 am. We will be talking about good websites and book lists.



Sherry Wilkerson from Scholastic Books will be there with some great information. Please contact Jennifer Jazynka, library director, if you can come. [jennifer@cityofgretna.com](mailto:jennifer@cityofgretna.com).

### 2006 Awards

#### Caldecott Medal

*The Hello, Goodbye Window*, illustrated by Chris Raschka, and written by Norton Juster

#### Newbery Medal

*Criss Cross*, Written by Lynne Rae Perkins

**Theodor Seuss Geisel Award** (first time to be awarded)

*Henry and Mudge and the Great Gandpas*, by Cynthia Rylant

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## National Library Week

The theme of National Library Week (April 2-3, 2006) is "Change your world @ your library®". Online tools and graphic products can be found on the ALA website: [www.ala.org/@yourlibrary](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary).

- Crayola company has coloring and activities, crafts and lesson plans at: [www.crayola.com/calendar/detail.cfm?event\\_id=144&year=2006](http://www.crayola.com/calendar/detail.cfm?event_id=144&year=2006)

**April is School Library Media Month**



## Disaster Preparedness Workshop

The Nebraska Library Commission is presenting a two-day disaster preparedness workshop. The two-day workshops will help Nebraska librarians better understand the importance of library disaster response and recovery planning, be aware of steps to take in developing disaster plans and risk assessment, and become familiar with various disaster recovery activities.

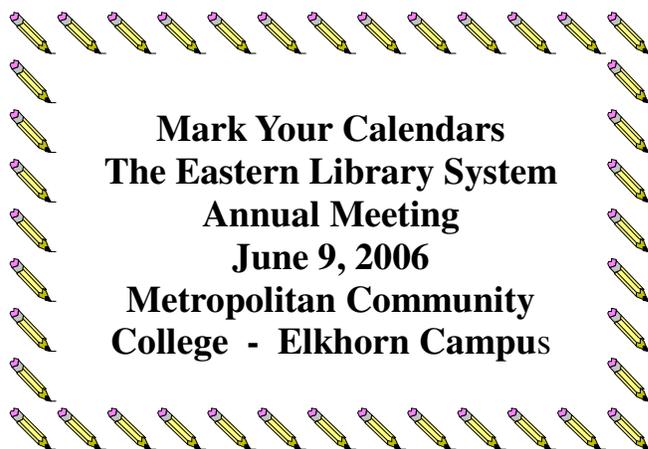
The workshops are being taught by Tom Claerson, Program Director for New Initiatives at the OCLC regional network, PALINET.

The workshops will be held **May 1 & 2 from 9-4** each day at the Firefighters Hall, 241 Victory Lane, Lincoln.

The cost is \$20 which includes class materials and lunch. You will receive 12 hours of CE credit. The Nebraska Library Commission will cover costs of lodging for attendees traveling more than 90 miles one-way to the workshop.

Registration Deadline is **April 24**. You may register online at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/distasterreg.html>.

**The Libri Foundation Books for Children** program donates children's books to small, rural libraries in the United States. Note: grant application **deadline** has been extended March 15 to **April 15**. For more information and application forms see [www.librifoundation.org/apps.html](http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html).



**Mark Your Calendars**  
**The Eastern Library System**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**June 9, 2006**  
**Metropolitan Community**  
**College - Elkhorn Campus**

## Proper Disposal of Computer Equipment (Preventing Toxic PC Junk from Getting into Landfills)

by John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library



Everyone that possesses and uses computer equipment will have to get rid of it eventually. Unfortunately, computer equipment has a number of toxic materials imbedded within it. So, environmentally conscious librarians (as I am sure just about all of us are) need to be aware of (a) the hazardous nature of the materials within, (b) how to properly recycle computers and (c) how to properly dispose of them.

First, we need to become aware of just what is so toxic and hazardous about the computer equipment that we are ready to dispose of. According to a recent article in the *Galt Global Review*,

“Landfill and incinerator facilities are often the final resting place for electronic waste. Computers, cell phones, electronic games, television sets – are piling up with increasing rapidity, ready to be burned or buried. But are you aware that these leftover gadgets are loaded with toxins that can leak into the groundwater or produce carcinogens and toxins. Your computer equipment could contain highly toxic materials. Computer equipment is a complicated assembly of more than 1,000 materials, many of which are highly toxic, such as chlorinated and brominated substances, toxic gases, toxic metals, biologically active materials, plastics and plastic additives.” [[www.galtglobalreview.com/business/toxic\\_pcs.html](http://www.galtglobalreview.com/business/toxic_pcs.html), *Old PC Toxic in Landfill Sites*, Page 1]

Given this, we librarians need to be good shepherds of our environment, and properly dispose of our obsolete assets.

