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the Republican Valley
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Mary Nelson—Library Lover Extraordinaire



February is the month of love and I decided to interview a person who loves libraries.

As I thought about the person who always, all the time, visits libraries, pro-



motes libraries and is an all around library lover, I kept thinking about Mary Nelson.

Mary Nelson has lived in Holdrege, Nebraska all her life except for the three years she and her husband Clark lived in Germany. Clark and Mary grew up a block apart and their parents were friends. So how did Mary develop such an abiding love for libraries and everything connected with them? Mary's family has always valued libraries, her mother-in-law was on the library board in Holdrege and she has cousins who are a part of the library community in different ways, but Mary's real passion began when her son was very young and struggling to learn to read. Mary would pull him in his little wagon the three blocks to Holdrege Public Library and he would

check out audiobooks—the book kits which have a book and a record or a book and tape. Mary's son would listen to the books and look at the words on the page. The librarian at the time was Dick Jorder and when they came back to the library, Mr. Jorder would discuss the books with Mary's son. Mary's son was soon reading and Mary's love for libraries had sent down roots that are unshakeable.



Mary and Clark have two children and two grandchildren. They have a straw bale house near Eustis that is a wonder to behold, but their primary residence is still Holdrege. Mary's husband travels for his business so at times, Mary travels with him. When Clark sells furniture, Mary visits libraries. She has probably visited more Public Libraries than the most convention-going, career librarian. After visiting all those libraries, Mary says she can tell almost immediately about the library when she walks in the door. Some of her observations are:

- Money is integral but doesn't make all the difference. She has been in some state of the art libraries who are not customer friendly.
- A progressive library is interested in the community.
- Libraries need to meet the needs of the community. Indianapolis Public Library has a branch in their shopping mall. (They have much traffic, but sometimes parents think it is a baby-sitting service) However, it is a wonderful idea.

(Continued from page 1)

- Libraries need to identify who their customer is. The new emphasis from the Gates foundation on Spanish language in the library is a great plus for libraries.
- Libraries will change radically in the next few years. Libraries are beginning on the next phase after digitization.
- Every town needs a good library as it is the foundation for school and business and it should be a safe place for children.

Mary is a Commissioner for the Nebraska Library Commission. She has been a Commissioner for 7 years and has enjoyed every part of being a commissioner. She says before she viewed libraries from the local level as she was on the Holdrege

Area Library Board, but now she thinks in terms of Nebraska libraries and beyond. Being a Commissioner is a job Mary takes very seriously and she always wants the best for libraries in RVLS and all over the state. Her newest project is called Phelps County Reads. Phelps County is going to have a One Book, One County and read *The Worst Hard Time*. Plans are developing to make it a great experience for all involved.

Mary's last comment was "libraries are very entertaining and most of all libraries are FUN!" And we, at Republican Valley Library System say to Mary, thank you for always being in our corner. Your work for Nebraska libraries has made all of us better and stronger. Thank you for loving libraries!

Sherry Houston



AWARDS – AWARDS – AWARDS 2008

John Newbery Medal

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

Newbery Honor Books

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

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt (Clarion)

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

Randolph Caldecott Medal

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick (Scholastic)

Caldecott Honor Books

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

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

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

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

Michael L. Printz Award

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

Mildred L. Batchelder Award

VIZ Media, publisher of *Brave Story*, by Miyuki Miyabe,

translated from the Japanese by Alexander O. Smith

Pura Belpré Author Award

The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Sean Qualls (Holt)

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

There Is a Bird on Your Head! by Mo Willems (Hyperion)

Odyssey Award

Jazz, Live Oak Media

Odyssey Honor Audiobooks

Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary "Jacky" Faber, Ship's Boy, Listen & Live Audio

Dooby Dooby Moo, Weston Woods/Scholastic

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Listening Library

Skulduggery Pleasant, HarperCollins Audio

Treasure Island, Listening Library

Sibert Medal

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



RVLS

Jessie Lugenbeel, Hastings native and junior at Hastings College, was named as the **2007-2008 Dee R. Yost Scholar**. Jessie is the daughter of Eric and Cindy Lugenbeel and is majoring in Secondary Education with an English Subject Endorsement. The Dee R. Yost Scholarship will ideally be awarded to a student majoring in English with an interest in Library Science. It is awarded per academic year, but may be received for a second year if a minimum GPA is maintained.



The **Youth Retreat and Summer Reading** workshop will be held in Aurora on March 13 and 14. For registration information and schedule, see your last newsletter or check out this link <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8439> Another **Summer Reading Workshop** will be held in Indianola on April 4. See registration in this newsletter.

Library Legislative Day is February 12th. Plan to come and lunch with a Senator from Nebraska. The afternoon speaker is going to be former State Senator, Dave Landis. It will be a fun day and a great way to promote libraries in the state. To register, go to this link: <http://www.selsne.org/LegDay08.pdf>

Fairfield Public Library received a Youth Grants for Excellence grant. They will purchase puppets, a puppet stage and books for their story hour. Melissa Whitefoot is the director of the Fairfield Public Library. Congratulations Melissa.

North Platte Public Library at 120 West 4th Street, North Platte, is planning a **Grand Re-opening** on **February 14th**.

Cake, coffee and punch will be served all day. Giveaways will include: calendar magnets, heart shaped lollypops, Love your Library pencils and stickers. There will be hourly drawings for Love My Public Library tote bags.

Schedule of Events:

9 am Ribbon Cutting

9:30 am and **10:30 am** Special Valentine's Day Story Time for pre-schoolers

10:30 am Tour of the Library

12 Noon Friends of the Library Brown Bag Luncheon and Program

2 pm Tour of the Library

4 pm Teen Café

6 pm Raffle drawings for boom box style stereo and a basket of music and books.
(Proceeds to support the Library Foundation.)

7 pm Tour of the Library

Love My Public Library tote bags will be on sale at \$5 each.

You are cordially invited to attend the festivities. It will be a great day of celebration for the North Platte Public Library staff, patrons and friends.

Ellison On the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

February 1, 2008: Oxford Municipal Library—Abi Bauer

March 1, 2008: Nelson Public Schools—Linda Baxter/Don Wasson

April 1, 2008: Superior Public Library—Vicki Perrie

May 1, 2008: Beaver City Public Library—Betty Oliver

June 1, 2008: Hastings Memorial Library (Grant)—Robin Quinn

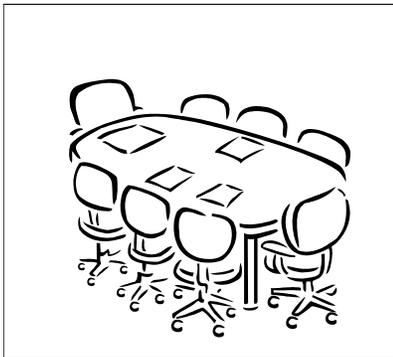
July 1, 2008: Fairfield Public Library—Melissa Whitefoot

August 15, 2008: Red Cloud Public School

September 15, 2008: Central Community College—Hastings

Also check out Story Kits, Audiobooks, Book Kits, as well as equipment that you can borrow for your Library needs.

More details on page 10 of this Newsletter



2007-2008 RVLS Board Meetings

Friday, March 7, 2008

Beaver City Public Library

Friday, June 6, 2008—Board & Annual Meeting

Hastings Museum

1330 N. Burlington Ave.

Hastings, NE

President -Judy Grandstaff

Vice-President -Patty Hall

Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members: Tony Anderson

Pat Bonge Laura Cundiff

Sonja Burpo Norma Dannatt

Nancy Cantin Terri Johnson

Vicki Casper Vicki Perrie.

All meetings begin at 10 am. Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!



It's Your

Public Library Association 2008 Conference

March 24-March 29, 2008

Take the bus to the 2008 PLA Conference for FREE. You are responsible for your own hotel arrangements and conference registrations.

John Woods, former executive with Microsoft will kick off the conference and Kevin Nealon of 'Hanz & Franz' fame, will be the closing keynote.

The conference will feature high quality educational programs, an exhibit hall, and networking opportunities and social events.

Go to www.placonference.org for conference registration, programming, special events, travel and insider tips on everything Minneapolis has to offer.

Sign up deadline: March 3rd, 2008
Contact Jenni Puchalla,
5730 R St., Ste. C-1,
Lincoln, NE 68505
jennip@alltel.net or
800-288-6063/467-6188

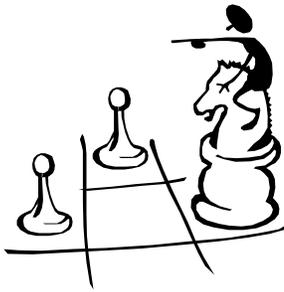
The next **College of DuPage Teleconference - Soaring to Excellence** will be February 8, 2008.

It is called "People Watching with a Purpose: Meeting Needs Before They Need It". It will be from 11:00 until 12:30 CT. You receive 1.5 CE when you watch and if you form a group you receive more. Contact Laura Johnson at the Nebraska Library Commission for more information:

ljohnson@nlc.state.ne.us

To see more about College of DuPage:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/2210.html>



Serve Your Spanish Speaking Customers. There is still time to sign up for the Gates Foundation workshop. It is an all day meeting, it costs nothing, and you get lunch. Sally Snyder is the key presenter. February 7 is North Platte and February 8th is Grand Island. For a list of sites, more information, other locations, dates around the state, and to register, go to this link: http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/2007/12/serving_your_spanish-speaking_customers.html

Basic Skills will be held at the North Platte Community College on April 8, 15, and 22. Sharon Mason will be teaching Organization of Materials. It will be from 10 until 3 with an hour for lunch. Sharon will be teaching the same class at EUS 10 in Kearney April 11, 18, and 25. You can attend a class one week in North Platte and the next week in Kearney. Watch the Library Training calendar on the Nebraska Library Commission website to register: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp>

One Book One State 2008

Governor Dave Heineman issued a proclamation on January 22, announcing *Restoring the Burnt Child*, by Nebraska's own State Poet William Kloefkorn as the One Book One State 2008 read. Plans are underway for materials and resources to support statewide programming in libraries and other venues. Republican Valley Library System will have copies available for your book groups to use for a group read. Dr. Kloefkorn also will be part of the Speaker's Bureau for the Nebraska Humanities Council allowing libraries in Nebraska to have a presentation by Dr. Kloefkorn for a minimal cost. Go to www.nebraskahumanities.org and click on Speakers and Resources for more information. Dr. Kloefkorn will be the keynote speaker for the Republican Valley Library System Annual Meeting on June 6, 2008.

March 2-8, 2008 is Teen Tech Week, a national initiative sponsored by the American Library Association's Young Adult Library Services Association, is aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other concerned adults. Teen Tech Week encourages teens to use libraries' nonprint resources (DVDs, databases, audiobooks, and video games) for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology. Libraries are encouraged to register at www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/ttw.cfm and access activities and other resources. Apply for a Teen Tech Week Mini Grant at www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/



On the Bookshelf



The following item has been recently added to the RVLS Professional Collection:

Books on CD

- *T is for Trespass....* by Sue Grafton

Periodicals Routed

American Libraries

Book Links

BookList

Bookmarks

BookPage

Computers in Libraries

Crinkles

Foreward

Knowledge Quest

Library Media Connection

Library Sparks

The Mailbox Bookbag

Multimedia & Internet @Schools

Public Libraries

School Library Journal

School Library Media Activities Monthly

Voya

Technology & Learning



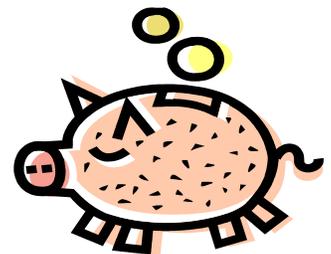
If you would like to be included on the routing list for any of these periodicals, please contact the System office at: 800-569-4961 or e-mail rvlsasst@inebraska.com.

To see a list of all available items for loan, go to :

<www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html>.

RVLS SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

Don't Forget **RVLS** has **scholarship money** available for you to use to attend conferences, RVLS annual meeting, leadership institutes or workshops.



You may apply on line at

http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/SCHOLARSHIP_APPLICATION.pdf





COPYRIGHT CONCERNS

By Phyllis Brunken

Copyright Law– Part 3

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

Part III – Fair Use and the Public Librarian

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

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

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

Librarian can probably meet the first fact -- a nonprofit educational purpose. The remaining three factors of nature, amount and effect must also support the concept of fair use.

Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken pbrunken@cox.net I am not an attorney and this article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law.

Note: Effective January 1, 2008, Kenneth D. Crews, Director of the Copyright Management Center at Indiana University, has been appointed the Director of Columbia's new Copyright Advisory Office. The Copyright Center at University of Indiana website may no longer be available. <http://www.copyright.iupui.edu/>

RVLS Calendar



February 2008

- 7—Gates Training for Spanish speakers at the Quality Inn Sandoz Convention Center
- 8—Gates Training for Spanish speakers at Grand Island Public Library
- 8—College of DuPage Soaring to Excellence teleconference 11:00—12:30 CT
- 12—NLA Legislative Day
- 14—Grand Re-Opening of North Platte Public Library—See Page 3

March 2008

- 2-8—Teen Tech Week
- 7—RVLS Board Meeting, Beaver City Public Library
- 11—Vision of the Future for Libraries & Media Centers, ESU # 15, McCook —See page 11
- 13-14—Youth Retreat and Summer Reading Program Workshop in Aurora
- 24-29—PLA 12th National Conference, Minneapolis –Take the Bus!

April 2008

- 4—RVLS Summer Reading in Indianola – “**Catch the Reading Bug**” — See Page 14
- 8, 15, 22—Basic Skills, North Platte Community College—Organization of Materials
- 11, 18, 25—Basic Skills, ESU 10 —Organization of Materials
- 10—Spring Colloquium 2008—See Page 15
- 15—Ben Mikaelson in Hildreth and Holdrege
- 16—Ben Mikaelson at Hastings Middle School
- 29-May 2—MPLA Salt Lake City

May 2008

- 15—Vendor Day, Nebraska Library Commission

June 2008

- 6—RVLS Annual Meeting, Hastings Museum, 1330 N. Burlington Ave., Hastings, NE

October 2008

- 15-17—NLA/NEMA Annual Conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, NE



The Case of the Missing Guests

November 22, 2007: I'm circling the kitchen table with eight Ruby Red antique plates in hand. I'm feeling vaguely uneasy. Something seems to be out of sync, out of our usual Thanksgiving Day rhythm. I glance back and forth from the kitchen table to my stack of plates. What is causing this restless feeling? I know what it is! I only have eight plates in hand. Why is that a problem, my little sleuths? It's because I'm minus 22 of my usual guests. Yes, any other year we have a rambunctious household stuffed to the gills with people. Our extra table is brought out and positioned at the end of the expanded oak table. Then I smush as many people around the tables as I can. Some people have to stand but no one minds. The important thing is that we are all smushed in together. After dinner we get Scrabble, Euchre, Quiddler or some other games going. Mom and I play duets on the piano. Even though that is more like mom playing and occasionally I jump in when I can find my place. Eight people! It was so quiet that some of us even took naps after dinner. After listening to me bemoan the small numbers, my husband pointed out that I needed to get used to not having everyone here for the holidays. As our children are all growing up, going to school, getting married, he pointed out that I needed to deal with not having all hands on deck. In quite a snappish tone I informed him that I might have to get used to it but I didn't have to like it! He quickly retreated upstairs, feeling thankful that he could get away from me.

I was thankful though that I found a new mystery series that I am enjoying, recommended to me by none other than your own Sherry Houston. It's written by a mother-daughter team calling themselves, P.J. Tracy. They have four books out so far; Monkeewrench, Live Bait, Dead Run, and Snow Blind. These books follow the trend of women sleuths that have lived their lives without family. For some reason, which I don't understand, the lack of family makes them excellent investigators. This is along the theme of books such as the Mallory series written by Carol O'Connell. Mallory was a street child taken in by a police detective and his wife. They raised her but they could never tame her. She becomes an excellent if not just a little scary detective. Sue Grafton's, Kinsey Malone, character is a loner who has a difficult time developing and keeping relationships going. I love to read about these hardened loners but I don't want to be them!

December 25, 2007: Life is good! Everyone was smushed around the table. I had to use all my antique plates and then some. The wall of sound could have knocked one over. Ahhh! Back to how things should be. At the end of the day my sister-in-law graciously asked if her family could contribute a monetary amount towards the meal since they live too far away to be able to bring much food. It was a caring offer but I declined. With my family present and accounted for they had already contributed the only thing that I wanted. I guess I'll never be a loner! Oh, well, I'll just happily learn to live with it.

Have a great 2008 and start your reading engines!

Submitted by Cathy Mohnike
Sutton Public School

NEW YEAR—NEW RVLS WEB PAGE

Republican Valley Library System has a new web page. If you haven't looked at it, take a look. We are now in the Library 2.0 world. To access www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican

Part of the page is a **blog**. You can reply to the comment that is on the website by just clicking the word comment and click nickname, anonymous or log in, whichever is the easiest thing to do. Everything is supposed to be user friendly and easy.

You can look at the **pictures** of RVLS things by going on the left side and clicking the word photos. This is all from Flickr, but if you want to copy and paste a picture into something you are doing, it is easy. We plan to add all the pictures we get this year from summer reading so they will be available for everyone to see. Send us any pictures of your library activities and we will add them to our account. They will always be available.

You can see **links** to all sorts of library stuff on the internet by clicking the word links. When we find something we think should be on the site, we just have to add it to de.licio.us. We are soooo cool! If you know sites you think should be added send them to us.

The **calendar** works well. