

## Floyd Smith III WINS Meritorious Service Award at NLA/NEMA Conference

The Meritorious Service Award is given to a person, corporation or organization which has contributed to the improvement of library service in a local community, region, state agency, or in state legislation. The 2011 Meritorious Service Award was presented to Floyd Smith III of Scottsbluff, Nebraska in Lincoln at the Nebraska Library Association conference. Floyd Smith is the director of the West Nebraska Family Research & History Center in Scottsbluff, and the president of the Panhandle Library System board, in addition to having another full time job and a family. While the Panhandle system was without a director for several months, Mr. Smith took over day-to-day operations. He also led efforts towards a shared automation system, including grant writing, and facilitated the information and agreements among PLS consortium members, efforts which could easily have languished without a system director in place. But Floyd Smith's dedication and passion has kept the Panhandle Library System moving forward. It was with great pleasure that the Panhandle could present Floyd Smith III with the 2011 NLA Meritorious Service Award.

### In This Issue:

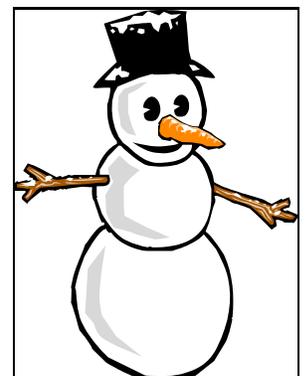
Upcoming events  
p. 2

July 29, 2011 PLS  
Board Minutes  
P. 3-4

P. 5 Pictures

September 13, 2011  
PLS Board Minutes  
P. 6-7

Flyers P. 8-9



## Upcoming Events

**December 9, 2011** Friends of the Gering Public Library will hold their Holiday Open House from 3 to 6pm.

**December 16, 2011** Annual Holiday Open House at West Nebraska Family Research and History Center, 1602 Ave. A, Scottsbluff from 11 am to 7 pm.

**January 10, 2012** Panhandle Library System Board Meeting at Railway Plaza, 115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff at 10:00 am.

**January 30, 2012** WNCC Scottsbluff will be hosting the next Job Alike. Time and place to be announced.

**February 1, 2012** PLS DVD rotation begins.

**PLS Website:** <http://libraries.ne.gov/pls> Check out the PLS website.

**<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/calendar>**— check out training and events at the Nebraska Library Commission.

Mark your Calendar



### An Important Announcement

Due to budget cuts and the need to lower costs, the Panhandle Library System has made the decision to suspend our printed Panhandle Sun newsletter in favor of an online version. We will be sending newsletter links to each library via email. We will also continue to make the newsletter available on the PLS website. If your library does not have internet access, please contact the system Administrative Assistant to make arrangements for alternate delivery. You can reach Debbie McCall at (308) 632-1350 or toll free 888-879-5303 by email at [dmccall@panhandlelibsys.org](mailto:dmccall@panhandlelibsys.org).

**PLS Board Meeting**  
**July 29, 2011**  
**Lied Scottsbluff Public Library**  
**10:00am**

President Floyd Smith III called the meeting to order at 1:03pm. Board members present: Floyd Smith III, Beth Trupp, Terry Christensen, Rick Caudillo, Dixie Riley, Sue Shaver, Merrellene Wood, Roberta Boyd, Sara Brennemann and Kendra Caskey. PLS Coordinator, Terri Raburn and Administrative Assistant, Debbie McCall were also present.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Merrillene Wood and seconded by Beth Trupp. The motion carried.

The May 10, 2011, PLS minutes were approved. Sue Shaver made the motion for approval of the minutes. Dixie Riley seconded the motion.

**IV. Roundtable:** Instead of the traditional roundtable discussions, Floyd explained his understanding of the purpose for the discussions. The Nebraska Panhandle is divided into districts. Each district representative is to call or e-mail the public, school, academic and special libraries in his/her district and report to the PLS board the activities that are happening in the libraries. This is a great way to keep the communication open between the board and the panhandle libraries. It encourages the mutual exchanges of information and ideas. Terry C. asked if a map was available that showed the districts. Terri R. will look for a map and/or a description of the districts and pass the information to members of the board via e-mail.

## **V. Reports**

### **PLS Committee reports:**

**Annual Meeting**—The Annual meeting had just concluded and appeared to be a success. Terri R. will compile the survey results and will include the details in the next board packet.

**Tech**—Floyd had nothing new to report. He had shared information with the area librarians during the morning session concerning the consortium.

**Nominating**—The four board members who were up for re-election have accepted nominations. They were all re-elected to another term of three years.

**Scholarship**—Merrillene reported no scholarship funds have been expended. Scholarship opportunities still exist. PLS staff and committee members will continue to let the librarians in our system know scholarship money is available for use. If ever interested in applying, contact Merrillene.

**Public Relations** - Beth reported on the author tour and the final planning stages.

**Nebraska Library Commission Report:** Rod Wagner was not present for the PLS meeting. He had sent his report which was shared with the board.