If the computers are not too old, and they are complete, consider donating them to another activity that perhaps can use the lesser capabilities available in these machines. Generally speaking most activities have certain minimum equipment standards, and will require an operational and complete machine (CPU, keyboard, monitor, mouse and the cords). If it is not possible to give them to an activity that can use them as is, or they are not complete, it may be possible to donate them to an activity that can find a home for them. My research today indicates that the Salvation Army in both Omaha and Lincoln will take computer equipment that will

run, including incomplete units. They told me today that they will take CPUs, Monitors, Keyboards, Mice, and Printers. The only problem is that they are only located in Omaha and Lincoln, with no facilities further west or north. So, if you can, the equipment can be dropped off at one of the following addresses in Lincoln or Omaha:

82<sup>nd</sup> and Grover (East of Magelsens) in Omaha  
84<sup>th</sup> and Park Drive in Ralston  
75<sup>th</sup> and Dodge in Omaha  
1502 Harland Drive in Bellevue  
48<sup>th</sup> and Leiton in northern Lincoln  
48<sup>th</sup> and VanDorn in southern Lincoln

If you have equipment that simply needs to be recycled, then there are some recyclers available to take your equipment and recycle it in an environmentally conscious way. Generally, they take any equipment, but there is an unusually per pound fee of from \$0.25 to \$0.35. The important thing is that they will separate and properly dispose of the toxic materials and ensure that they are recycled in a manner that does not affect the environment. It is important that before you give them a call before you take the material to them and they will advise you what they will take that day:

CP Recovery, 7534 F Street, Omaha, 402-331-1630

Electronic Recyclers, 1528 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, 402-408-0053

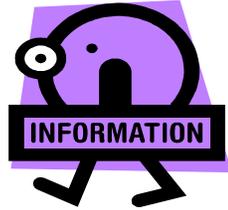
Computer Renaissance, 330 North 48<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, 402-564-4040

Lincoln Action Program, 240 P Street, Lincoln, 402-471-4528

These are the only recyclers that I could find in Nebraska.

Hopefully, the information presented here may help you to properly dispose of your obsolete or non-operational computer equipment.





## Nominations Wanted

The NLA Citation Committee invites nominations for the Meritorious Service Award and the Mari Sandoz Award for the year 2006.

The **Meritorious Service Award** is given annually to a person, corporation, or organization which has contributed to the improvement of library service in a local community, region, state agency, or in library legislation.

The **Mari Sandoz Award** recognizes significant, enduring contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film production, or related activity. Nomination procedures:

1. The original letter of nomination should include the nominee's name, address, telephone number, accomplishments, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should include the name, title, address, and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination.
2. At least four additional letters that support and endorse the nomination are required. Such letters may provide further information about the nomination.
3. The NLA Meritorious Service Award may be given to an individual or group.

More information and lists of past recipients may be found in the NLA Handbook at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/handbook/handbook8.htm>

Nominations and letters of support must be received by May 30, 2006. Mail to: Sally Payne, 222 N Jefferson St., Papillion, NE 68046. Nominations may also be submitted via e-mail to:

[spayne@monarch.papillion.ne.us](mailto:spayne@monarch.papillion.ne.us)

## Trustee Citation Award

It is time to think about nominating your outstanding trustee(s) for the Trustee Citation Award. Criteria: The recipient must be a member of the Trustees, Users and Friends Section of the Nebraska Library Association. Send three letters of support for your nominee with your letter of nomination by **July 10th** to the TUFs Chair, Maggie Harding, PO Box 98, Crete, NE 68333. Selection will be made on the basis of the following criteria: Contribution toward the implementation of sound, efficient library policies

resulting in the advancement of library service within the community. Contribution toward the strengthening of library services outside the area of the local community (regional, stateside or national.) Effectiveness in serving jointly as the library's spokesperson to the community, and the communities' spokesperson to the library.

## Paraprofessional of the Year

The Paraprofessional Section of NLA is now accepting nominations for the Paraprofessional of the Year Award. Nominations are due on July 31, 2006. The award will be presented at the NLA/NEMA Fall Conference in Omaha. The awardee will receive a one-year paid membership to NLA, in the Paraprofessional Section and \$50. You may go to the para website for information and the nomination form.

[www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paraofyear.html](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paraofyear.html)

## The Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund

The Louise Nixon Scholarship Fund supports library education on a full or part-time basis. Applications must be received by the NLA Scholarship Committee on or before **April 15th** of the current year. To obtain an application, go to [www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm).

## Festival

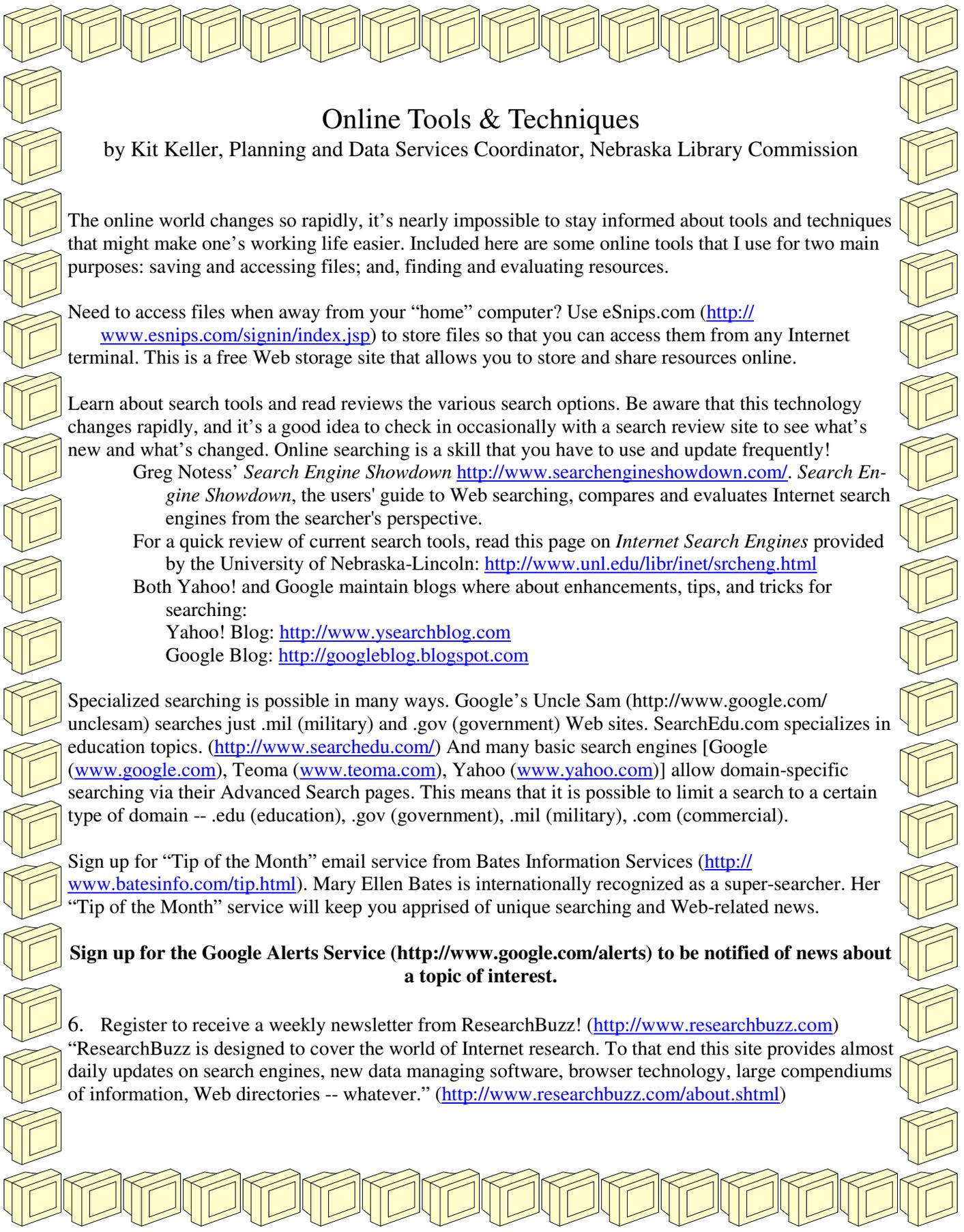
Wayne State College will host a Language Arts Festival, March 31-April 2, featuring Jane Yolen, author of *Dragon's Blood*. The Festival will offer multiple programs, with activities and presentations of general interest and a selection of workshops. For more information go to:

