



Straight *talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

August, 2004 - Published by the Northeast Library System

Kathy Ellerton - System Administrator/Editor

Top Ten Leadership Skills for Librarians

While there are hundreds of traits that leadership experts consider 'must haves', certain skills keep popping up again and again in our rapidly changing world. Here are 10 "must have" leadership skills for librarians in the 21st century.

1. **Character** is number one and the root of good leadership. By character, I mean the values and beliefs the leader brings to the workplace. They should be authentic, planted in integrity, honor and ethics.
2. **Vision.** Having a vision and being able to communicate that vision is another critical trait. You need to be able to articulate your vision and energize others. This requires courage because sometimes you have to do the unpopular thing because it is in the best interest of the library.
3. **Passion.** An effective leader

is a person with a passion for a cause that is larger than they are. Someone with a dream and a vision that will better the library, or at least, some portion of it. Also, without passion, a leader will not make the necessary courageous and difficult decisions and carry them into action. This is not to imply that all decisions are of this nature. But you can be sure, some of them will be.

4. **Communication** is still a top-rated skill when it comes to leadership effectiveness. Articulate your vision clearly and repeatedly. Spell out your plan of action, asking for everyone's support and showing confidence in a positive outcome. Keep those around you in the loop. Arm them with information that helps give them an accurate assessment of where they are, the odds against them, and what they have to do to achieve their goal. Communication is more than just top-down, fire-and-brimstone, whip-the-troops-into-shape motivation. Listen attentively so you are well grounded with your team and the environment that

surrounds you. All leadership is relationships and all relationships thrive via communication.

5. **Coaching Skills.** Managers are more and more required to support their people with resources and skills. Coaching means working with your staff to develop their own inherent skills and in their own unique way, augmenting the solid foundation upon which your (Continued on page 2)



After working with the NELS for five years, I am taking early retirement and spending the time with my husband, Ron, who has decided to retire from his job this July. I have enjoyed working with Carol and the System board. Visiting the various libraries and the staff have been a highlight in this position. Good Luck to you all in your various endeavors
--Rosemae Schafer

We will all miss you Rosemae! Thank you for the great job you've done throughout the years!

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performance as a manager and leader is built.

6. The Ability to Create Value. Virtuous leadership must be demonstrated in speech and actions, publicly and privately, 24 hours a day. No leader will ever become a spotless moral paragon. And yet each must be committed to doing what it takes to do what is right. What a leader does in private does matter, and will decrease or increase his/her scope of influence.

7. Flexibility. A good leader and entrepreneur should have flexibility—flexibility in dealing with people, flexibility in navigating through changes, flexibility in changing your plan. Even when you plan constantly and meticulously, things often can and do go wrong. Evaluate why something isn't working, replace it with a better plan and move on. Don't stay stuck on the same plan if it's not working.

8. Comfort with Ambiguity. The ability to navigate change and deal with ambiguity is a critical skill for today's leaders. Ambiguity calls out the best in us, or it calls out the worst. We are constantly faced with decisions that are not clear cut. We are faced with grey decisions because everything is not black or white in decision making. Even after the decisions are made, many will second guess themselves.

9. Collaboration. The ability to work effectively with others is an important leadership attribute. Leaders might benefit from thinking of themselves as being in the center of a web rather than on top of a pyramid.

10. Knowledge Seekers. Although not everyone can be a world-class leader, everyone can develop his/her leadership potential. It is better to think of leadership as a role for which individuals can prepare themselves. When people discover their passion, are ready to take a risk to pursue it and try new things interpersonally, they generally become leaders. Successful leaders don't take leadership for granted. They work to cultivate leadership skills and are lifelong learners.

Great leadership is not a mystery. It is the steady application of time-tested principles. By applying the ten skills listed above, you will become a great leader!

Basic Skills Coming Soon!

This course will cover Governance and Cooperation, Policies and Procedures, Personnel, and Planning. It will meet on November 16, 23, and 30th at the LifeLong Learning Center, Northeast Community College in Norfolk. Send registration information and payment of \$35 to Jacquie Crocker, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N ST, Suite 120, Lincoln NE 68508-2023.