**PLS Coordinator Report:** Terri R. gave her report regarding her visitations to area libraries. She also discussed the move from the old office to the new facility.

#### **VI. Old Business:**

**Coordinator Mileage Log:** Terri will begin to record her travel mileage in a daily log.

**Policy regarding disposal of system equipment:** Terri will continue to work on a policy for inventorying and disposing of unused and outdated PLS equipment. The policy recommendations for disposal will be presented at the September meeting.

#### **VII. New Business:**

**Approval of budget:** The proposed budget was in the packet for board members to review. The figures are still not correct. Floyd will continue to investigate the cause of the discrepancies. Floyd will report back to the PLS board at the September meeting. The 2011-2012 budget was not approved.

**Equipment inventory policies:** Had been discussed with old business.

**VIII. Upcoming Events/Announcements:** A list of upcoming events was included in the board packets.

**IX. Adjournment:** The PLS board entered into Executive Session at 2:03 PM to discuss NLC/PLS staff issues. The board returned from Executive Session at 3:19 PM. The meeting was adjourned by Floyd Smith III at 3:20 PM.

Secretary, Terry Christensen

November/December 2011



PLS Author Tour from left to right: Tammy Covalt, Diane deGroat, Floyd Smith III and Pat Gross.



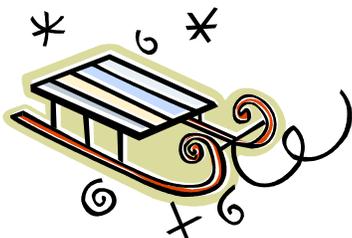
Everyone is learning at the Kapco workshop which was held at Alliance Public Library



2nd and 3rd graders are holding up signs at one of Diane deGroat's tours.



PLS Author-Diane deGroat with Floyd Smith III PLS Board President



**PLS Board Meeting**

**9-13-2011**

**The Lied Scottsbluff Public Library**

**10:00 a.m.**

I. President Floyd Smith III called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

The agenda was approved by the board.

Board members present were Floyd Smith III, Beth Trupp, Terry Christensen, Kendra Caskey, Rick Caudillo, Merrillene Wood, Roberta Boyd, Dixie Riley, Sue Shaver and Sara Brennemann. Also present were Terri Raburn, Debbie McCall and Rod Wagner.

**II. Election of Officers:** The board voted unanimously for the slate of officers for the 2011/2012 fiscal year, Floyd Smith III-President, Beth Trupp-Vice President and Terry Christensen Secretary. The nominations were approved by the board. This should have been done at the Annual Meeting July 29, 2011.

**III. Review & Approve minutes from July 29, 2011, Annual Meeting and PLS Board Meeting.** Due to technical problems at the annual meeting and the board meeting on July 29, 2011 nothing was recorded for either meeting. Terry Christensen will put together the minutes for both meetings.

**IV. Reports:**

**III. Review & Approve minutes from July 29, 2011, Annual Meeting and PLS Board Meeting.** Due to technical problems at the annual meeting and the board meeting on July 29, 2011 nothing was recorded for either meeting. Terry Christensen will put together the minutes for both meetings.

**IV. Reports:**

a. **District reports:** District A, Sue Shaver, had no report.

District B, Floyd Smith III WNFRHC, is in the thick of cataloging.

District C, Dixie Riley said the remodeling is not over at the Chappell Memorial Library and have found asbestos in the library basement floor and in the walls. The water leakage is also fixed. Chappell Memorial Library also hosted the southern librarians' meeting.

**b. Committee Reports:**

i. Annual Meeting (TC & Roberta) next year's meeting will be held in Alliance. There were approximately 64 people attending the PLS Annual Meeting. Floyd Smith and others thought the Annual meeting went well. Also the tour of the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library was great.

**Nominating** (Dixie & Sue) no report.

iii. **Public Relations** (Beth & Rick) This is a very busy time. The Diane deGroat author tour is Oct 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. The author tour training meeting went very well with 30 people attending. Books were given out to each library or school. Beth Trupp said they made sure everyone knew what is happening. Angie Shaw read the book, Gilbert the Surfer Dude. Pat Gross made cupcakes. Bookmarks were made and will be given out to students at the school performances. T-shirts were ordered and will be worn by the committee members. Diane deGroat is a very high class performer showing her wonderful literary and art work.

iv. **Scholarship** (Merrillene & Kendra) Valetta Schneider and Carol Luna are new members of this committee. Two people, Martin McAndrew and Tammy Howitt Covalt, were given scholarships of \$100.00 each to attend the NLA/NEMA convention. Merrillene Wood asked if the scholarship money left over from last year rolled over to this year's budget. Floyd Smith said the scholarship money is not rolled over to the next year. Kendra Caskey said it does roll over into the contingency fund. Floyd said well have to check on that.

v. **CE/Tech** (Sara & Floyd) Sara Brennemann will chair this committee.