[http://academic.wsc.edu/conn\\_library/conference/](http://academic.wsc.edu/conn_library/conference/)

## Gates Rural Library Sustainability Workshop

Sponsored by the Gates Foundation, WebJunction and the Nebraska Library Commission. Pam Scott, Continuing Education Coordinator, will present information about following areas: Library Community Connections; Upgrade and Maintenance; Staff and Patron Training; Funding; Outreach; and Advocacy. Continuum of evaluation of the focus areas noted above; WebJunction as a resource; action planning; and brainstorming. No Cost (lunch included) - 8 hours of CE. Register at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/gates/gatesrurasustaintrngspg2006.html>

**Location:** Keene Memorial Library, Fremont  
**Time:** 9:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



## Online Tools & Techniques

by Kit Keller, Planning and Data Services Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission

The online world changes so rapidly, it's nearly impossible to stay informed about tools and techniques that might make one's working life easier. Included here are some online tools that I use for two main purposes: saving and accessing files; and, finding and evaluating resources.

Need to access files when away from your "home" computer? Use eSnips.com (<http://www.esnips.com/signin/index.jsp>) to store files so that you can access them from any Internet terminal. This is a free Web storage site that allows you to store and share resources online.

Learn about search tools and read reviews the various search options. Be aware that this technology changes rapidly, and it's a good idea to check in occasionally with a search review site to see what's new and what's changed. Online searching is a skill that you have to use and update frequently!

Greg Ness's *Search Engine Showdown* (<http://www.searchengineshowdown.com/>). *Search Engine Showdown*, the users' guide to Web searching, compares and evaluates Internet search engines from the searcher's perspective.

For a quick review of current search tools, read this page on *Internet Search Engines* provided by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln: <http://www.unl.edu/libr/inet/srcheng.html>

Both Yahoo! and Google maintain blogs where about enhancements, tips, and tricks for searching:

Yahoo! Blog: <http://www.ysearchblog.com>

Google Blog: <http://googleblog.blogspot.com>

Specialized searching is possible in many ways. Google's Uncle Sam (<http://www.google.com/unclesam>) searches just .mil (military) and .gov (government) Web sites. SearchEdu.com specializes in education topics. (<http://www.searchedu.com/>) And many basic search engines [Google ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com)), Teoma ([www.teoma.com](http://www.teoma.com)), Yahoo ([www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com))] allow domain-specific searching via their Advanced Search pages. This means that it is possible to limit a search to a certain type of domain -- .edu (education), .gov (government), .mil (military), .com (commercial).

Sign up for "Tip of the Month" email service from Bates Information Services (<http://www.batesinfo.com/tip.html>). Mary Ellen Bates is internationally recognized as a super-searcher. Her "Tip of the Month" service will keep you apprised of unique searching and Web-related news.

**Sign up for the Google Alerts Service (<http://www.google.com/alerts>) to be notified of news about a topic of interest.**

6. Register to receive a weekly newsletter from ResearchBuzz! (<http://www.researchbuzz.com>) "ResearchBuzz is designed to cover the world of Internet research. To that end this site provides almost daily updates on search engines, new data managing software, browser technology, large compendiums of information, Web directories -- whatever." (<http://www.researchbuzz.com/about.shtml>)

## Nebraska Sales Tax and Libraries

The following information on Nebraska sales tax is provided by Ruth Karlsson with the Nebraska Department of Revenue. She can be contacted to answer questions or other inquiries via email:

[Ruth.Karlsson@rev.ne.gov](mailto:Ruth.Karlsson@rev.ne.gov) or via phone: 402-471-5992.

### What is sales tax?

Sales tax is a transactional tax. It is imposed on the transaction called the sale rather than the item sold.

A sale is the transfer of title or possession of an item or taxable service for a consideration.