The Reviewer's Chair

The School at Crooked Creek

by Laurie Lawlor

Beansie, who is 6 years of age, loves the freedom he has on the family homestead in Indiana where he lives with his mother, father, and older 9-year-old sister, Louisa. This story describes the hardship that our forefathers endured to settle the frontiers of our nation. How would you like to go barefoot until the first snow falls or sleep on a bed of corncocks only to wake with a dusting of snow on your blanket? Do you think you could walk in hide bound feet for a mile to school and sit on a tree limb with your feet dangling all day? How about finding your way through the forest in a fierce snowstorm? This book written for 3rd graders and up will make you stop and think about how blessed we are for the daily comforts. I would recommend this book for public and school libraries. --Pat Thompson, WSC.

Mixed-Up Doubles

by Elena Yates Eulo

Hank hates his new seaside home. His family is divided with divorce and nothing is right about his life. His brother has the talent to be a tennis pro and they aren't even playing

tennis in this new setting. His next door neighbor, Tremont, is an embarrassment to him. Slowly things begin to turn around. Even his grades in school are helped by tutoring from Tremont. Then the doubles tennis tournament helps everything fall into place.

I thought this story was interesting and had good potential for discussion about friendship, divorce and school problems. Recommended for both school and public libraries for grades 5th through 8th. --Karma Ragland, Atkinson Public School

Amaryllis

by Craig Cirst-Evans

Amaryllis is a beautiful name for a not-so-beautiful story. In 1967 Jimmy and Frank Staples take advantages of the great waves created by the wreck of the Amaryllis off the shore of Singer Island to surf and avoid their drunken father. Frank enlists in the

Army following graduation from High School. He ends up in Vietnam and Frank's letters to Jimmy at home describe in detail his turmoil and subsequent drug addition. With a reading level for grades 8 and up, I would recommend this book for both school and public libraries. --MeMe Smith, Schuyler Public Library

Splintering

by Eireann Corrigan

A stranger breaks into the family's house scaring the entire family. Mom and the girls hide upstairs while dad and brother fight off the intruder. Brother is frightened as well, so instead of helping, he hides under the steps of the basement. The stranger follows the girls upstairs and breaks through a barrier that had been moved in front of the door. Though they scream, no one seems to hear them. Will their family ever feel save again? The aftermath is told in alternating (Continued on Page 4)



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brother-sister perspectives. The story line is excellent, but the brother-sister bouncing back and forth is hard to follow. If you have readers who will pick up anything to read, this is the book for you.

--Diane Limoges, Crofton

Tiny the Snow Dog

by Cari Meister

A young boy and his very large dog, named Tiny, enjoy playing together in the snow. This is a simple chapter book containing cute pictures that would be appealing to young children. With a reading level for very

young children to middle elementary, I would consider this book to be a good purchase for school or public libraries.

--Sharon Kinnan, Oakdale Public School

The Painters of Lexieville

by Sharon Darrow

"Pert" Lexie, her parents, and brother, Jobe, live in Lexieville, Arkansas, a town of dirt roads and shacks. Pert hopes to be the first of her family to graduate from high school and leave town for a better life. A case-worker from the County Welfare Dept. takes a special interest in Pert and her family, helping her father and brother find jobs as painters. However, her Uncle Orris causes dramatic changes in their family.

The subject of Pert being attacked by her uncle is a bit unsettling. It is a guarded description of a brutal attack and the aftermath that results. Each chapter is told from the view of the mother, son, or daughter's point of view. With a reading level for possibly middle school or junior high, I would urge caution in recommending this book because of its underlying theme. I would possibly recommend this book to any library but with reservations due to the subject matter.

--Deb Daehnke, WSC.

Computers for Libraries

(www.pcsforschools.org), a non profit organization provides thousands of donated PCs to schools, public libraries and homes of low-income families every year. Computers for Schools also arranges inexpensive dial-up Internet service for qualifying families. Corporations dispose of hundreds of thousands of computers, monitors, and printers every year and many of these castoffs work just fine. The organization will refurbish any PC that has a Pentium chip or better, wipe the hard drive clean, and install a new operating system.

ETrek, another Computers for Schools program, provides free Pentium II or III computers to schools that donate their old pcs. These pcs are often dismantled and recycled as scrap while the school receives refurbished computers.

