

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2008

Your System Board:

Christie Behle
Linda Bushman
Maxine Erpelding
Gail Irwin
Penny Jeffrey
Mary Koch
Laura Martinsen
Trine McBride
Christine Walsh



Meridian Library System
Suite B
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Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192
Phone: 308-234-2087
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Email:
sosenga@frontiernet.net
Website:
[www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/
Meridian](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian)

Book Bags

The Nebraska Regional Library Systems have received grant money from the Nebraska Library Commission to purchase book bags. Based upon book reviews and input from System members, Meridian has put together ten book bags. Each set contains twenty copies of the book plus a cd version, if available. In addition, author information and discussion questions are included in most sets. Available now are:

Punished by David Lubar: Just when you thought it was safe to go to the library. That's what Logan thought, too, until he got a face full of magic dust that scrambled his brains. Now he can't say anything without sounding like a pun-filled smart aleck. And nobody's laughing (except his little sister) because these puns are bad – really bad – which is just what you'd expect if you're being punished! (grades 3-7)

White Star, A Dog on the Titanic by Marty Crisp: The year is 1912 and young Sam Harris is traveling across the ocean on the Titanic. When Sam discovers that there are dogs on board, he volunteers to help out in the kennel and meets Star, a smart and energetic Irish Setter. Sam and Star become fast friends...but then disaster strikes. As the Titanic meets its doom, the boy and dog are forced to rely on each other like never before. But can they both survive? (grades 4-7)

Rules by Cynthia Lord: Twelve-year old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules – in order to head off David's embarrassing behaviors. (grades 4-7)

The Landry News by Andrew Clements: Cara Landry's teacher would rather read the news than teach class – so Cara decides to give him something else to read; her own newspaper. When the principal finds the newspaper, there are unexpected results. (grades 4-6)

Running Out of Time by Margaret Peterson Haddix: Jessie lives with her family in the frontier village of Clifton, Indiana. When diphtheria strikes, Jessie is sent to bring help. What she finds is a world she has never before imagined...(grades 5-8)

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan: Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school, again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them, Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. (Grades 5-9)

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen: Thirteen-year old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the plane he is in crashes. Brian finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but a tattered Windbreaker and the hatchet his mother gave him as a present. (grades 8-12)

Neverwhere by Neil Gaiman: Richard Mayhew learns the hard way that no good deed goes unpunished. He ceases to exist in the ordinary world of London Above, and joins a quest through the dark and dangerous London Below, a shadow city of lost and forgotten people, places, and times. (grades 9-12)

The Schwa Was Here by Neal Shusterman: They say his clothes blend into the background, no matter where he stands. They say if you stare at him long enough, you can see what's written on the wall behind him. They say a lot of things about the Schwa, but one thing's for sure: no one ever noticed him, until Antsy Bonano came along. (grades 9-12)

Peeps by Scott Westerfeld: After a chance encounter, Cal Thompson's life is changed forever when he is infected with an insidious parasite. The good news is he's only a carrier. The bad news is that he has infected all his former girlfriends and they have all turned into what Cal calls peeps; the rest of us call them vampires.

(grades 9-12)

To borrow any of these titles, contact the System Office.



John Newbery Medal

Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village by Laura Amy Schlitz (Candlewick)

Newbery Honor Books

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis (Scholastic/Scholastic Press)

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt (Clarion)

Feathers by Jacqueline Woodson (Putnam/GP Putnam's Sons)

Randolph Caldecott Medal

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick (Scholastic)

Caldecott Honor Books

Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad, illustrated by Kadir Nelson, written by Ellen Levine (Scholastic/Scholastic Press)

First the Egg by Laura Vaccaro Seeger (Roaring Brook/Neal Porter)

The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sís (Farrar/Frances Foster)

Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity by Mo Willems

Michael L. Printz Award

The White Darkness by Geraldine McCaughrean (HarperTempest, an imprint of HarperCollins)

Printz Honor Books

Dreamquake: Book Two of the Dreamhunter Duet by Elizabeth Knox (Frances Foster Books, an imprint of Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

One Whole and Perfect Day by Judith Clarke (Front Street, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc.)

