

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012

Your System Board:

*Sherry Crow
Kristi Hagstrom
Ann Matzke
Debra Moninger
Linda Nickel
Megan Svoboda
Kathy Thomsen
Janet Wilke
Laurie Yocom
Joan Davis, Emeritus*



Meridian Library System
Suite 7
816 East 25th Street
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192
Phone: 308-234-2087
Fax: 308-234-4040
Email:
sosenga@frontiernet.net
Website:
<http://libraries.ne.gov/mls/>

Tech Rodeo

The two day Tech Rodeo at Doane College last week was information packed! Pat Leach from Lincoln City Libraries started us off with a great talk On Public Speaking. See elsewhere in this issue for her notes.

After a short presentation on Team Building and Project Management by Laura Johnson, our first of several Techblasts by Michael Sauers focused on Networks. Later topics covered Hardware & Specifications, Security and Antivirus,, Troubleshooting and Tech Atlas inventory tool. Michael also taught us the screenshot software and how to edit our videos.

We were divided into eight groups with assigned topics. Each group needed to prepare three presentations: 1) an oral presentation that you might present to a funding authority about your project 2) screenshots relating to your topic and 3) a 3-5 minute video about your topic in which all group members had to appear. Since most of us had never used flip cameras and uploaded and edited videos, this was the perfect assignment for us to learn about it! The System Directors were in one group and our topic was Library Remodel.

All of the projects, including the videos, may be found at: <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/rodeo/projects/>. Take the time to watch a few of these. Michael summed it up when he said: You guys are fearless!

For loan from the system office:

*E-readers: We have a Kindle and BeBook that you may borrow for two months.

*Cutting machines: The two cutting machines may be borrowed for one month loan period.

*Book sets: Available from all six system offices. Check out this link for a list of titles:
<http://libraries.ne.gov/mls/book-sets/>

Tech Rodeo by Delilah Gillming

As a 21st Century Librarian Scholarship student, I was invited to attend the Tech Rodeo sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission at Doane College. I was excited to be part of learning experience where I would meet other scholarship students, many of whom I had interacted with by email during my classes. I was also looking forward to learning about new technology and software. I was not disappointed.

We got started right away with a brief introduction to flip cameras. Even though it was brief, Michael Sauers covered everything there is to know about flip cameras. They are fun and easy to use. With that out of the way, the three projects were introduced. The first was to make a video on our predetermined subject. Then we were to create a presentation requesting funding for a project in our subject area. Finally, we were to create a screencast detailing how to do something dealing with our subject. The real challenge was completing them in about 48 hours.

My team was given "Curation" as the subject. Not an easy subject to work with considering it is a relatively new term in the library world. In the past it was primarily used in regards to museums. I don't know too many librarians who want to be considered a museum curator. After much discussion within our group, we determined that for librarians, curation means collecting information, organizing it and preserving it in various forms that will be available in the future. Our video gave an introduction and definition to Information Curation. You can check it out at the Tech Rodeo website. I'll warn you, the video is not your ordinary explanation of curation. Our team had great fun recording this video and then learning how to edit it.

Editing video was another part of the Tech Rodeo workshop. We were introduced to the editing program Windows Live. The fun we had making the video carried over to editing the video.

The second project was to make a screencast. Using Screencast we created an instructional demonstration of how to use a libguide. Again, it was great fun putting this together.

The final project was to present a funding request. Each member of the team was given a portion of the presentation to give to the audience. We requested funding to create libguides. Although we had added humor to the other two projects, we kept the funding request more serious.

Overall I came away with several things. First, I met some great people. I got to know my team members far better than I thought possible in 2 days. Second, I learned that I really like using flip cameras and editing videos. In fact, I used flip cameras just last week at a family reunion to capture oral histories of family members. I haven't gotten around to editing them yet but I have several ideas that I learned at the Tech Rodeo that I hope to incorporate. Third, I learned that my passwords were not as strong as I thought they were. Michael Sauers gave us tips on how to improve our passwords by adding the first letter of the website to the beginning of the password and the last letter of the website to the end of the password. By using this technique you can use the same base password but have it different for each website. Interestingly enough, someone from Japan tried to get into my Facebook account Saturday afternoon as I was driving home from the Tech Rodeo. You can be sure I was changing my passwords in a hurry. Finally, I learned to think outside the box a little bit. Using short video clips and screencasts are great ways to promote the library and provide additional services. Also, don't be afraid of the new technology. Take time to learn about it and use it to benefit you and your library. Check out the Tech Rodeo website at <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/rodeo/projects/> to see the videos, screencasts and presentations of the different groups. You won't be disappointed.

Pat Leach's presentation on Public Speaking at the Tech Rodeo was very helpful. Below are some of her points (reprinted with permission).

The Three Things to Remember from This Presentation:

Think Ahead, Plan Ahead
Practice Out Loud
Create a Package

Basics of Public Speaking—

Stand up straight and *act* (yes, you may be acting) like you know exactly what you're doing.

Practice! At least read/say your speech aloud to yourself three or four times. *Better yet*, read it aloud with a stopwatch—there are many stopwatches available online and on cell phones. *And better than that*—have someone else listen. *Best*—do this a day ahead.

Do not read a speech word-for-word. But if the choice is between reading word-for-word and babbling mindlessly, read word-for-word.

Greet people as they arrive for your speech or presentation—that sets up some friendly faces and breaks the ice before you begin.

Seek the balance where you are still yourself, but have dialed up a few levels in energy.

Most people use habit words—such as um, uh, so, and so, and you know.

Ask a friend to listen to your presentation and report *how many times* you use these. Preparation, practice, and awareness help remove these from your speech.

Habit words are much more likely when answering questions or speaking in an impromptu way, so be especially mindful in those circumstances.

Speak a little more slowly than in usual conversation, and pause from time to time to let information sink in.

Pause quietly (no uh's or um's).

Make eye contact – practice looking at various individuals.

If you're moving from one point in the speech to another, pause, shift your posture, and begin the new point.

Abide by time constraints—and be sure you can see a watch or clock.

If you're unsure about the volume of your voice, ask the people in back if they can hear. If you know that your voice is soft, use a microphone. In fact, always use the microphone if offered.

If you're using handouts, be sure to number the pages or color-code them so that people can find the page to which you're referring.

Think about whether you want to hand out everything at once—you may be giving your audience the perfect distraction from YOU.

Give people an opportunity to ask about anything they see on the handout.

During Q & A, repeat the question that was asked, and take a pause before you answer to collect your thoughts.

Leave time after Q & A for your wrap-up so that YOU are the one setting the final impression.

Know your last line and punch it.



Grants for Small-Town Nebraska Libraries — the Kreutz Bennett Donor Advised Fund

by Richard Miller

Grants of up to \$20,000 are again available to Nebraska public libraries in towns with populations of fewer than 3,000. Shirley Kreutz Bennett left a legacy in her estate that allows the Nebraska Community Foundation to make these funds available each year. There are three types of grants:

- Planning Grants from \$500 to \$2500 per year to help unaccredited public libraries earn public library accreditation. A 1 to 1 match is required.
- Enhancement Grants from \$2500 to \$20,000 per year to enhance library programs and services. A 1 to 1 match is required.

Facilities Grants from \$5000 to \$20,000 per year to improve library facilities (new construction, renovation, or expansion). A 3 to 1 match is required.

If interested, be aware that the application due date to apply is **October 1, 2012**. A short application which is quite simple to complete must be submitted by that date for your library to be considered for the 2013 grants. If you are not quite sure about some of the details of your project, at least fill out the short application so that you have the opportunity to complete the more detailed application later.

For more information contact Ms. Reggi Carlson, Nebraska Community Foundation Communications Director, (402) 323-7331, or rcarlson@nebcommfound.org

Public Library Accreditation 2012

by Richard Miller

On July 20, 2012 Nebraska public libraries that are eligible for reaccreditation in 2012, and currently unaccredited public libraries that submitted their 2010 — 2011 annual statistics to the Commission in a timely manner, received an e-mail. This message explained the steps to follow to complete the accreditation process, noting that the library's application is due by **Tuesday, September 11, 2012** and that it must be submitted electronically.

As in the past number of years, there are three levels of accreditation attainable — Essential, Enhanced, and Excellent — depending on which guidelines the library is able to meet. Go to the Nebraska Library Commission website to see a copy of the current guidelines and to check the accreditation status of any public library. If your library is not up for reaccreditation in 2012, or if it did not submit its annual statistics, then you need not be concerned about this process.

2013 marks the first time new accreditation guidelines will be available and used. These guidelines will be previewed for the first time at the annual NLA/NEMA conference in the fall and will be used for that year's process.

If you have any questions about the public library accreditation process, contact Richard Miller at the Commission at 800-307-2665, or richard.miller@nebraska.gov



State Statute Changes Affect Library Personnel Policies

This is an explanation of changes in the state statutes related to personnel policies of public libraries. LB 470, which was approved during the last Unicameral session,

changes sections 6-251 and 51-211 of the state statutes. This law took effect July 19, 2012. Following are the changes:

Section 16-251: ...The mayor and city council shall approve any personnel administrative or compensation policy or procedure applying to a director or employee of a public library...before such policy or procedure is implemented.

Section 51-211: ...The governing body of the county, city, or village in which the library is located shall approve any personnel administrative or compensation policy or procedure before implementation of such policy or procedure by the library board.

It is the position of the Nebraska Library Commission, consistent with legislative intent as expressed during the legislative session, that the changes in statute deal solely with personnel-related policy or procedure and not with any other area of responsibility of governing library boards. It is interesting to note that the changes listed above in Section 51-211 come immediately after statutory language which notes other board powers, and immediately before a listing of additional powers. None of the existing language noted was changed (except for some changes for consistency with other state laws). In other words powers of governing library boards were not changed except in regard to personnel matters.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Richard Miller at the Commission, 800-307-2665 or Richard.miller@nebraska.gov. They would like to hear if any municipalities or counties have misunderstood these statutory changes and they stand ready to help bring about an informed understanding of this new law.



Rita Award Winners

Best First Book

First Grave on the Right by Darynda Jones

Contemporary Series Romance

Doukakis's Apprentice by Sarah Morgan

Contemporary Series Romance: Suspense/Adventure

Soldier's Last Stand by Cindy Dees

Contemporary Single Title Romance

Boomerang Bride by Fiona Lowe

Historical Romance

The Black Hawk by Joanna Bourne

Inspirational Romance

The Measure of Katie Calloway by Serena Miller

Novel with Strong Romantic Elements

How to Bake a Perfect Life by Barbara O'Neal

Paranormal Romance

Dragon Bound by Thea Harrison

Regency Historical Romance

A Night to Surrender by Tessa Dare

Romantic Suspense

New York to Dallas by J.D. Robb

Young Adult Romance

Enclave by Ann Aguirre

Upcoming Events:

August 6-Registration open for Basic Skills-Customer Service

August 17-Joint Valley Visit/Let's Talk About It at the new Elwood Public Library

August 20-Registration open for Basic Skills-Readers Advisory

August 21-22 Tech Planning Summer Camp 2-Grand Island

September 11-Deadline: Public Library Accreditation Application

September 11-12-Tech Planning Summer Camp 2-Ogallala

September 17-Registration open for Basic Skills-Collection Management

September 26-29-ASRL Conference, Raleigh, NC

September 29-October 6-Banned Books Week

October 1-Deadling: Kreutz Bennett Grand Applications

October 1-Registration open for Basic Skills-Communication

October 17-NLA/NSLA/MPLA Pre-Conference

October 18-19-NLA/NSLA/MPLA Conference, LaVista Embassy Suites

November 8-Youth Services Day, Lexington Public Library

Joint Valley Visits/Let's Talk About It

August 17th at the new Elwood Public Library from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics: Patron Confidentiality presented by Denise Harders of RVLS and Health Information Available to Your Patrons presented by Marty Magee from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine at UNMC.

Please RSVP to the System Office if you plan to attend.

(thanks to RVLS for their invitation to join with them.)

Valley Visits and Let's Talk About It are occasional informal meetings in which we look at a topic of focus or share current happenings or discuss current library-related issued. Attendees earn C.E. units and all are welcome to join us.

Would you like to have a library website?
You can have complete control over your own website including advertising your programs, post hours and letting people know what is new to their library. There is no need to wait for the city or other authority to update the library's website.

How and How Much?

You can have a FREE website through the Nebraska Library Commission's "Nebraska Libraries on the Web" project. Go to: <http://libraries.ne.gov> and click on "Want to Participate?" at the top of the page. Once you are signed up, call or e-mail the System Office and Sharon will be happy to help you get started.



Sample Memorandum of Understanding Between Friends and Libraries

The following will constitute an operating agreement between the Friends of the Anytown Public Library (Friends) and the Anytown Public Library (Library). It will stand until and unless it is modified by mutual agreement of the friends executive board and the Anytown library administrations.

The Friends mission is to raise money and public awareness in the community to support the services and programs of the Library. As a non-profit, 501c3 organization, however, it is a legally distinct entity and is not a part of the Library.

The Library agrees to include the Friends in the long-term planning process to ensure that the Friends are aware of the goals and direction of the library.

The Library agrees to share with the Friends the library's strategic initiatives at the beginning of each fiscal year and discuss with Friends how their resources and support might help forward these initiatives.

The Library agrees to supply the Friends with a "wish list" each year that indicates the anticipated needs for Friends support.

The Library agrees to provide the Friends with staff support to assist them with development of the newsletter, mass mailings, meeting coordination, and Friends promotional materials.

The Library agrees to provide public space for Friends membership brochures and promotional materials.

The Library agrees to provide the Friends with space in the Library for book storage and sorting, book sales, and office needs.

The Friends agree to publicly support the Library and its policies.

The Friends agree to include a member from the library's administration as a non-voting presence at all Friends' meetings and to allow room on the agenda for a library report.

The Friends agree that any and all monies raised will be spent exclusively for library programs, services, and other Library defined needs unless otherwise agreed to by both the Friends and the Library.

The Friends agree that the library administration has the final say by accepting or declining any and all gifts made to the library.

The Friends agree to engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of the Library under the guidance of the Library and the Library's Board of Trustees.

The Friends agree that if they cease to actively fundraise and promote the Library, they will disband allowing for a new Friends group to be established in the future.

(reprinted from Eastern Library System Express Newsletter)

Save this date:

Thursday, November 8th

Youth Services Workshop
Lexington Public Library

TECHNOLOGY PLANNING SUMMER CAMP



**The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce
Technology Planning Summer Camp 2: Don't Just Survive, Thrive!**

This 2-day workshop will be held three times across the state:

- August 21-22 – Grand Island, Midtown Holiday Inn
- September 5-6 – Norfolk, Divots Conference Center
- September 11-12 – Ogallala, Quality Inn and Conference Center

We have an exciting program planned – check out the full details, and register, at <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/tpsc/>

This event will focus on the use of your library's technology and how to prepare a technology plan for your library that will serve your future needs. You'll find answers to the following important questions: How will you sustain and maintain the equipment you have? What sorts of training should be planned for both your patrons and your staff? How can you network with other libraries to share knowledge?

Technology Planning Summer Camp 2 is open to all public libraries in Nebraska. Up to 3 people from each library can attend – library administration, staff, IT support, and board members are invited. Participants who attend all sessions will receive 9.5 CE Credits.

Funding for this event is being provided by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in conjunction with the BTOP grant, Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities (LBBNC). The Gates Foundation funds will be covering all travel costs (hotel and mileage) for libraries in the LBBNC grant.

Register today for this exciting learning opportunity!

We Will Not Be Hushed: NYC's Response to Budget Cuts

There is a fascinating article by Christian Zabriskie on New York's efforts to combat the budget cuts closing many of their libraries. Here is just a piece of the article: Google has not killed the library and ebooks won't do it either. The biggest threat to the public library in American culture is limited hours. In the new budget reality if libraries are forced to dramatically decrease their hours then they will be drastically reduced in their ability to serve their public.

Read the entire article and view the slides at: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/christian-zabriskie/threat-to-public-library_b_1547123.html



Minutes

Annual Board Meeting
Meridian Library System
June 22, 2012

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ann Matzke at 11:00 a.m. Those in attendance were System Director Sharon Osenga, Matthew Williams (Kearney), Laura Johnson (NLC), Debby Moninger, Charlotte Rasmussen, Ann Matzke, Laurie Yocom, Kathy Thomsen, Janet Wilke, and Kristi Hagstrom. Introductions were made.

Election Results: Sharon announced the election results: New board members are Kathy Thomsen from Lexington Public Library and Megan Svoboda from Broken Bow Public Library.

Recognition of outgoing board members: Charlotte Rasmussen and Christine Walsh were recognized and thanked for their years of service on the board.

Minutes: The last board meeting minutes will be approved at the next meeting as they were not included in this board packet.

Nebraska Library Commission Report from Laura John-

son: ALTAFF is changing their name to United for Libraries (Trustee tip sheets and library quotes): www.ala.org/altaff/trustees/tipsheets
Other information from NLC was provided on a written handout.

System Annual Report from Sharon Osenga (from a written report handed out):

Sharon summarized workshop opportunities for this past year.

The library personnel changes were reported.

Consulting topics included eBooks and automation vendors, weeding, library remodels, and basic library skills for new librarians.

Sharon reviewed the non-fiction survey results.

Run, Run to Reading Aloud preconference is being co-sponsored by the Regional Library System and Read Aloud Nebraska at the tri-conference in October.

Sharon reviewed the tentative plan for upcoming workshops.

Bills: Kristi motioned and Laurie seconded that the bills from April through June 15th 2012 be approved. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Budget: Kristi motioned and Janet seconded that the 2012-2013 budget be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously via role call vote.

Board Elections:

President: Ann Matzke was nominated by Laurie and seconded by Kristi to be the President. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

Vice-President: Laurie Yocom was nominated by Kristi and seconded by Janet to be the Vice-President. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

Secretary/Treasurer: Debby Moninger was nominated by Janet and seconded by Ann to be the Secretary-Treasurer.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at noon. Matthew Williams then led a tour of the new Kearney Public Library & Information Center library. After lunch, a humanities council program on Peter Sarpy was performed by Darryl Draper.

Respectfully submitted

Debby Moninger
Acting Secretary/Treasurer



Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Fall, 2012

August 20, 2012 – December 13, 2012

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the first in the Library and Information Services curriculum provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Technology
 - Physical environments
 - Library policies
 - Information databases
-

LIBR 2250 Leadership & Management in Library & Information Agencies

Michael Straatmann, Instructor

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21st Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies & procedures

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services or may be taken concurrently

LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification

Ruth Carlock, Instructor

This course will include theories, concepts and activities for cataloging and classifying materials in the 21st Century. It includes the following topics:

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- The MARC record
- Anglo-American Cataloging Rules

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services

LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum

Erica Rose, Instructor

This capstone course is the last course in the Library & Information Services program. Students will complete 40 hours of service learning in a host library. The course also includes a review of the principle pieces of learning from the LIS program.

Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250

For information on 21st Century Librarian Scholarships, see: Nebraska Library Commission website at: <http://nlc1.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/Scholarships.asp>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: **Dee Johnson**
djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

2012 NLA/NEMA/MPLA Pre-Conference

RUN, RUN TO READING ALOUD!

Wednesday, October 17 – La Vista, Nebraska Conference Center

Featuring children's book authors

Jim Aylesworth & Lisa Campbell Ernst



And Nebraska
children's book authors

Julia Cook

Ted Kooser

Preston McDaniels
& James Solheim

AGENDA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Registration, Coffee and Book Sales

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
One Book, One School

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
The Teacher Who Became An Author
Jim Aylesworth

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Lunch on your own

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Nebraska Children's Book Author Panel
with Julia Cook, Ted Kooser,
Preston McDaniels and James Solheim

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
*Gifts of the Universe:
Inspiration, Hard Work, and Grace*
Lisa Campbell Ernst

4:00 p.m.
Book Signing

REGISTRATION

\$40 if received by July 1

\$45 if received between July 1 and Sept. 20

\$50 after Sept. 20
(15% discount for MPLA members)

You can register online at
nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012

For more program details or to reserve books
by the authors please visit
www.readaloudnebraska.org

This workshop is sponsored by
Read Aloud Nebraska.



Support was also received from the
Nebraska Regional Library Systems and the
School, Children's and Young People's Section
of the Nebraska Library Association.

Email info@readaloudnebraska.org
if you have any questions

The Embedded School Librarian

Wednesday October 16, 2012 5:30-8:30

Roskens Hall University of Nebraska-Omaha

Like a splinter or like a journalist? Embedded school librarianship

Special Guest Speaker: Sara Kelley-Mudie

The idea of being embedded is at the heart of much of what we believe makes school libraries effective; we don't teach skills in isolation, but rather embed them within the larger curriculum of our schools. We can take these beliefs that are at the core of school librarianship, and expand them in order to redefine—or, really, highlight—how integral librarians are to the larger mission of the school. Embedded librarianship is about moving beyond the physical walls of the library—both virtually and physically—in order make connections between the students and teachers in our schools and resources, information, and people inside and outside of the school.



In this talk, I'll outline the theory and standards that are the foundations for my practice as an embedded librarian, the tools I use to create connections and share resources, and how I've embedded myself in a variety of teaching and learning spaces in my school.

Pre-Conference Agenda

5:30-6:00

Light Hors d'Oeuvres

6:00-7:00

Guest Speaker: Sara Kelley-Mudie

7:00-7:15

Breakout Discussions

7:20-8:30

Breakout Sessions on tools and tips for embedded librarianship

Sara Kelley-Mudie is the Librarian and Educational Technology Facilitator at The Forman School in Litchfield, CT. A former high school English teacher, she has a BA in English from Connecticut College (2001) and an MLIS from Kent State (2007). Sara serves on the board for the Connecticut Association of School Librarians, and was selected as one of the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders in 2011. Sara writes about libraries, learning, and technology at kmtthelibrarian.blogspot.com.

Her experience working at Forman—an independent college-preparatory school for students with dyslexia, ADHD, and other learning disabilities—has shaped her beliefs about libraries, instructional design, and creating accessible learning spaces for all students. She is passionate about working with students and teachers to become independent learners with the confidence and skill to navigate an ever-changing world of information and knowledge.