To locate a program like Computers for Schools or ETrek in your area, visit TechSoup (www.techsoup.org), the organization that oversees Microsoft's computer refurbishing program. Also, check out TechSoup Stock (www.techsoup.org/stock/default.asp), a site that lists software and other products that are available to librarians and other educators at hefty discounts.

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The Library as an Active Component in Community Leadership

Library boards should strive to make a difference in their communities

I have long felt that public libraries are the true community centers of American villages and cities. They are the "village greens" under a roof. Sometimes, however, it seems that library trustees are reluctant to think of their libraries in that light.

Library trustees should not just sit back and let others come up with ideas on how the library can be more involved with the community. Trustees should see every community challenge as a potential opportunity for the library to play a role in community leadership.

Trustees need to stop thinking of their libraries only in the context of books and Internet access. They need to continually ask themselves "what can our library do to make a difference in the community?"

For some that might be as an educational partner in economic development. For other communities the library may play the role of an unbiased facilitator of public discussions of community problems. And there are times when the library might want to shed its unbiased image and become an open advocate for change.

One approach that a library board might want to adopt is to take on an annual challenge that is outside the traditional mold of library service. For example, the trustees might decide that they want the library to be an instrument of change in improving cultural diversity of their community in the upcoming year. The trustees can commit staff time, trustee time and dollars to this cause.

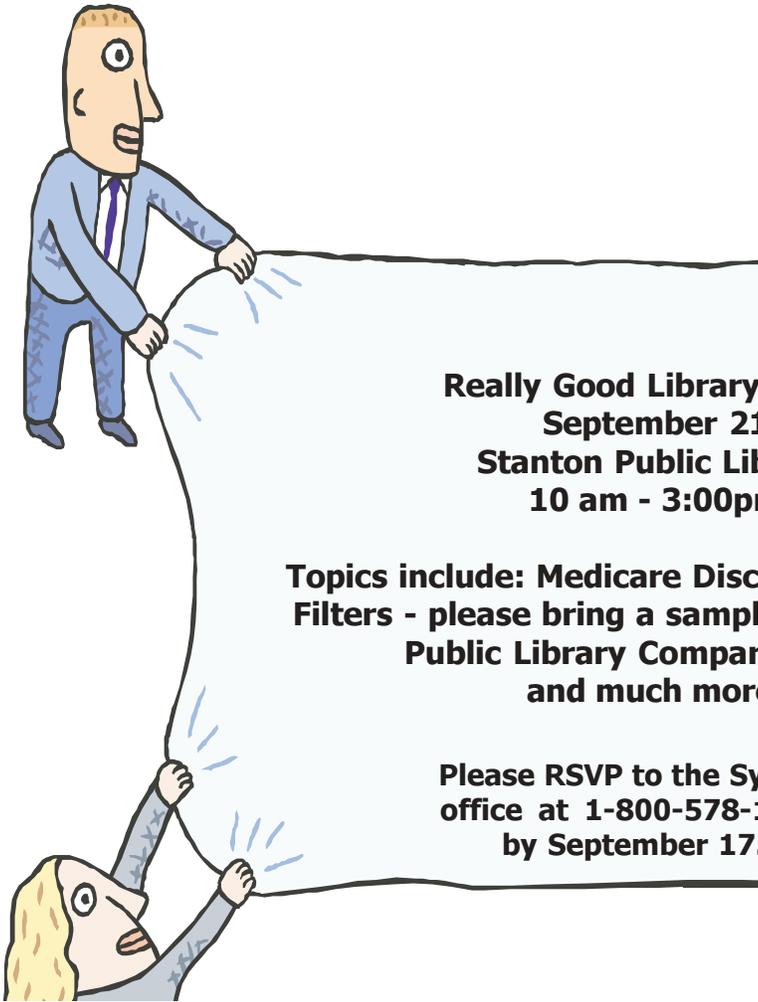
The dollars could pay for public programs, including bringing in speakers from communities that have made progress in this area in recent years. The dollars could pay for youth programming to foster diverse groups of young people working together, reading together and discussing what they have learned from what they read. The dollars could pay facilitators to conduct focus groups on the topic. The dollars could pay for.... whatever the trustees think would work in their town.