Several examples of these sales at a public library are photocopies, computer disks, book bags, bookmarks, etc. Sales tax must also be charged at book sales and items sold at fundraising auctions (even silent auctions).

A lease or rental is treated exactly the same as a sale because a lease is considered to be a sale.

Remember: a sale is the transfer of title or **possession**, and since there is transfer of possession in a lease, a lease is a sale.

There is **no** sales tax charged/collected on: ILL transactions, faxes, non-resident card fees, or the use of meeting rooms.

### How is sales tax collected?

Sales tax is collected by the retailer (including providers of taxable services such as public libraries) who is acting as an agent for the state. The retailer also holds a sales tax permit.

Sales tax is calculated in gross receipts. The point of delivery determines the tax rate. All transactions are presumed to be taxable. Retailers (including public libraries) must collect the tax or document why they didn't.

Public libraries should work with their city/village administration concerning the holder of the sales tax permit and the required remittance of the sales tax to the Department of Revenue. This remittance would pertain to the amount of sales tax collected on sales at the library.

## Trustee Tips

By Kathy Tooker



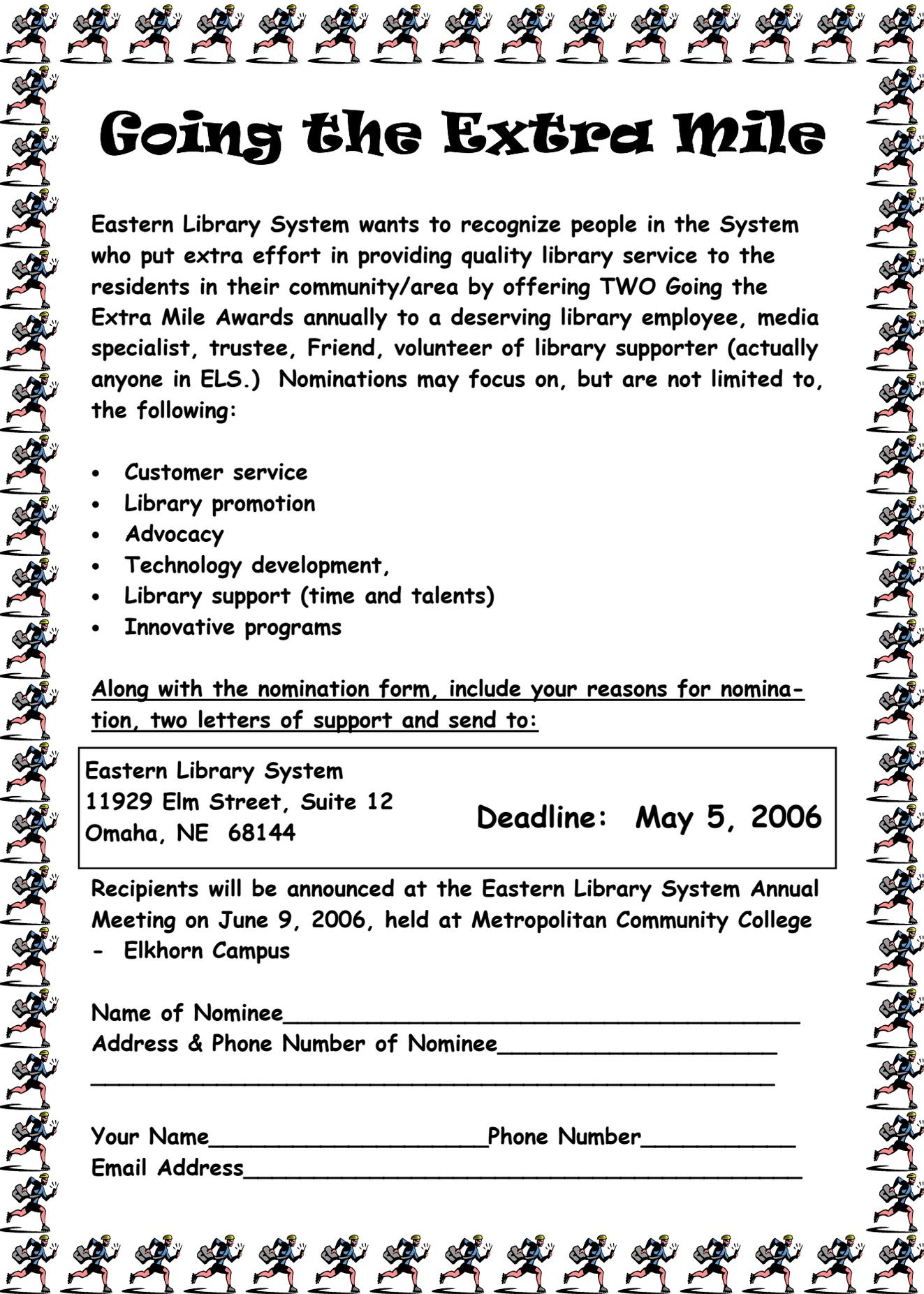
In a 2004 questionnaire completed by 566 Nebraska library trustees, 88.3% of the respondents said that preparing to be an informed board member was important. To be informed, a trustee should be cognizant of the issues and changes happening in the library world. Censorship, privacy, digital reference, marketing, customer services, technology, multicultural issues, management, fund raising—the list could go on and on of topics trustees should know. Fortunately, there are several ways library board members can participate in continuing education activities, some without leaving their community.