Repossessed by A. M. Jenkins (HarperTeen, an imprint of HarperCollins)

Your Own, Sylvia: A Verse Portrait of Sylvia Plath by Stephanie Hemphill (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books)



Nebraska Library Association Scholarship Opportunities

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org>

Would you like to attend graduate classes or training to increase your library skills? Here's your opportunity to apply for financial assistance.

These links include information on the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship (\$1,000.00) and the Duane Munson Scholarship (\$250.00). The application deadline is April 15th of the current year.

Louise A. Nixon Scholarship

Louise A. Nixon (1897-1989) worked constantly to enlighten the legislature about Nebraska's libraries' needs. She served as Assistant Director of the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau and as Legislative Council Librarian. Louise Nixon was head of the Nebraska Library Commission from 1950 to 1969. When federal funds were made available, she initiated bookmobile

demonstration projects; public library construction; extension services; services to institutional residents and the physically challenged; and an inter-library communication network. Our lives have been enriched by her open-minded, conscientious dedication to building library service in this state.

When Nixon reflected on her life for the Lincoln Journal, the paper wrote, "There is no single figure of greater 20th century significance in developing Nebraska's contemporary system of community libraries – facilities, collections, trained personnel, cooperative networking."

This scholarship was established to help each recipient reach for Nixon's goals of dedication and vision.

The application deadline is April 15th of the current year. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/nixonschol.htm>

Duane Munson Scholarship

Duane Munson, a well-known bookseller from Columbus, has been a long-time leader and solid supporter of library and educational activity in Nebraska. He desires to share his good fortune jointly with the NLA and NEMA communities. Munson has personally sponsored this scholarship since 1991.

The application deadline is April 15th of the current year. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/munsonschol.htm>

Both of the cutting machines are currently available. Contact the System Office to borrow one or both!

Starting March 8, 2008

LIBR 1010
INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES
Online

Spring Term, 2008
Saturday, March 8, 2008 - Wednesday, May 21, 2008
Orientation: Saturday, March 8, 2008 1:00-3:00 pm
(In Omaha or North Platte)

This course will provide students with an understanding of introductory concepts in libraries and information services:

- A brief history of libraries
 - Different types of libraries
 - Typical functions in today's libraries
 - Current issues in library and information science
 - Key terms used in the library profession
 - Resources useful to Library Technical Assistants
 - Issues relevant to information literacy
 - Technology in libraries
- Career options in libraries and information environments

General Registration Begins - January 16, 2008
Payment Deadline - February 11, 2008

*There is no prerequisite required for this class.
It is a prerequisite for all other coursework in the Library Technical Assistant,
Associate of Arts Degree
offered through the Nebraska Community Colleges.*

For questions regarding course content and organization, contact:

Marty Magee, MSA,MLS
Instructor, LIBR 1010
Metropolitan Community College
402-559-7076
mmagee@unmc.edu

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact:

Gretchen B. Schaeffer, M.A, MLS
Academic Advisor
Metropolitan Community College
402-457-2376
gschaeffer@mccneb.edu



Youth Services Retreat



March 13, 2008

Youth Services Workshops

1:00 PM—8:00 PM

6 NLC Continuing Education Credit
Units

March 14, 2008

Summer Reading Program

Workshop

9:30 AM—3:30 PM

5 NLC Continuing Education Credit
Units

Day 1

1:00

1:15–2:15 p.m.

Youth Services Workshops

Welcome and Introductions

Graphically Speaking—Susan Steider, Lincoln City Libraries

Learn the difference between comics and manga; how to make decisions when looking for and ordering them and recommended titles.

2:30 –3:30 p.m.

Social Networking on the Internet: YouTube, Facebook, My Space

Kathy Ellerton, Northeast Library System, Columbus

What you need to know and how to use these sites (hands-on computer lab).

3:30–4:00 p.m.

Drive to Grand Island Public Library

4:00–5:00 p.m.

Tour of Grand Island Public Library

Tour of the newly expanded and remodeled library with particular emphasis on the children and young adult departments

5:30 p.m.

Check-in and Dinner

6:45 p.m.—?

Gaming

— Shannon White, Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln
What you need to know about gaming in libraries. We will be having a gaming tournament featuring different gaming systems.

Anime movie: Spirited Away by Hayao Miyazaki. This is a wondrous fantasy about a young girl, Chihiro, trapped in a strange new world of spirits. When her parents undergo a mysterious transformation, she must call upon the courage she never knew she had to free herself and return her family to the outside world. Rated PG 125 minutes. This film won the Best Animated Film Award by the New York Film Critics Guide, Winner of the Golden Bear Award for Best Picture by the 52nd Berlin International Film Festival and Winner, Best Animated Feature by the National Board of Review.

Time can also be spent using the cutting machines, pool and/or hot tub.

Day 2

9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Summer Reading Program Workshop—Catch the Reading Bug!

Marcy Retzlaff, Norfolk Public Library and Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission

Bring your manual, craft kit and your own good ideas to share with the group!

Cutting machines will be available both days. Bring your own paper.

REGISTRATION

Registration must be received by **March 6, 2008!**

- Step 1:** Fill out the information below:

Name _____

Library _____ City _____

Email _____

Phone (include area code) _____

- Step 2:** If you are NOT staying overnight, Check **ONE** of the following:

_____ Day 1 only (3/13/2008), \$20

_____ Day 2 only (3/14,2008), \$20

_____ Both days (3/13-14/2008), \$30

- Step 3:** If you are staying over night, choose one of the following:

_____ Private room, \$100

_____ 2 people/room, \$78 per person

If you would like to choose your roommate, list name below,
Other wise , roommates will be assigned.

- Step 4:** Mail a copy of this registration form to: Meridian Library System, 1015 Central Ave, Suite B, Kearney, NE 68847.

Be sure to mail payment with your registration.
(Add step 2 and Step 3 together for payment amount.)

Registrations must be received by **March 6, 2008!**

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- The Leadership Institute is located on Hwy 34 just 3/4 mile east of the Hwy 14 and 34 junction. The address is 1609 E Hwy 34, Aurora.
- Day 1 begins at 1:00 P.M. Room check-in is at 5:15 p.m. and dinner at 5:30 P.M. If you're not staying overnight, you will be finished around 8:00 P.M.
- Each guest room has two standard-size double beds. Bedding and towels are provided.
- Day 2 begins at 8:00 A.M. with breakfast for those that spent the night. The Summer Reading Program Workshop begins at 9:30 A.M. for everyone. (Don't forget your manual and craft kit!) Lunch will be served at noon and you should be on your way at about 3:30 P.M.
- Pool/hot-tub is open 24 hours for overnight guest.

Copyright Law– Part 3

This article is the third of a six-part series on copyright for educators and public librarians.

Part III – Fair Use and the Public Librarian

The concept of Fair Use of copyright protected materials was introduced in Section 107 of the 1976 Copyright Act. (<http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.html#10>) It states that the fair use of copyrighted work . . . for the purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. Part 2 of this series discussed the four factors used to determine fair use or refer to the website listed above.

Section 107 does not specifically name who may or may not take advantage of fair use. Therefore, both school and public librarians can take advantage of fair use. It is the user's responsibility to apply the four factors to determine fair use. Dr. Crews encourages the library community to apply the fair use concept to provide materials to their patrons. He states, "A central tenet of this analysis is that fair use is a flexible doctrine that Congress wanted us to test and adapt for changing needs and circumstances. . . . If most factors lean in favor of fair use, the activity is allowed; if most lean the opposite direction, the action will not fit the fair-use exception and may require permission from the copyright owner." (<http://www.copyright.iupui.edu/highered.htm>)

If the librarian learns and applies the four fair use factors, this is acting in good faith and is very likely acting within the copyright law. (Dr. Crews, Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators, p. 59)

Librarian can probably meet the first fact -- a nonprofit educational purpose. The remaining three factors of nature, amount and effect must also support the concept of fair use. Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended

University, has been appointed the Director of Columbia's new Copyright Advisory Office. The Copyright Center at University of Indiana website may no longer be available. <http://www.copyright.iupui.edu/> copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken pbrunken@cox.net I am not an attorney and this article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law. Note: Effective January 1, 2008, Kenneth D. Crews, Director of the Copyright Management Center at Indiana



Office 2007 and you

Here at the commission we are actively in the process of upgrading all of our computers to both Windows Vista and Office 2007. Typically, changes such as this would not effect you but this time around it just might. With this latest upgrade of Office, Microsoft has finally moved to a new file format which, on its face, is incompatible with older versions of Office. So, if we were to send you a file saved in Word 2007, as it stands right now, it will not open in your copy of Office 2003.

Now, Office 2007 does offer us the ability to save documents in the older file format and we will strive to do this whenever we are sending out documents. However, as you well know, remembering to choose Save As... instead of just clicking the save button can sometimes be difficult. Additionally, chances are your patrons are starting to come in with Office 2007 files since we are quickly approaching the one year mark for the latest version of Office.

So, what can you do to help yourself, your patrons, and us, short of upgrading? Simple. Just head on over to the Microsoft Web site and download the free [Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel, and PowerPoint 2007 File Formats](#). The program is free and simple to install. Once installed, you'll be able to open 2007-formatted files, and edit them. This software will not allow you to re-save the file in the 2007 format but that generally isn't a problem.

Thanks for you help.

Michael Sauers, NLC
(blog entry reprinted with permission)

Non-Fiction Bibliography

I recently presented a workshop at the Northeast Library System's Winter Workshop on non-fiction for teens. Below is my bibliography in case you are looking for some recommended titles.

The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation
ISBN: 0809057387

The Adventures of Marco Polo by Russell Freedman
ISBN: 043952394X

Art of Drawing Manga by Sergi Camara and Vanessa Duran
ISBN: 1402747063

Belle Starr and the Wild West by Corinne J. Naden
ISBN: 9781567112238

Bodies from the Ash: Life and Death in Ancient Pompeii by James M. Deem
ISBN: 0618472084

Children of the Great Depression by Russell Freedman
ISBN: 0618446303

Chocolate for a Teen's Soul: Life Changing Stories for Young Women About Growing Wise and Growing Strong by Kay Allenbaugh
ISBN: 0684870819

The Courage to Change: A Teen Survival Guide edited by Brenda Zosky Proulx
ISBN: 189676441X

The Dangerous Book for Boys by Conn and Hal Iggulden
ISBN: 0061243582

The Daring Book for Girls by Andrea J. Buchanan and Miriam Peskowitz
ISBN: 0061472573

Dougal Dixon's Dinosaurs: 12 New Dinosaur Discoveries by Dougal Dixon
ISBN: 1590784707

Escape!: The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman
ISBN: 0060850965

The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students by Suzanne Jurmain
ISBN: 0618473025

Fortune's Bones: The Manumission Requiem by Marilyn Nelson
ISBN: 1932425128

Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement by Ann Bausum
ISBN: 079224174

Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books by Gary Paulsen
ISBN: 0613579011

The Harvey Girls: The Women Who Civilized the West by Juddi Morris
ISBN: 0802783023

Heroine of the Titanic: The Real Unsinkable Molly Brown by Elaine Landau
ISBN: 0395939127

I Was A Teenage Professional Wrestler by Ted Lewin
ISBN: 0606064885

Invisible Allies: Microbes That Shape Our Lives by Jeanette Farrell
ISBN: 0374336083

Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis by Peter Nelson
ISBN: 063708199

Maritcha: A Nineteenth-Century American Girl by Tonya Bolden
ISBN: 0810950456

Oh Yuck: The Encyclopedia of Everything Nasty by Joy Masoff
ISBN: 0613621506

Oh Yikes: History's Grossest, Wackiest Moments by Joy Masoff
ISBN: 0761136843

Photo by Brady: A Picture of the Civil War by Jennifer Armstrong
ISBN: 0689857853

Postcards from France by Megan McNeill Libby
ISBN: 0061011703

The Real Benedict Arnold by Jim Murphy
0395776090

The Roman Empire by Philip Steele
ISBN: 184476348X

Runescape: The Official Handbook by Tracey West
ISBN: 0439877725

Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley by Sally M. Walker
ISBN: 1575058308

Seen and Heard by Mary Motley Kalergis
ISBN: 1556708343

Sister Wendy: My Favorite Things by Sister Wendy Beckett
ISBN: 0810943875

Smoke and Ashes: The Story of the Holocaust by Barbara Rogasky
ISBN: 0823416127

Spiders in the Hairdo: Modern Urban Legends by David Holt and Bill Mooney
ISBN: 0874835259

Taking of Room 114 by Mel Glenn
ISBN: 0525675485

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Thimmesh
ISBN: 0618507574

The Wicked History of the World by Terry

Deary
ISBN: 0439877865

Witch-Hunt: Mysteries of the Salem Witch Trials by Marc Aronson
ISBN: 1426903151

A Wreath for Emmett Till by Marilyn Nelson
ISBN: 0618397523



Motion Picture Licensing

The Nebraska Library Commission is funding the statewide license for public viewing of motion pictures in public libraries again this year. With this license, through Movie Licensing USA, Inc., motion pictures may be shown as part of library services and programming at the library through September 30, 2008. If you want more information on this please contact Sally Snyder, NLC—ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us.



One Book for Nebraska Teens

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusack is the selections for the 2007 One Book for Nebraska Teens. Selection was made by the Youth Advisory Board for the Nebraska Library Commission.

Set in Nazi Germany and narrated by Death, it is the story of nine-year-old Liesel Meminger's story of Death. Death watches as she steals her first book at her brother's funeral, knowing it will sustain her in the hardships to come.

The Meridian Library System has 14 copies plus an audio book as well as activities and a discussion guide. To reserve a date for the books, please contact the System Office.



Unshelved® by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum

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www.unshelved.com

A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Library

Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum, the *Unshelved* guys



Bill



Gene

What possessed Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum to write a comic strip about a library? And how do they keep tens of thousand of librarians around the globe laughing every day? Visit www.unshelved.com to find out what everyone's talking about, and then come to the banquet to hear Bill and Gene discuss what makes libraries so darned funny.

About Bill Barnes

Bill is a native New Yorker who was dragged all around the world by his parents at a very formative age and finally ended up in the wilds of Seattle. He is a trained software designer and very much an untrained cartoonist.

About Gene Ambaum

Gene is the pen name of a public librarian from the Seattle area. He loves graphic novels, television shows from his childhood, pina colodas, and getting caught in the rain. He continues to make the mistake of letting Bill write his bios.

Thursday, April 10th, 2008 5:30-9:30 p.m.

at The Cornhusker Marriott Hotel 333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln, NE Yankee Hill III

Schedule of Events

5:30 – 6:30	Social hour, cash bar
6:30 – 7:30	Dinner
7:30 – 8:30	Presentation by Bill Barnes & Gene Ambaum
8:30 – 9:30	Discussion – Last 1/2 hour book signing and selling

Dinner: Windsor Pork Loin or Chicken Oscar or Tortellini Rosa

Spinach salad, rice, rolls and butter, coffee, tea, and milk. Big Red cake for dessert.

The Spring Colloquium is sponsored jointly by: the Eastern Library System & the Southeast Library System.

This project was supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

YES! I want to participate in the Spring Colloquium 2008: Unshelved, Bill Barnes & Gene Ambaum

Name _____ Library _____

Work phone _____ Work email _____

Please choose one: Pork Chicken Tortellini

Send completed registration form & payment of **\$35.00** to: **Southeast Library System,**

**Meridian Library System
Board Meeting Minutes
Oconto, NE January 14, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:44 a.m. by President Penny Jeffrey

ROLL CALL: Members present were Penny Jeffrey, Maxine Erpelding, Mary Koch, Gail Irwin, Christie Behle, Christine Walsh, Linda Bushman, Trine McBride, Laura Martinsen. Also attending were Administrator Sharon Osenga and Admin. Asst. Delilah Gillming.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Maxine Erpelding moved and Christine Walsh seconded a motion to approve agenda, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Mary Koch moved to approve previous minutes, Christie Behle seconded, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Penny shared two pieces of correspondence.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gail Irwin moved to approve the treasurer's report and bills from Nov. and Dec. 2007, Maxine seconded. Approved by voice vote.

NLC REPORT:

This will be sent by email.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

IRS— Friends of the Library non profit organizations must file 990 ez forms this year.

Workshops: The evaluation from the Image is Everything Preconference was attached in board packet. Sharon was unable to attend because she was at the Thinking Outside the Borders conference. Jan 15th will be second day of Gates training. January 25, 2008 is Automation Vendor Day sponsored by the Regional Library Systems. NLC is sponsoring Spanish Language Workshops with Gates grant money in North Platte on Feb. 7th, Grand Island Feb 8th, and March 5th in Valentine. The Youth Services Retreat will be in Aurora on March 13-14 and will be co-sponsored by Northeast, Meridian and Republican Valley Library Systems. Day one will feature services to teens and a focus on gaming and graphic novels and day two will be the Summer Reading Workshop. The Systems are sponsoring author Ben Mikaelson. He will be at Broken Bow on April 15th. Basic Skills: Organization of Materials will be taught by Sharon Mason on April 11th, 18th

Presentations/Meetings: Sharon will be presenting a session at ESU 10 Winter Workshop on Feb 11 focusing on Privacy issues and facilitate a Q/A. On February 12th she will be presenting at Northeast Library System's Winter Workshop and February 13 is the System quarterly meeting with NLC staff. All C.E. providers in Nebraska will meet in Omaha February 29 to put together a master calendar for 2008.

E-Rate: The 2008-09 application is complete. Our discount remains the same.

Grants: The systems received the book grant. Sharon has asked for suggestions of books to purchase.

Grant Evaluations: Valentine Public Library submitted a grant evaluation for last year's Youth Service Grant.

Thinking Outside the Borders: This was an interesting week with some new information.

Award: Sharon received the NEMA Meritorious Service Award.

Conferences: Sharon will be attending the MPLA Conference in Salt Lake City April 29-May 2 and the NLC is paying for attendance at the Book Expo Conference in LA May 29-June 1.

SYSTEM BUSINESS:

Charting the Future Course of Nebraska's Libraries Focus Groups will be held prior to a Nebraska Library Futures Conference in June 2008. We need to have focus groups—several across the system. Sharon asked for boards to participate as focus groups. Sharon also asked the board the focus group questions.

Youth Services Grants

Following discussion and vote, the youth service grants were awarded to Broken Bow Public Library for the Gaming After Hours Program and Gibbon Public Schools Media Center for the Building Bridges Program.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was set for March 17 at 9:30 by phone conference.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Delilah Gillming
Administrative Assistant

Apply Now for Picture America!

Applications are now being accepted for Picturing America (SM), a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Applications may be submitted online at <http://picturingamerica.ala.org> through April 15, 2008.

In order to enhance the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture, Picturing America brings some of the nation's greatest works of art into school classrooms and public libraries. Successful applicants will receive a set of forty high-quality reproductions of American masterpieces, a teachers resource book and additional educational resources available at <http://PicturingAmerica.neh.gov>.

Public, private, parochial, and charter schools and home school consortia (K-12), as well as public library systems and school districts, are invited to apply. Awards will be announced in May 2008 and distributed in September 2008 for display during the 2008-2009 school year and beyond.

For more information about Picturing America, including a list of the artwork featured, grant guidelines, and the online application, visit <http://picturingamerica.ala.org>.

Questions? Contact the ALA Public Programs Office.

www.ala.org/publicprograms
publicprograms@ala.org
 800/545-2433, extension 5045



Literacy Grants

Even Start Family Literacy Program Women's Prison Grant

http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=1781

Application deadline: Feb 29, 2008

Grant to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy and improve the educational opportunities

of low-income families with mothers in prison.

Dollar General Adult Literacy Grants

http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=992

Geographic Coverage: 35 states where Dollar General stores are located.

Application deadline: Mar 4, 2008

Awards funding to non-profit organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance

Dollar General Family Literacy Grants

http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=1794

Geographic Coverage: 35 states where Dollar General stores are located.

Application deadline: Mar 4, 2008

Grants to direct family literacy service providers.