The trustees might decide that they should promote options to meet public transportation needs in their community, regardless of how small the community is. Again, they could pay to bring in people from communities of similar size that have been successful in meeting their respective transportation needs. The library might serve as a conduit to bring all the local transportation "players" together, or to bring advocacy groups together to seek consensus on prioritizing the needs.

The beauty of libraries being more proactive in the community is that the library trustees should be experts on what issues their communities need to do a better job of addressing. Unless there might be some professional conflicts of interest given the subject matter, the trustees should have nothing to gain from promoting community causes.

The projects could be as diverse as helping to start a local Habitat for Humanity chapter or youth soccer league. Maybe some trustees feel its time to try again to establish a community theater group or a youth symphony orchestra. Or maybe there is a need for the community to deal with local rises in teenage suicides or drinking.

Each public library should play an active role in exploring ways to meet the needs of their communities. Each public library should strive to make a difference in their respective communities.
(taken in part from Focus on Trustees by David Miller, Rural Library Services Newsletter)



**Really Good Library Group
September 21
Stanton Public Library
10 am - 3:00pm**

**Topics include: Medicare Discount Cards, Web
Filters - please bring a sample of your policy,
Public Library Comparison Tool
and much more!**

**Please RSVP to the System
office at 1-800-578-1014
by September 17.**

NORS Quilt Display Available



Christina Dunham, the Community Liaison for Nebraska Organ Recovery System (NORS) has a quilt display available to libraries.

In 2002, NORS invited families of organ, tissue and eye donors to design a quilt square honoring their loved one who was a donor. Enough squares were submitted for 4 quilts! In addition, NORS encouraged families to submit a story about their loved one who was a donor. The stories were compiled into a book titled 'A Quilt Story Book'.

NORS is always looking for new places to display the quilts and will pay for shipping the quilts, display racks and 'A Quilt Story Book'. If interested, contact Christina at 1-402-733-1800 or 1-877-633-1800.



Governor Johanns announced that Atkinson Public Library was awarded a \$250,000 CDBG grant to build a 6,785 square foot public library. Congratulations Judy, her staff and board for a job well done!



The race is a dead heat between the Lewis and Clark reading teams at Genoa Public Library. Sharon Jones has two teams, Lewis and Clark, and anyone (parents, grandparents, friends) can read and have their pages added to the reading team. "It's been a great way to get everyone of all ages reading!



"It's a Celebration of a Century" says Ann Bachman at House Memorial Library in Pender. The library is celebrating 100 years since the founding of the first library in Pender. An Open House will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on Sunday, August 22, 2004. A short program will be held at 2:30 pm. See you there!



The Follett Destiny software is being installed at Wayne Community Schools Sue Buryanek, Wayne High School Librarian recently reported. Funded with dollars from the No Child Left Behind Act, the software enables parents and students to review book selections from home.

About 800 dedicated children took part in the Columbus Public Library's summer reading program. Brad Hruska, Children's Librarian, promised the kids they could dunk him if they read 100,000 pages. After thirteen tries, the fourteenth ball found its mark and sent Brad down for a refreshing dip.



Come see the Atkinson library staff ride by as Grand Marshalls at Atkinson's Hay Days Parade on August 21.



Atkinson Community Foundation is holding a seven-day eBay Internet auction in August to raise \$20,000 to help pay for community projects including the new public library, playground equipment, and an expansion project at the hospital. Over 500 items have been donated for the auction including a Barbie collection.

Nebraska StoryArts presents the third annual Moonshell Storytelling Festival on Sept. 18, 2004, at Mahoney State Park. Six outstanding national and regional storytellers will take part in a daylong celebration to preserve the art of storytelling. The festival will offer storytelling concerts geared toward families with special events for adults and will conclude with ghost stories in the evening. All storytelling performances and events are free with park admission. Featured storytellers include: Ed Stivender, Dovie Thomason, Baba Jamal Koram, Linda Yemoto, Ricardo Provencio and Jerome Kills Small. The festival runs from 10:30am to 10:30pm. Three performance sites will be used throughout the day: Activity Center & Ice Rink Main Stage, Kountze Memorial Theater and the Wild Turkey Shelter. All events will take place regardless of the weather because performance sites are covered. For more information, go to www.nebraskastoryarts.org.

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Tried and True - 25 Years of Good Ideas

The following is a yearly listing of good fund-raising ideas compiled by FOLUSA newsletters.

1979 - A coloring book of local interest with art work provided by local artists was a successful project in Lancaster, PA.

1980 - Children or adults are asked for donations to a Nest Egg Tree for a \$40,000 expansion for the Children's Room. After each donation, the child's name was written on a paper egg and hung on a tree in the Children's Room in Evansville, IN.

1981 - The Friends opened the "Shh! Gift Shop selling used books, book ends, tote bags, jewelry, etc. Members receive a ten percent discount on all purchases in Cleveland, OH.

1982 - In Essex Junction, VT the Friends group focused their purchases on material of local interest.

1983 - In Mountain Home, AR, the Friends have an on-going auction table in the Library. Each week the highest bid for each item is posted, and at the end of the month, the item goes to the highest bidder.

1984 - BYOB - Books on Your Birthday program has been successful in Goshen, IN. Parents are encouraged to note a child's birthday by donating a book to the children's collection.

1985 - The Friends sold their hard to sell Reader's Digest Condensed Books to a local hotel by convincing the owner that travelers would like something to read other than the Gideon's Bible.

1986 - The Friends of the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County had the mayor and the county commissioners declare April to be Friends of the Library Month.

1987 - St. Paul, MN Friends members receive a sheet of coupons for discounts off a Friends tote bag, discounts at local stores and a free used book at the Friends book sale.

1988 - The Friends of the Kirn Memorial Library in Norfolk, VA wrapped their library in red ribbon (parachute fabric) to promote a seasonal program "How to Select the Best Gift Books for Your Child".

1989 - Making programs timely in Elyria, OH has paid off for their Friends group. For example, their January program featured a social worker discussing post-holiday blues.

1990 - In Raleigh, NC, the Friends support a reception for seniors and their guests on Graduation Day at North Carolina State University.

1991 - Friends of the Vermillion Public Library, SD host an Annual Literary Luncheon during National Library Week.

1992 - The Friends of the Bracken Library (Ball State Univ, IN) have established a

scholarship for library staff enrolled in a Masters of Library Science program.

1993 - Knoxville, TN Friends produce a Rembered Calendar featuring old photographs of the city and its environs.

1994 - The Associates of the Stanford Univ Libraries have collected all the programs they have presented over the years on audio tapes.

1995 - Duncan the Meter in Iowa City, IA reigns supreme in the children's room at the public library. He was given a complete make-over and has become one of the library's most generous contributors from the coins children and adults place into his slot.

1996 - Friends of the Hastings Public Library, NE asked the community to 'button up' by wearing buttons promoting the building of a new library.

1997 - "What would any of us be had we read not a single book?" is the question on the Henderson, NC Friends brochure.

1998 - Friends of the Roseville, MI Public Library are offering a limited edition candleholder with a tea candle. The champagne colored glass has a picture of the original library in 1929. Only 165 candleholders were made and each were accompanied by a certificate of authenticity.

1999 - Beaverton, OR Friends distribute information about the library through the Welcome Wagon.



2000 - Friends of the Spring Hill College Library in Mobile, AL adopted books for the library. People were sent two return envelopes encouraging them to mark a special occasion by adopting a book at the library.

2001 - Tulsa, OK Friends supported the library's staff development day with the theme 'The Apple of Our Eyes'. The appreciation luncheon featured pizza and salad, beverages, and apples.

2002 - The North Kingston, RI Friends use eBay to boost revenue from books sales.

2003 - Troy, AL Friends are busy selling commemorative ornaments celebrating the community's history. These ornaments are sold only at the library.

2004 - The Friends of the Swampscott Public Library, MA held a 'people raiser' to get more people to attend their meetings. Twenty desserts were donated, raffle prizes were given and a chocolatier presented the program. (taken from FOLUSA, June 2004)



Mark Your Calendar

August 1 - **National Kids Day**
Visit www.kidsday.net to see how other libraries are participating.

August 6 - **Nebraska Leadership Institute I & II Reunion**, "Ethics and Enlightenment", at Concordia College, Seward.

August 22 - **It's a Celebration of a Century** at House Memorial Library in Pender. The Open House begins at 2pm with a short program at 2:30pm. Come join them and celebrate 100 years of library service in Pender, Nebraska.

August 23 - **Sergeant Patrick Gass, Chief Carpenter: On the Trail With Lewis & Clark**, Ley Theatre, Wayne State College at 7pm.

September 10 - **Nebraska Library Commissioners Meeting** at the Nebraska Library Commission. Contact: Maria Medrano-Nels if you wish to attend.

September 10 - **Nebraska Library Association Board Meeting** at Loren Corey Eiseley Library from 9:30-12 noon.

September 15 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at St. Edward Public Library, St. Edward at 10 am.

September 17-18 - **Nebraska Book Festival** at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. E-mail Jeanne Saathoff at jsaathoff@kearneygov.org for more information.

September 20 - **Medical Care on the Lewis & Clark Trail**, Ley Theatre, Wayne State College at 7pm.

September 30 - October 2 - **Association for Library Service to Children 2004**, Minneapolis Hilton, Minneapolis, MN.

Oct. 6-8 - **"Virtual Places, Physical Spaces - Nebraska Libraries Now"** NLA/NEMA Annual Conf. in Grand Island.

October 21-24 **"Libraries: All That Jazz**, joint MPLA/CLA conference, Denver, CO.

November 4 - **Read Aloud Nebraska presents Mem Fox** at the Peter Kiewit Conference Center, Omaha from 8am-4pm.

November 5 - **NEBASE Annual Meeting - East 2004** from 9am - 4pm at the Cornhusker, 333 South 13th St., Lincoln.

November 17 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at South Sioux Public Library, South Sioux City at 10 am.





Wild About Books Display Contest

How wild is your library? Create a WILD "zoo" of a window, library or store display using Wild About Books, Marc Brown & Judy Sierra's latest book, as the center piece. Gather all of the books mentioned in Wild About Books and your favorite animal-themed children's books to create your own zoo-brary.

Displays must appear between August and December 2004. Submit a photo of the display, plus a brief (250 word) description of how you promoted Wild About Books by December 31, 2004. The library grand prize winners will receive a visit from Judy Sierra and Marc Brown to their library. Five runners-up will each receive a signed copy of Wild About Books, a signed poster, and four Random House Children's Books mentioned in the book.

For more information see "<http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/wildaboutbooks.html>."



Mark your calendars . . . For the Nebraska Regional Library Systems 2004 Pre-conference to NLA/NEMA, "**Ways to Construct an Evaluation**", on October 6th from 10:00 to 3:00. Lynn Bradman, PhD. Student at ISU and Social Science Instructor for Metro Community College in Omaha, will be our presenter. Lynn will provide you with the best practices in constructing an evaluation. Information will be useful for program evaluations, long range planning and for staff evaluations.

Registration fee: \$25

We hope to see you on **October 6th**.



Name _____

Library _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Registrations due **Friday September 24**. Please enclose the registration fee of **\$25** at the time of your registration.

Mail registration and fee to: Southeast Library System, 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505. Email questions to jennip@alltel.net.



Northeast Library System Meeting

July 21, 2004

Northeast Library System Board met on Wednesday, July 21, 2004, at the Little Priest Tribal College, Winnebago. Board President Marilyn Liedorff called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Guests present were Sally Snyder, Library Commission; Stan Gardner; WSC, Deb Robertson, NECC; Gretchen Healy, State Advisory Board and Susan Skinner, Little Priest.

Roll call was taken with all members present except Von Seggern, Zurovski, Lofgren, Bretschneider, and Bachman who came later. There were no alternates.

The Board welcomes Linda Resinger, Orchard, population under 1,000; Dee Johnson, Columbus, population over 10,000; Laurie Rehnstrom, Coleridge Community School; and Marilyn Liedorff, academic.

Additions to the printed agenda: Nominating committee (Jacobs), biennium budget (Ellerton), and Deb Robertson.

Minutes of the May 19 meeting were approved: (MS: Cooper, Risinger); motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the June 3 annual meeting were approved: (MS: Cooper, Johnson); motion carried unanimously.

All members and guests introduced themselves.

Correspondence and Communications:

Thank you's were passed around as well as a letter of resignation from Ardis Von Seggern.