The number one choice for preferred methods of receiving CE in the trustee questionnaire was by watching a video. Second was onsite workshops. Nebraska Library Commission has many videos a board may watch at a board meeting and then discuss to receive CE credit. (Remember, certified boards need 20 hours of CE every three years, so if five board members watch a one hour video, this equals five hours of credit!) To see a list of videos available for loan from NLC, go to [www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustee/videolist.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustee/videolist.html). Eastern Library System also has a list of videos we loan on our web page at [www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern), look under “Professional Collection.”

Onsite workshops are another way to earn CE credit. The ELS annual meeting is coming up on June 9; it will be held at Metro Community College, Elkhorn campus, and each trustee can receive 5 hours CE credit plus have the opportunity to visit with trustees from other libraries.

To report CE credit, NLC has added a new piece to their Trustee Page: [www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustees.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustees.html), the Continuing Education Reporting Form.

Please call me if you have any questions about CE credit or any other concern.



# Going the Extra Mile

Eastern Library System wants to recognize people in the System who put extra effort in providing quality library service to the residents in their community/area by offering TWO Going the Extra Mile Awards annually to a deserving library employee, media specialist, trustee, Friend, volunteer of library supporter (actually anyone in ELS.) Nominations may focus on, but are not limited to, the following:

- Customer service
- Library promotion
- Advocacy
- Technology development,
- Library support (time and talents)
- Innovative programs

Along with the nomination form, include your reasons for nomination, two letters of support and send to:

Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12  
Omaha, NE 68144

**Deadline: May 5, 2006**

Recipients will be announced at the Eastern Library System Annual Meeting on June 9, 2006, held at Metropolitan Community College - Elkhorn Campus

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Phone Number of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Worth Checking Out

### New Public Address Equipment

The Eastern Library System, thanks to funding from the Nebraska Library Commission, now has a portable public address system for its own use at workshops and meetings and to loan to system member libraries. It is easy to use and weighs less than 8 pounds so is easy to transport. The unit works for meetings up to 150 people, and can be powered by rechargeable batteries or plugged into a 120 v outlet. Features include a wireless transmitter and a clip-on microphone and a full function cassette deck with recording capabilities. To find out more about borrowing this system, please check our web page at [www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern) and click on "Equipment" or give us a call.



### Do I Have to Make a New Record?

When is a new cataloging record created when a library has multiple editions of the same title? A short article in *Library Media Connection* (February 2006) by Allison G. Kaplan who along with Ann Riedling are co-authors of the book *Catalog It! A Guide to Cataloging School Library Materials* answers some of these questions not only for media centers but any library when determining if the book in hand does indeed need a new record. To interlibrary loan a copy of this article, call the system office.

### Web Sites of Interest

- Mid-Hudson Library System's (NY) web page on building and construction is excellent ([midhudson.org/admin/construction\\_projects/main.htm](http://midhudson.org/admin/construction_projects/main.htm)). Sectioned into topics from the Planning Process to Fund Raising, each section leads to more web sites. In *27 Snappy Rules for Good and Evil in Library Architecture* (under Planning Process), Rule 24 states: No matter what turns a designer on, a library is not an airline terminal, a torpedo factory, or a Chuck-E-Cheese!
- The A to Z of Acronyms and Abbreviations ([www.stands4.com](http://www.stands4.com)) has 348,560 entries in categories from physiology to business to, of course, the Internet. Everyday expressions to complicated terms are searchable by an exact phrase or by the alphabet.

• You can add your library to Mapmuse. Com ([find.mapmuse.com/re1/interest.php?brandID=LIBRARIES](http://find.mapmuse.com/re1/interest.php?brandID=LIBRARIES)). This website has interactive mapping of public libraries across the US and a link to the libraries home page.

### New Award worth \$25,000

Time Warner Book Group and best-selling author James Patterson have created a new annual award "intended to single out and support people, companies, school, and to institutions [i.e., libraries] who find original and effective ways to promote the excitement of books." The James Patterson Page Turner Awards offer:

- \$25,000 to a person, company, or institution that presents books to the public in an exciting and original way.
- \$25,000 to an elementary school, middle school, or high school that inculcates the joy of reading for pleasure in its students. The winning school will also win a visit from Patterson.
- \$25,000 in the form of 25 \$1000 merit awards to individuals and institutions making notable contributions to promoting the excitement of books.

Full details about the award and nomination are available at [www.PattersonPageTurner.org](http://www.PattersonPageTurner.org). Additionally, First Book, a nonprofit organization that provides books to children from low-income families, is donating 1000 books to disadvantaged children in the cities of the two \$25,000 winners. Winners for 2006 will be announced this spring. [Seen in *LJ*, September 2005]

**The Nebraska Library Commission's Continuing Education and Training Grants** will be available May 15, 2006, and are due on August 1, 2006. Recipients will be announced on September 5. The funds are available to assist libraries in providing continuing education and training for library personnel. Accredited public libraries, regional library systems, and consortia of accredited public libraries, Library board members, volunteers, advocates, and other supporters may be included in the training, as appropriate. See [www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev.grant.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev.grant.html) for restrictions.

**"I was really shocked, but you would be surprised how many librarians, after hours, dance on the checkout desk, with a rose between their teeth."**

Louis Mahern, former Indiana state senator and current president of Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board.

## Eastern Library System Board Minutes

January 20, 2006

McGoogan Library of Medicine, UNMC

Present: Dorothy Willis, Nina Little, John Seyfarth, Kenny Oyer, Lynne Schnoor, Lupe Mier, Carrie Turner, Denise Lawver, Sam McMullen, Becky Sims, Becky Pasco, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer  
Guests: Marty McGee, UNMC and Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission, Nancy Ralston, Clarkson College.

The meeting was called to order by Dorothy Willis, president and agenda items were added with approval.

**Guest:** Nancy Ralston, Clarkson College Library. Nancy presented an overview of the history of the library. They have started new programs and have hired two MLS librarians.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the November meeting were handed out. There were several corrections on names and one correction on the system car. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carries.

**Treasurer's Reports:** The reports for November and December 2005, were discussed. They will be filed for audit.

**Correspondence:** The system office received a lot of holiday cards and emails.

**Administrator's Report:** The Patrick Jones workshop was very successful with approximately 80 in attendance. The Snyder Public Library has received money for remodeling and Becky Pasco along with several of her students are working on a community analysis and design for the library. They will make a presentation to the library and Snyder's board. The DIRECT and CLICK meetings are going well. The NLA Legislative Day will be held February 14th. There will be a request to the legislature for additional funding for NLC to purchase databases for online encyclopedia access for everyone in the state. The Regional Library Systems submitted an LSTA grant to purchase iPod/mp3 technology to lend to system libraries for trial use. Upcoming events: Media Specialist Training Day at UNO on March 18 and Spring Colloquium with Joseph Janes in Lincoln on April 8. Kathy reminded board members about mileage forms for tax deductions. (See written report.)

## Committee Reports:

**Continuing Education**— Several programs were discussed: Nebraska Library Leadership Institute reunion, Technology, and the Annual Meeting location. There are no current requests for scholarships. We will advertise in the newsletter.

**Technology:** Workshop possibilities: Webpage design, XP operating system, User group for Follett libraries, Blogs and Wikis, Social Taggings, Instructional Design. ELS got a new printer with funds from NLC. Kathy's old computer will be given away. John Seyfarth will do an article for the newsletter on the process of getting rid of old computers.

## New Business:

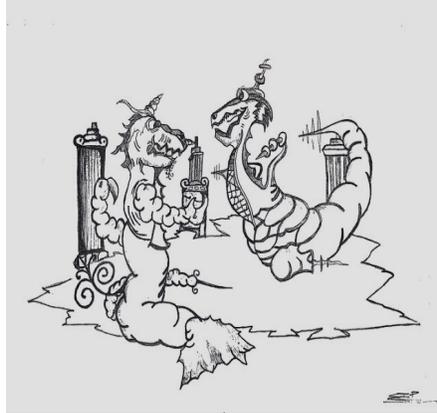
- A. Fund-Raising Events - Lupe Mier, Kenny Oyer, and Sam McMullen will be that committee for the annual fundraiser, a Wine Tasting Event the first part of May
- B. One Book/One State - The Regional Library Systems are one of the sponsors. Each system will have two sets of books to loan.
- C. System Car - Kathy leased a Honda Accord for 3 1/2 years with NLC helping with the down payment. Kenny Oyer moved and John Seyfarth seconded not to take the maintenance plan, but rather pay as it is needed. Motion carried.
- D. Public Address System Policy - A policy was reviewed. There will be no mailing of equipment, only pick-up. Kenny Oyer moved and John Seyfarth seconded to approve the policy. Motion carried.

- \* Rivkah Sass is Librarian of the Year from *Library Journal*.
- \* Kathy will be a member of an advisory group for Go Local for Nebraska.
- \* The UNO Friends are selling chocolate basket tickets and will be having a Wine Tasting on March 31.

Richard Miller passed on a NLC report to the system board. He discussed several workshops, courses, grant applications, scholarships, E-Rate, videoconferences and TBBS posters. (See written report)

John moved and Denise seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2006, Wahoo High School Respectively Submitted,  
Becky Sims, ELS Board Secretary.



## gaming@yourlibrary

**Public Library Section and Trustees, Users and Friends Section**

**Joint Spring Meeting**

**Monday, May 22, 2006 Gering Public Library**

**Wednesday, May 24, 2006 Lexington Public Library**

**Thursday, May 25, 2006 La Vista Public Library**

**8:45-9:30 Registration**

**9:45-3:00 Sessions (Russ Harper, Omaha Public Library on gaming; Mary Jo Ryan, NLC, on mentoring; Maggie Harding on TUFS by-law changes; NLA business meeting and further discussion from Joe Janes, Spring Colloquium; Catered Lunch)**

### Registration Form

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

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Location: Gering  Lexington  La Vista   
PLS Member  TUFS Member  Non-Member

Registration by May 17, 2006 \$15 (NLA Members)

\$20 (non-members (includes lunch))

**Make check payable to NLA/ PLS section and send to:**

**Stephen Hunt**

**Plattsmouth Public Library**

**401 Avenue A**

**Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048**

**Voice: 402-296-4154 Fax: 402-296-4712**

## Upcoming Events



March 31—Gates Workshop, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont  
March 24—ITART Spring Meeting, University of Nebraska, Omaha  
March 31—NLA Technical Round Table Spring Meeting, Mahoney State Park  
(<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/TSRT>)

April 2-8—National Library Week

April 3—CLICK Meeting, Gretna Public Library, 9:30 am

April 7—"Serving Immigrant Populations" teleconference, Noon-2:00 pm

April 7, 21 & 28—Basic Skills, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont

April 8, 2006—Spring Colloquium, Lincoln (see flyer in this newsletter)

April 10-16—Young People's Poetry Week ([www.inthecart.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=CTGY&Store\\_Code=CBC&Category\\_Code=PW06](http://www.inthecart.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=CTGY&Store_Code=CBC&Category_Code=PW06))

April 21—Consumer Health Workshop, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion,  
(see flyer in this newsletter)

May 5—Wine & Whimsy 2, Soaring Wings Vineyard (see flyer in this newsletter)

May 10—DIRECT Meeting, Blair Public Library, 9:30 am

May 19—ELS Board Meeting, Offutt Library, 9:30 am

May 25—Spring Meeting, La Vista Public Library (see flyer in this newsletter)

June 9—ELS Annual Meeting, Metropolitan Community College, Elkhorn Campus

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

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*Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12  
Omaha, NE 68144*

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