**c. Shared automation project report: Floyd Smith III** – Floyd Smith gave a report at the annual meeting. Bridgeport Public Library and Sioux County Schools were among 19 libraries that have joined. Floyd Smith went to Rushville Public Library, Gordon City Library and Kimball Public Library and helped them work out some problems with Alexandria. 65,000 items are cataloged and 75,000 copies are in Alexandria. Floyd is looking for names for the consortium and will decide soon. One name being considered for the consortium is Panhandle Library Network Consortium. (PLNC.) Plnc.net is available on the net. The Panhandle Consortium already has policies. Overdrive is already in the Alexandria database. Floyd sent an email to the core group of libraries and decided the cost is a one time fee of \$14.95. Information that will be exchanged is Arthur is 102, PLS is 101, Floyd is 104, Gordon is 106 and Gering is 109 and have their own policies. We will choose umbrella name after everyone else has joined. Members joining overdrive will have to pay a \$500.00 setup fee. It will open up to the entire state and all six systems already

**d. PLS Coordinator Report: Terry Raburn:** Terri's goal over the summer was to visit all the public libraries. The Dalton Public Library was always closed. At the librarians' meetings, Terri Raburn talked to JoAnn Evans from Dalton Public Library. She said she doesn't think their library will be open much longer. Terri plans this week to start contacting all school librarians. Terri has been very busy helping with the author tour and tour meeting. Terri attended the librarians' meetings. PLS will have a KAPCO book repair workshop at the Alliance Public Library on October 21, 2011, from 9 to noon. Each library can bring as many staff as they want but there needs to be 12 libraries represented. Each participant will receive a free sample packet of materials. One person will win a Deluxe Paperback Protection Kit worth \$105.00. Librarians from the librarians' meetings want to talk about overdrive. Terri doesn't have any trips planned. The system car is running great and also has new tires.

**e. Nebraska Library Commission Report:** Rod Wagner read the NLC report.

#### **V. Old business**

**a. Budget: Floyd Smith III :** Had a problem with the green column but is correct now. The reason we don't have a budget is because we can't figure out the starting balance. Kendra stated the budget includes overflow from previous years. The check book balance is \$21000.00. Floyd's recommendation is to see what the auditor says. Floyd spent several hours going through the books. Kendra says we had a surplus because we bought the car which also included insurance. We can adopt a budget after talking to auditor.

**i. Board meetings** PLS Board members would like to have the PLS meetings at the PLS office. Dixie stated that if we do not have enough money to hold the board meetings at the office, we will have to do webinars.

**b. PLS property disposal policy. Review and approve policy.** Terri said PLS should tag everything that is loaned to libraries. Dixie Riley made a motion for the adoption of outdated property disposal. Kendra Caskey seconded. Motion passed

#### **VI. New Business**

**a. Hartford Insurance review** Floyd recommended to leave the cost and coverage the same amounts. Kendra Caskey made a motion to leave the Hartford Insurance as is. It was seconded by Beth Trupp. Motion passed.

**b. Auditor.** Merrillene Wood made the motion that Troy Hilyard from Fred Lockwood & Co. to be the new PLS auditor. Sara Brennemann seconded the motion. Motion carried. PLS does have an audit every year.

**VII. Upcoming Events / Announcements.** Upcoming events were announced. Kendra Caskey announced that the Goodall City Library received a 2.3 million grant dollar grant from the USDA. Floyd Smith III will receive an award at the NLA/NEMA convention in Lincoln.

**VIII. Executive Session** PLS Board entered into executive session at 12:05 p.m. The board exited executive session at 12:29 p.m.

**IX. Adjournment** Floyd Smith III adjourned the meeting at 12:31 p.m.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. at Railway Plaza Meeting Room.**

**115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff, NE.**

Secretary,

Terry Christensen

You are invited to...

# Gering Public Library Holiday Open House



Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 3 - 6pm

Drop in for refreshments and door prizes!

*Hosted by Gering Library staff and  
Friends of the Gering Library*





# 7th Annual Holiday Open House

at the

**West Nebraska Family Research  
& History Center**

1602 Ave. A ~ Scottsbluff, NE ~ (308) 635-2400

**Friday, December 16, 2011**

**11:00am to 7:00pm**



**Panhandle Library System**  
115 Railway Street  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

**Phone: 308-632-1350**

**Toll Free: 888-879-5303**

**Fax: 308-632-3978**

**Website: <http://libraries.ne.gov/pls>**



**PLS Board of Trustees:**

Floyd Smith III, President

Beth Trupp, Vice President

Terry Christensen, Secretary

Sara Brennemann

Kendra Caskey

Rick Caudillo

Dixie Riley

Sue Shaver

Merrillene Wood

Roberta Boyd

**Counties Served:**

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes,  
Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball,  
Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux

**PLS Coordinator: Vacant**

**Debbie McCall, Administrative Assistant**

**E-mail: [dmccall@panhandlelibsys.org](mailto:dmccall@panhandlelibsys.org)**

Panhandle Sun is published 6 times a year by the Panhandle Library System. This publication was supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State of Nebraska through the Nebraska Library Commission.

Logo photo CC-BY-NC [CoachPeterson](#).

**November/December 2011**