Financial Report (Rosemae Schafer):

Balances as of June 30, 2004: checking: -\$97.14; savings: \$25,044.43

Motion to accept financial report: (MS: Jacobs, Zwingman); unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Reports:

State Advisory Council, Gretchen Healy: Community College Library degree going well; Rod Wagner says budget outlook is more positive than previously; mentoring program is going into place for Recruiting and Retaining Librarians-Commission will push this; Robertson reported scholarship monies will be available for mentoring and degrees; tech support for Gates computers discussed-Commission asked to find way for libraries to have tech support, especially small rural libraries; Wagner requested System Boards investigate the need for assistance and report this to Commission; Wagner suggested libraries push to become the community information point during times of national emergencies

System Administrator Katherine Ellerton: got extra LSTA monies for System: purchased carrying bags for Accu-Cut and DSL for the office; purchased new editions of Dewey, Sears and Public Library Catalogs for office; Systems working to charter a bus for MPLA Conference in Denver; Bibliostat Connect: Commission is considering purchasing comparison piece if funds available

Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: has not met

Budget Committee: has not met

Continuing Education: report passed around on workshop attendance/budgets

Strategic Planning: Exec committee served on this; took role and mission statement from previous strategic plan; committee chose four goals and wrote objectives and activities for each goal.

Change: Goal #14, Objective #2, Activity #1 NLA, change NITA to NETA

Motion to accept strategic plan as changed: (MA: Risinger, Zwingman); motion carried unanimously

Nominating Committee: Gardner reported committee have four people in mind to replace Von Seggern but none have been contacted.

NLC report (Sally Snyder): Commission is keeping records on Board certification if training was given by Commission or Systems; Public Library Administration is Basic Skills class this fall; renewed databases: First Search, Wilson Omnifile and Biography Plus, Kiplinger, Books In Print, e-Library; two new commissioners appointed, Carol Spenser of Broken Bow and Jean Ahrens of Scottsbluff

Unfinished Business:

Personnel policies: motion to accept policies as printed (MS: Jacobs, Healy); motion carried unanimously

Maturation of CD on July 30: Schafer checked interest rates of six banks for renewal of six months; motion to renew with 2.02% for six months at Cornerstone (MS: Healy, Cooper); roll call vote unanimous approval.

New Business:

Board replacement for Bretschneider: motion to appoint Gretchen Healy (MS: Zwingman, Jacobs); motion carried unanimously

Board replacement for Ardis Von Seggern: if anyone knows of someone who would like to serve, please contact them and see if they are willing to serve. During this time, Liedorff led a discussion on the importance and responsibilities of serving on the Board.

Annual audit: will be July 27

Bylaws update: committee to look at bylaws and bring suggestions to next meeting: Cooper, Healy, Liedorff, Ellerton

Committee review and appointments: committees were filled for the new year. They are as follows:

Executive: Liedorff, Lofgren, Jacobs, Schafer

Budget: Liedorff, Cooper, Johnson, Lofgren, Schafer, Ex Officio

Continuing Education: Liedorff, Klein, Jacobs

Strategic Planning: Liedorff, Healy, Cooper

Personnel: Liedorff, Bachman, Risinger, Healy, Zwingman

Nominating: Gardner, Zurovski, Risinger

NLA/NEMA scholarships: System will offer scholarships to first-time attendees and those who haven't gone for five years; trustees will be included in this

System needs assessment survey will be sent out to determine the needs of libraries and their staff. Ellerton asked for ideas to have high percentage of returns: stamped return envelopes, quick deadline, should be passed on to trustees, will be posted on web site

Ellerton had survey from Panhandle System that will be reworked and used

Biennium budget (Ellerton): increases requested by Ellerton in following areas: travel budget for more hotel stays and library visits, postage costs, rent may be possibility, mini-grants to libraries

\$75,000 added as line item in biennium budget for computer tech support (MS: Healy, Risinger); unanimous approval

Schafer announced her resignation from the Northeast Library System administrative assistant position as of September 3, 2004

Executive session: in at 12:55 p.m.; out at 1:08 p.m.

Deb Robertson: Library Technical Assistants program: program established; presented draft of courses; course schedule is set with most of the instructors hired

System Board training: all System Boards training session on September 9, at University of Nebraska Kearney, room 238A of the Nebraska Student Union. Ellerton listed topics to be presented/discussed. All Board members are encouraged to attend. Commission will pay meals and mileage. Jacobs suggested Ellerton send out list of topics so that Board members can sign up so all sessions will be covered.

Pat-On-The-Back awards: Risinger: Town and Country FCE from Orchard for story time; Healy: Alvin Haight, member of advisory group for help during move

Reports of members' activities in local libraries were given, and following the meeting Healy gave us a tour of the new library facility.

Claims of the Day: (MS: Zwingman, Healy); unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.





2004 Pre-Conference for NLA/NEMA
Hispanic Voices @ your library™
La Voces de Hispanos @ su biblioteca™



Wednesday, October 6, 2004 8am - 5 pm CST
Holiday Inn Midtown, Grand Island

Morning Session: "Spanish That Works", Elizabeth Almann

Afternoon Sessions:

Session I: Multicultural Consultant, Yolanda Cuesta, 12:30 - 2:30pm

Session II: Hispanic authors, Francisco Jimenez (Golden Sower Award nominee), and Luis Rodriquez, 2:45 pm - 4:45pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, September 24, 2004.

This is a firm date and late or onsite registrations will not be accepted.

Registration form - please fill out and mail (no faxes accepted) to:

Jenni Puchalla, System Administrator's Assistant,
Southeast Library System
5730 R Street, Suite C-1
Lincoln, NE 68505

Registrant's Name: _____

Library or if Student school attending: _____

Member of NLA _____ NEMA _____

Library School Student _____ Other _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

My fee is: (check one and make **check payable to the Paraprofessional Section**. If payment cannot be made by the deadline date please call the Registration Chair).

_____ \$25 Member of NLA

_____ \$25 Member of NEMA

_____ \$25 Libr. School Student

_____ \$35 Non-member of NLA or NEMA

All Registrations include luncheon buffet

For more information:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/preconf/2004PreConf.html>

Sponsored by: The Paraprofessional, Special & Institutional, School Children's and Young People's Sections of the Nebraska Library Association; Nebraska Educational Media Association; Scottsbluff Public Library; and the Omaha Public Library (South Branch). This project was supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.



Scholarship Application

The NORTHEAST LIBRARY SYSTEM will make available **TEN scholarships** in the amount of **\$120 each** to help defray costs for **librarians, trustees & school library media specialists** wishing to attend the joint Nebraska Library Association / Nebraska Educational Media Association conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Midtown and Howard Johnson Riverside Inn in Grand Island on October 6, 7 & 8.

1. Applicants must not have attended a state-wide N.L.A./N.E.M.A. Conference in the last five years.
2. Applicants must be current members of either N.L.A. or N.E.M.A. (There is still time to become a member; call Kathy or Rosemae at the System office to obtain a membership form for either organization.
3. Scholarships will be awarded to no more than one person from each library or school district.
4. Applicants must attend at least one day of the Conference or Pre-Conference.
5. After the Conference, those awarded scholarships must submit a written summary (one page minimum) of Conference programs attended, prior to the next scheduled System Board meeting, November 17, 2004. Summaries will be shared with System Board members.

If you qualify, don't hesitate to take advantage of this opportunity! Complete this form & mail it to the Northeast Library System office, 3038 33rd Street, Columbus, NE 68601 by September 7. Scholarship recipients will be notified prior to the pre-registration deadline. Call Kathy at the System office to obtain a packet detailing Pre-Conference & Conference presentations, dates, times, locations, & registration forms.

NAME _____

LIBRARIAN _____ SCHOOL MEDIA SPECIALIST _____ TRUSTEE: _____

LIBRARY OR SCHOOL YOU REPRESENT _____

ADDRESS & PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

How long have you been employed in a library or a school library media center?

Trustees: How long have you served on a library board? _____

When did you last attend a state-wide N.L.A./N.E.M.A. Conference? _____

What System sponsored Workshops have you attended in the last two years? _____

Why do you want to attend this Conference? _____

(Make a copy of this form for your records.)

**The Northeast Library System serves the following counties:
Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota,
Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk,
Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.**

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing,
the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

—James Dent



**Northeast Library System
3038 33rd Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601**

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