

# MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

APRIL/MAY 2005

## **Your System Board:**

Joan Davis  
Maxine Erpelding  
Gail Irwin  
Penny Jeffrey  
Mary Koch  
Laura Martinsen  
Kristina Owen  
Michelle Self  
Stacy Vogel



Meridian Library System  
Suite B  
3519 Second Avenue  
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192

Phone: 308-234-2087

Fax: 308-234-4040

Email:

sosenga@frontiernet.net

Website: [www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian)

## **Technology Trends: Blogs**

**What are they?** Blogs is the shortened way to refer to a weblog—a type of website where content is presented as a series of entries starting with the most recent entries first. Entries are added regularly and may contain news, opinion, and/or announcements relating to the topic of the blog. With the most recent entries at the top of the web page, current information is immediately available.

**How are they used?** Blogs are created by people or organizations to share information. They are also used by individuals to keep up to date on current events or topics of interest. In libraries, blogs may be used to keep users up to date on programming events, to inform about updated policies, and to promote services to potential customers. Library staff may use any of the great many library-related weblogs to keep informed about library law, keep up with new technologies, and stay up to date on current trends in library services.

### **Benefits:**

For the library:

- Blogs are easy to create and maintain. Freely available services and software make it possible to create a new blog in a matter of minutes with very little need for technological know-how.
- Blogs are commonplace among tech savvy people and an easy method of outreach to teens and twenty-somethings.

For library staff:

- Blogs create community by allowing readers to contribute comments and participate in discussion.
- Blogs are easily accessible and available on a variety of topics including all areas of librarianship. Even library staff in the most remote locations no longer have to feel isolated in their endeavors.

### **Issues to consider:**

- Reading many blogs can take time. Use news aggregators, also referred to as “feeds” and “RSS” to compile updates in one place.
- A library blog will acquire a loyal audience and may result in increased usage of library services.
- Blogs may be updated by one person or a group reflecting a variety of perspectives.

### **Examples in action:**

LibDex Library Weblogs—A list of library weblogs  
[www.libdex.com/weblogs.html](http://www.libdex.com/weblogs.html)

LISNews—A collaborative weblog (multiple contributors) “devoted to current events and news in the world of Library and Information Science.”  
[www.lisnews.com](http://www.lisnews.com)

Marin County Free Library Blog  
[www.marincountyfreelibraryblogspot.com/](http://www.marincountyfreelibraryblogspot.com/)

St. Joseph County Public Library Weblog  
<http://listhost.org/~sjpl/>

The Shifted Librarian—Information helping libraries to keep up with technology so they can deliver services to patrons.  
[www.theshiftedlibrarian.com/](http://www.theshiftedlibrarian.com/)

### Resources for more information

<http://blogwithoutalibrary.net/>

“*Building a Home for Library News with a Blog*,” by Doud Goans and Teri M. Vogel. [Computers in Libraries](#), Nov/Dec 2003, Vol 23, Issue 10.

*The Weblog Handbook: Practical Advice on Creating and Maintaining Your Blog*, by Rebecca Blood (Cambridge, MA: Perseus Pub., c2002).

*Weblogs and Libraries*, by Laurel A. Clyde. (Oxford: Chandos, 2004).

(Reprinted with permission from [Idaho State Library Newsletter](#), March/April 2005.)



### New Bill Tracker Service

Nebrask@ Online is offering a new BillTracker Service, <http://www.nol.org/billtracker/>. It is available in two tiers. A free eBill Book allows you to select up to 15 bills and receive daily e-mail notifications on the bills. A premium eProfiles service allows more specific tracking according to introducer, committee, topic, etc. To view the program, see [www.nebraska.gov/billtracker](http://www.nebraska.gov/billtracker). For questions about BillTracker or how to enroll, contact Nebrask@ Online, 800-747-8177, ext. 41.

### YALSA Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults

Braff, Joshua. *The Unthinkable Thoughts of Jacob Green*.  
Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bucking the Sarge*.  
Hoose, Phillip M. *The Race to Save the Lord God Bird*.  
Levithan, David. *The Realm of Possibility*.  
Marchetta, Melina. *Saving Francesca*.  
Morpurgo, Michael. *Private Peaceful*.  
Oppel, Kenneth. *Airborn*.  
Rapp, Adam. *Under the Wolf, Under the Dog*.  
Saenz, Benjamin Alire. *Sammy and Julianna in Hollywood*.  
Weeks, Sarah. *So B. It: A Novel*.



### Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers

Flake, Sharon. *Who Am I Without Him?*  
Gottlieb, Andrew. *In the Paint: Tattoos of the NBA and the Stories Behind Them*.  
Heimberg, Jason and Justin Heimberg. *The Official Movie Plot Generator: 27,000 Hilarious Movie Plot Combinations*.  
Kenner, Rob and George Pitts. *VX: 10 Years of Vibe Photography*.  
Klancher, Lee. *Monster Garage: How to Customize Damn Near Everything*.  
Riley, Andy. *The Book of Bunny Suicides*.  
Shaw, Tucker. *Confessions of a Backup Dancer*.  
Sleator, William. *The Boy Who Couldn't Die*.  
Takaya, Natsuki. *Fruits Basket Series*.  
Woods, Brenda. *Emako Blue*.

My book of the month: *The Children's Blizzard* by David Laskin. This is a gripping retelling of the blizzard of 1888 that swept the Plains, catching children as they walked home from school. Although a bit heavy on weather data, the personal stories make this a fascinating read!

To Give Away: One Dukane manual microfilm reader with extra bulb. New in 1983 and is working well. Contact Lexington Public Library.

## UPCOMING CLASSES:

### LIBR 1510 Reference Services in Library and Information Environments

3 Semester Hours Online  
Summer Session 2005

**Course Dates: May 23 – August 5, 2005**

This course will provide students with the knowledge and skills applicable to reference services in library and information environments.

#### Topics include:

- Understanding the philosophy of reference/information services
- Evaluation of information resources
- Identifying current information resources
- Conducting an effective reference interview
- Demonstrating efficient and effective information search strategies

**Class Instructor: LIBR 1510 Linda Bowden** lbowden@cccneb.edu

### LIBR 1610 Introduction to Children and Young Adult Services

3 Semester Hours  
Online  
Summer Session 2005

**Course will be offered May 16 – August 5, 2005**

This course will provide students with an introduction to services for children and young adults in the library. Students will be introduced to the philosophy of services to children and young adults and the tasks performed by library staff.

#### Objectives include:

- Display knowledge of the theories and philosophy of library service to children and young adults including understanding the value of literature in the lives of youth Describe the various functions and policies of a library's children and

young adults services department

- Apply a basic understanding of the criteria that make good children's picture books, novels and nonfiction
- Apply a basic understanding of the criteria that make good young adult books
- Find, select, and use quality multicultural literature to facilitate multicultural awareness in children and young adults.
- Explain the benefits for youth of materials other than books in the library

**Class Instructor: LIBR 1610 Joie Taylor** violets@megavision.com

**Both classes are Requirements for the Library Technology Assistant Associate of Arts Degree option that is being offered. General Registration for both classes begins April 8, 2005**

Interested? Call Central Community College today: Mary Young, Director of Admission, Columbus Campus 800-642-1083 ext. 1296 or Angie Pacheco, Director of Admissions, Grand Island Campus, 800-652-9177 [www.cccneb.edu/](http://www.cccneb.edu/) through the Nebraska Community Colleges.



Online courses available:

- **Improving Your Communication Skills: Presentation Skills for Librarians**
- **Providing Excellent Customer Service in a Multicultural Environment (repeat)**

These two online classes are being offered through the Library Education @ Desktop (LEAD) program from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science. Normally the costs of the courses are \$ 7.00 each but because of the funding through the Gates Foundation, the Nebraska Library Commission is able to provide to provide the online courses to you at no cost.

Register by April 29th at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/ce/libdevgatesfndonlinetnrgreg.html>. Questions? Call or email Pam Scott at the Nebraska Library Commission. You receive 2 continuing education units through the Nebraska Public Librarian Certification Program.

## Reaching Teenagers Online Class

The Nebraska Library Commission, in cooperation with the Regional Library Systems, will provide you access to the course "Reaching Teenagers" through an online class being offered by the *Library Education @ Desktop (LEAD)* program from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science. More specific information about each course is available at: [http://web2.unt.edu/cmp\\_lead/](http://web2.unt.edu/cmp_lead/).

Normally the cost of these courses is \$ 7.00 each. But the Nebraska Library Commission is purchasing slots for 20 people within each Regional Library System area. So there is no cost for you to participate. Register with the System Office by April 22nd. Questions? Call Pam Scott at the Nebraska Library Commission.



## Nominations for NLA Awards

Nominations for the Meritorious Service and Mari Sandoz Awards due by May 27, 2005. The NLA Citations Committee invites nominations for the Meritorious Service Award and the Mari Sandoz Award for the year 2005. The Meritorious Service Award is given annually to the 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 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, and telephone number, the nominee's 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. Also required are at least four additional letters that support and endorse the nomination. Such letters may provide further information about the nominee.
3. The NLA Meritorious Service Award may be given to an individual or group.
4. More information and lists of past recipients

may be found in the NLA Handbook at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/handbook/handbk0.htm>

5. Nominations and letters of support must be received by Friday, May 27, 2005 and should be mailed to:

Robin Bernstein / Chair 2005 NLA Citations Committee

Bellevue University Library

1000 Galvin Road South

Bellevue, NE 68005

Nominations may also be submitted via e-mail at [robin@bellevue.edu](mailto:robin@bellevue.edu)



## Technology Watch List for Small Libraries

**Description:** Are you stressed out from trying to keep up with technology's twists and turns? WebJunction's Technology Watch Committee is here to help! This list, updated quarterly, points out the technologies that will bring your library the most bang for the buck.

**Author:** WebJunction's Technology Watch Committee

**Publisher:** WebJunction

**Date Published:** Mar 18, 2005

**Date Posted:** Mar 18, 2005

**Copyright:** 2004 OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.

Updated by WJ's [Technology Watch Committee](#), March 2005.

*Like politics, all technology needs are local. Any evaluation of new technology should take into account the needs of the population you serve. Consider the list below food for thought as you survey the tech landscape in your area.*

Note that the items on this list are \*not\* in order of priority, except this one, which always comes first: **Technology Planning** is crucial to the success of any new technology venture, large or small. WebJunction has a bunch of materials on the subject in the Technology Planning section; take a close look also at TechAtlas, a great online needs assessment tool that's available to WebJunction members at no charge.

### **Wireless Access**

*What it is:* Giving patrons (and staff) the ability to access the Internet using their own notebook computers or other portable devices.

*Why you should consider it for your library:* Providing wireless access frees up your public access computing terminals for those who truly

need them, and makes your library the neighborhood "hotspot" for information access.

*What it involves:* Wireless access points are relatively inexpensive; setting up your security to support them will take some time and effort.

*For more information:* Start with this article by Emerging Tech committee member Bruce Newell of the Montana State Library.

### **Blogging & RSS**

*What it is:* A Web-based technology for keeping yourself informed, and for keeping your community informed about your library.

*Why you should consider it for your library:*

These focused tools for information-gathering help you stay on top of changes in technology and in the library profession. In addition, many libraries are finding that blogs and RSS can greatly enhance their ability to reach out to their patrons.

*What it will cost you:* Using blogs and RSS to keep yourself up to date costs only the time to get started; to set up a library blog or RSS feed does take some time but costs little.

*For more information:* Tech Watch committee member Rush Brandis has this article on RSS and blogs. See also this Library of the Month article profiling a library's use of a blog, and this WJ article on Blogs for Libraries.

### **Thin-Client Technology**

*What it is:* Patrons work at inexpensive terminals; memory, storage, and applications are maintained on one centralized server.

*Why you should consider it for your library:* Thin-client technology can help you extend the life of your existing computers, lower costs on expanding the number of patron terminals, and simplify maintenance procedures.

*What it involves:* Setting up a centralized server and converting your PCs to terminals (and/or purchasing new terminals). The server can be pricey, but advocates say the reduced client hardware needs and lower operation costs add up to big savings.

*For more information:* We have three WebJunction articles on the subject: The ["Skinny" on Thin Clients](#), Thin-client Computing: A Centralized Method for Maintaining Library Computer Networks, and A Long Term Care Solution for Gates Computers.

### **E-Books & Audio E-Books**

*What it is:* Digital versions of printed and audio books.

*Why you should consider it for your library:*

Though E-books went through a hype cycle a few years ago that has been toned down considerably, they are steadily gaining in popularity, and a growing number of libraries are making use of them. E-books can save you storage space and staff time, they never get lost or stolen, and can be made available to patrons 24/7.

*What it involves:* You can acquire digital versions of books directly from vendors (trade fiction, genre fiction, romance, science fiction, mystery and reference are the most popular e-reads); for a small library it may be more manageable to use a single e-book distributor (Overdrive and NetLibrary/Recorded Books are two examples). Next, set up a mechanism for lending books to patrons. Some libraries check out iPods or proprietary e-book readers to patrons, and this is a great way to make the technology available to all patrons. It may be easier at first to set up your web site so patrons can download e-books to their own computers, PDAs or other devices.

*For more information:* <http://www.openebook.org/> has lists of best-sellers, statistics, conferences, and more. Consider these examples: the South Huntington (NY) Public Library checks out iPods to patrons; and the King County (WA) Public Library has a large collection of e-books and audio e-books available.

### **Virtual Reference (aka Digital Reference)**

*What it is:* Providing live reference services to patrons over the Internet using email, live chat, or co-browsing software.

*Why you should consider it for your library:*

There are several reasons to consider a virtual reference service:

- Positions your library in the middle of the Internet revolution, not on the edges
- Extends your reach to community members who can't (or won't) get to the library, and gives an incentive to visit for those who can
- Provides visibility and promotion for other library information services, such as electronic databases
- Makes information available to patrons outside of library hours

*What it involves:* Creating an "Ask-a-Librarian" link from your library Web site is an easy way to show your online patrons that they can rely on the same service they'd get in person at the

reference desk. An automatic reply can indicate library service hours, a phone number, and when your patrons can expect to hear a response.

For small libraries, a cost-effective next step is to join a virtual reference consortium. Doing it alone is likely to be prohibitively expensive and stretch your staff to the breaking point! Several state libraries support virtual reference services, including AskColorado, Maryland's AskUsNow!, QandA NJ, and Ohio's KnowItNow. Also take a look at OCLC's 24/7 Reference and QuestionPoint (they will be merging soon) and Tutor.com's Virtual Reference Toolkit; all of these sites have good information for libraries considering a virtual reference service.

*For more information:* The Virtual Reference Desk is a good source for networking, getting started, and facilitating collaboration among virtual reference services. You can find a list of Collaborative Live Reference Services (compiled by Bernie Sloan) at <http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/~b-sloan/collab.htm>. And here's a blog dedicated to virtual reference.

### **Hassle-free browsing**

*What it is:* Making sure your patrons have a secure, reliable environment for Internet use with a minimum of annoyances.

*Why you should consider it for your library:* Increasingly, Internet access is one of the primary reasons patrons come to the library. It's as important to give patrons a clean and tidy Web experience as it is to give them good signage, properly shelved books, and a smooth check-out process.

*What it involves:* Keeping browsers clean means keeping your public access computers secure. By doing so, you will get a host of additional benefits, ranging from a virus-free environment to better performance.

*For more information:* Follow the measures described in WJ's Focus on Security and the Six-Step Security Reference Card.



**NebraskaAccess Lesson Plans for K12 Educators** are now available at:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/lessonplans.html>

See how Nebraska media specialists have integrated NebraskaAccess databases into the K12 curriculum. Lesson plan activities are aligned with a variety of national, state, and local standards.



From Wyoming Libraries [News to Use](#), January 2005:

### **Checklist for a good board meeting**

Are your board meetings achieving good results? You can move closer to effective and focused board meetings with a few actions:

1. Consider using committees to increase individual responsibilities and focus on goals. A charge by the board chair to a committee consisting of 2 or 3 members to review a policy or develop language for a new policy at the next meeting can speed overall board work. The chair needs to be sure that the charge is clear with a deadline. And be sure that the document of the committee is made available to the whole board in advance of the meeting so others can absorb the content.
2. Continually review (or start) a board handbook on what the board does, its own job descriptions, how and when it reviews policies, how it works with the director in setting a budget, attendance policy for board meetings, how it communicates with the media, and all the other practices of the board. This will help current and new members maintain consistent practices within the board and with the director.
3. Avoid the acronyms. Our library world has plenty and not everyone attending the board meeting is comfortable with terms such as WLA, WSL, WYLD, ALA, and so forth.

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 18, 2005**  
**Broken Bow Public Library**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Kristina Owen at 10:00 am.

**ROLL CALL:** Board members answering roll call were: Kristina Owen, Gail Irwin, Joan Davis, Maxine Erpelding, Joan Birnie substituting for Stacy Vogel, Michelle Self, Laura Martinsen, Mary Koch, and Penny Jeffrey. Also present were Administrator Sharon Osenga, Admin Asst. Christie Behle, Library Commissioner Carol Spencer, and Richard Miller from the NE Library Commission.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A report by Richard Miller was added after the Treasurer's Report on the agenda. Motion by Gail, second by Maxine, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** With no additions or corrections, Penny Jeffrey moved the minutes be approved as mailed, second by Joan Davis. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence received included Thank You's for gift books, and a Thank You from Gibbon School for a Youth Services Grant.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** All expenses for Summer Reading Program have not been paid yet. The system car will be going in for repairs next week and the increased cost of gas will impact the budget. Gail Irwin moved to approve the treasurer's report and the bills for Jan. and Feb., second by Michelle Self. Unanimous roll call vote. Motion carried.

**NLC REPORT:** Richard shared information regarding grants, training opportunities, and current legislation.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Workshops: The Winter Workshop was well received, and not expensive to do since costs were split with Republican Valley Library System. Summer Reading Program workshop was held yesterday in Oconto. Sharon attended a planning meeting in Wyoming for the MPLA/Wyoming Library Association Joint Conference scheduled for October 13-15. Bricks & Boards is scheduled for June 13 in Seward.

Budget: A tentative budget will be prepared by annual meeting.

**SYSTEM BUSINESS:**

Technology Plan: The System Technology Plan was presented for approval. Once it is approved we will receive certification that is necessary for E-rate funding. Motion by Maxine, second by Penny, to accept the Technology Plan as presented. Motion passed by vote.

Board Member Nominations: Maxine Erpelding, Gail Irwin, and Penny Jeffrey were all approved by ballot for a second term on the board.

System Car: The system car is going in for routine maintenance and to repair a switch on Tuesday. The car is due for replacement in November under the five year plan provided in System policy. Board members agreed to have Sharon start looking for options for the next system car.

Short-Term Disability Insurance: Members discussed and compared the proposed policies. It was decided that to decide we need to have rates from both companies for the same criteria—to age 65, 90 days, without first day.

Annual Meeting: The MLS Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday June 2, 2005. The guided tour of Willa Cather's Red Cloud will begin at 11:00 am, followed by lunch and the annual meeting. It was decided to charge \$10 for the tour and provide the lunch and annual meeting costs from system workshop funds.

Other News: Gail Irwin, Penny Jeffrey, and Michelle Self shared news regarding grants received by their libraries and the impact this has on their communities. Joan Davis informed us that the Hall County Historical Society had a presentation from the Humanities Council on Black Settlers of NE and that we could consider this for next year's annual meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting June 2, 2005 in Red Cloud.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Kristina Owen adjourned the meeting at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christie Behle  
Administrative Assistant



© Jim Trelease 2004

Visit the Jim Trelease web site!  
[www.trelease-on-reading.com](http://www.trelease-on-reading.com)

**Jim Trelease**  
**Oct. 19, 2005**  
**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Sponsored by  
**Seward Memorial Library**

Presented at Concordia University  
Seward, Nebraska  
John W. Cattle Conference Center  
located in Janzow Campus Center

For driving directions, please visit  
[www.sewardlibrary.org/trelease.htm](http://www.sewardlibrary.org/trelease.htm)



**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**School or Library** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include your \$5 registration fee.  
This fee will be returned to you at the program.  
Make checks payable to Seward Memorial Library.

Mail to:

Seward Memorial Library  
233 S. 5th St  
Seward, NE 68434  
402-643-3318

For four  
mid-summer days

in the *peaceful beauty* of a northeast  
Nebraska landscape,

an extraordinary union  
of *fresh ideas*

seasoned *experience*, self-discovery, & *sharing*

gives way to

*boundless vision . . .*

Following the success of the 2001 & 2003 Nebraska Library Leadership Institutes, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems are pleased to offer the third Leadership Institute. It is a four-day institute for 30 librarians from across the state who will become our library leaders of tomorrow. During the coming years, incredible socio-economic, demographic and technological changes will continue to take place and our leaders must ensure that libraries continue to serve as a key element in the state's info-structure.



**July 25-July 29, 2005**

**St. Benedict Center, Highway 15, 4 miles north of Schuyler, NE**

**Institute begins at noon on the 25<sup>th</sup> and ends after lunch with past Institute graduates on the 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**Purpose** The purpose of the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute 2005 is to provide future Nebraska library leaders a structured professional development opportunity to:

- Examine in depth their own leadership styles.
- Gain knowledge and skills needed for effective leadership in a rapidly changing environment.
- Identify their professional and personal goals.
- Develop a network of professional peers with whom they will continue to work for years to come.
- Interact with a select group of outstanding library leaders who will serve as mentors.

**Participants** The intended audience of the Institute will be librarians with 2-10 years of library experience, degreed or non-degreed. The 30 selected participants will have demonstrated:

- Outstanding leadership potential.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Successful library employment experience.
- Initiative, commitment and reasonable risk-taking.

# Facilitators

Together, Becky and John have facilitated state leadership institutes in Utah, Alaska, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas and Nebraska.

**Becky Schreiber:** For more than 20 years, Becky has been helping organizations reinvent themselves in response to customer expectations. Becky has established herself as a consultant who understands the needs of libraries and has the experience to work effectively within those systems. She is known for thorough preparation, dynamic presentation, and responsiveness to her clients. Becky has an M.Ed. in Counseling from the American University and a B.S. from Hood College.

**John Shannon:** Consulting since 1973, John's current focus is in helping his clients understand and develop their capacity to capitalize on the dynamic forces of change that are unleashed once an organization is in motion. He believes a key element in this process is the building of a critical mass of employees committed to the change; enormous gains are then possible. His clients rely on his intuitive process skills and conflict resolution. John has an M.S. in Applied Behavioral Sciences from Johns Hopkins University and a B.S. from the University of Dayton.



**Librarians of all types are encouraged to apply for this unique experience!**

**Jim Bothmer**  
**Nancy Busch**  
**John Dale**  
**Brenda Ealey**  
**Becky Pasco**  
**Kris Rogge**  
**Ted Smith**  
**Myrna Tewes**  
**Kathy Tooker**  
**Rod Wagner**

**Mentors** Outstanding library leaders will be mentors at the 2005 Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, including practicing librarians from academic, special and public backgrounds. These leaders are knowledgeable about libraries and care about providing library service in Nebraska. They will share real-life experiences, successes, failures, joys, frustrations, wisdom, perspectives and advice. They will also facilitate discussions, give brief presentations on topics of special importance to them and schedule time to meet with participants to discuss career goals.

**Requirements** All applicants must complete an application form. Forms can be requested by contacting:  
**your System office**

or **Kathy Tooker**, Eastern Library System Administrator, 1929 Elm St., Ste. C-1, 800-627-7884, ktook@alltel.net

or **online at any of the system webpages.**

**Applications must be postmarked no later than May 13, 2005.** The 30 Institute participants will be notified by June 1, 2005. **The registration fee of \$175 from the 30 selected participants is due by June 30, 2003.**



# Meridian Library System Annual Meeting June 2, 2005 Guided Tour of Willa Cather's Red Cloud

**11:00 Tour**

**12:30 Lunch at Cather's Retreat  
followed by Annual Meeting**

**\$10 for tour, no charge for lunch and meeting  
(Registration must be received by May 26th)**

Willa Cather, Nebraska's Pulitzer Prize-winning author, moved to Webster County, Nebraska at the age of ten. The Red Cloud area introduced her to a landscape and way of life that influenced her famous prairie novels, *O Pioneers!*, *My Antonia*, and *A Lost Lady*. In 1923 she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *One of Ours*, a novel about a soldier in World War I. Many of the scenes and characters in her writings are based on the people, streets, and landscapes Cather encountered here in her youth. The tour includes Cather's childhood home, the Catholic and Episcopal churches, the Garber Bank, the Burlington Depot, and the Pavelka Farmstead, setting of *My Antonia*.

---

## Registration Form

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

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please enclose \$10)

Meal & Annual Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_ (Number attending)



Meridian Library System  
3519 Second Avenue, Suite B  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 234-2087

# \$ Where's the Bucks? \$

## *Fundraising Strategies for Public Libraries*

### *2005 Spring Meetings*

*Sponsored by the NLA Public Library Section  
and NLA Trustees, Users and Friends Section*

*May 10 – Kimball Public Library*

*May 11 – North Platte Public Library*

*May 12 – Kilgore Memorial Library, York*

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration**

10-12:00 – **\$ “Where’s the Bucks” \$** Professional fundraiser Tom Jorgensen will present vital information on various aspects of fundraising for public libraries, including planned giving, endowment trusts, capital campaigns and annual fund drives. Mr. Jorgensen is President/Senior Counsel of Jorgensen Consulting, he offers 30 years experience as a development and stewardship director, consultant, presenter, publisher, and author.

12-1 - **Lunch**

1-3 **Consultation** Tom Jorgensen will do one-on-one consultations with librarians and/or round table discussions for multiple participants who share similar questions/concerns. Additionally, he will provide hands-on direction for those interested in drafting a measurable plan of action to pursue once they return to their respective libraries.

Registrations may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed ahead of time or accompany payment.

Payment for registration should be sent to:

Cecelia Lawrence, North Platte Public Library, 120 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, North Platte, NE 69101  
308-535-8036, 308-535-8296 (fax), lawrencecc@ci.north-platte.ne.us

**Registration Deadline May 3**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Library \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

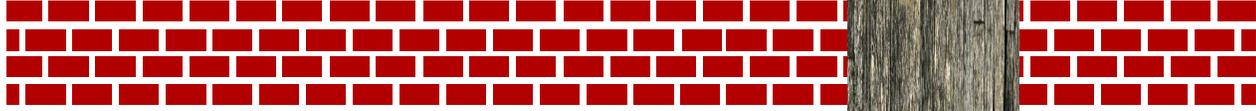
Please check the day you will be coming:

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, May 10, Kimball Event Center, 614 E. 3rd, Kimball, NE  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, May 11, North Platte Public Library, 120 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, North Platte, NE  
\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, May 12, Kilgore Memorial Library, 6<sup>th</sup> & Nebraska Avenue, York, NE

Registration Fee: \$20.00 payable to NLA Public Library Section  
(includes morning snack and lunch)

# Bricks and Boards:

Resources for Change in Existing Libraries and New



**Monday, June 13, 2005**  
**8:30 am—4:30 pm**  
**Concordia University**  
**Thom Leadership Education Center**  
**800 N. Columbia Ave.**  
**Seward, Nebraska**

*Sponsored by  
Eastern, Meridian,  
Northeast,  
Panhandle,  
Republican Valley and  
Southeast  
Library Systems*

## **8:30 - 9 a.m.: Exhibits & Coffee**

Exhibits available for browsing/consulting throughout the day.

## **9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Richard Hall — Libris**

Libris Design is a highly specialized software system that incorporates years of library facility planning expertise into a database designed to help library planners produce high quality building programs and project cost estimates for new, remodeled or expanded library facilities. The program saves time and money by providing a tool that effectively communicates the library facility requirements in a comprehensive and organized way.

(Financially supported by Nebraska Library Commission)

## **12 - 12:45 p.m.: Lunch**

## **12:45 - 1 p.m.: Exhibits**

## **1-2 p.m.: Michael Brendle — Future of Library Design: Building Adaptable Spaces**

Explores library design of the future, for new construction as well as cost effective, flexible renovations of older facilities. A variety of design ideas & future trends will be discussed & presented in an easy-to-understand way, with examples.

## **2 - 2:15 p.m.: Exhibits/Break**

## **2:15 - 3:15 p.m.: Four Sessions-please choose and circle one**

**Kent Munster – Getting Started on a Building Project**

**Davis Design – Using the Charette Process in Building Project**

An interactive process where onsite architects take community input and hand-sketch designs based the input. The goal is to discover what ideas work within the community parameters before formal design work begins.

**John Seyfarth – Integrating Technology**

**Michael Teetor – Lighting Design & Energy Audits**

## **3:15 - 3:30 p.m.: Exhibits/Break**

## **3:30 - 4:30 p.m.: Four Sessions-please choose and circle one**

**Carol Speicher – Building Community Support**

**Mike Benck – Alternative Delivery Methods**

The benefits and costs of various alternative project delivery methods that are available in library facility design & construction today, including the impact on your role as the owner. This is an opportunity to explore the world of construction management, design-assist, design-build & traditional design-bid-build methodologies.

**Jodene Glaesemann and Julie Simpson - Merchandizing & Displaying Materials**

**Nebraska Law Enforcement Personnel - Safety/Security**

## **4:30 p.m.: Tour of Seward Memorial Library**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LIBRARY : \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send registration form (circle sessions attending) & fees (includes coffee break, lunch and packet) by **June 6, 2005** to: Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm St., Suite 12A, Omaha, NE 68144.

Please make checks payable to **Nebraska Regional Library Systems**.

Please photocopy form, as needed.

**6 CE hours**

Cost:

\$25 1 person

\$20 each if

2 people

\$15 each if 3+

people

**MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM**

3519 Second Avenue, Suite B  
Kearney NE 68847-2911

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Kearney, Nebraska  
Permit No. 202

You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them.  
--Ray Bradbury

MERIDIAN MONITOR is published six times a year by the Meridian Library System for its members in Blaine, Brown, Buffalo, Cherry, Custer, Dawson, Garfield, Greeley, Hall, Hooker, Howard, Keya Paha, Loup, Rock, Sherman, Thomas and Valley Counties.