Library Cafes

Thinking of adding a library café for your customers? You may want to read a report from Market Research on the impact on library maintenance costs, reasons for starting a cafe, affect on library traffic and other issues regarding the decision to start and manage a library café.

More than 40 academic and public libraries were surveyed and provided data about their library cafes and other food service operations, such as vending machines. Some of the findings of the report are that:

- Snacks account for nearly 71% of the income of library cafes, through lunch adds over 20% of total revenue and breakfast another 8.33% according to the Survey of Library Cafes.
- Salads accounted for only an mean of 4.5% of sales, more in larger public libraries than academic.
- The average cup of coffee in the library cafes was \$1.49 and includes those that give their coffee away.
- More than 40% of the library cafes offered outdoor seating. Close to 65% had vending machines.

[Research and Markets, Primary Research Group Study, July 2007 / (www.researchandmarkets.com)]

WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

National Endowment for the Arts: The Big Read:

This is "an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts [NEA] designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. ... [It] brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment." Features details about the application process for program grants, and study guides for books such as "Fahrenheit 451" and "The Joy Luck Club." From the NEA, Institute of Museum and Library Sciences, and Arts Midwest.

URL: <http://www.neabigread.org/>

health08.org: Information about health care issues addressed by the presidential candidates in the 2008 presidential election. Features news, video clips, analysis, poll results, and side-by-side comparisons of the candidates' positions on health care issues (such as expansion of public programs, insurance premium subsidies, cost containment, and financing). Also includes links to campaign resources for each candidate. From the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation.

URL: <http://www.health08.org/>

Sojourner Truth Institute: Website for this organization dedicated to preserving the message of Sojourner Truth (1797-1883), a former slave who "traveled the country as a forceful and passionate advocate for the dispossessed, using her quick wit and fearless tongue to fight for human rights." Features an extensive biography of Truth, a timeline, images, speeches, an exhibit of art about Truth, a quiz, and details about the Sojourner Truth monument park in Battle Creek, Michigan.

URL: <http://www.sojournertruth.org/>

Celebrate Anne of Green Gables: 100 Years, 2008: Website for the 2008 celebration in Prince Edward Island, Canada, of the "100th anniversary of the publication of 'Anne of Green Gables,' Lucy Maud Montgomery's first and most famous novel" and "Canada's best-selling novel of all time." Features details about celebration events, a vacation planner with links to related sites, and background about Montgomery.

URL: <http://www.anne2008.com/>

Visual Dictionary Online: Definitions of "more 20,000 terms ... [and] more than 6,000 stunning illustrations of a wide variety of objects from all aspects of life." Also includes audio clips of pronunciations. Searchable, or browsable by topics: astronomy, earth, plants, animals, humans, food, housing, clothing, arts and architecture, communications, transportation and machinery, energy, science, society, and sports and games. From Merriam-Webster. Note: may not work properly in all browsers.

URL: <http://visual.merriam-webster.com/>

Write a Brilliant Pantomime With Billy & Wolfy:

A lighthearted description (with "comments" from William Shakespeare and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart) of "how to write [English] pantomime scripts covering, basic rules, choosing the story, shaping the pantomime, shaping individual scenes, use of music, and writing and producing for children." Also includes an overview of this form of "Christmas entertainment based on a fairy tale," and three scripts. From a pantomime script author.

URL: <http://www.nick.mellersh.net/panto.htm>

My Wonderful World: This is "a National Geographic-led campaign -- backed by a coalition of national business and non-profit organizations -- to expand geographic learning in school, at home, and in communities." Find campaign materials, games and activities, geography quizzes, and ideas for parents, educators, and children and teens to incorporate geographic knowledge and learning into daily life. From the National Geographic Society.

URL: <http://www.mywonderfulworld.org/>

Google Patent Search: This patent search "covers the entire collection of patents made available by the USPTO -- from patents issued in the 1790s through ... [the present. It does not] currently include patent applications, international patents, or U.S. patents issued over the last few months." Search by keyword, patent number, inventor name, issue and file dates, and other factors. Results include abstract, drawings, and other associated material. From Google.

URL: <http://www.google.com/patents>

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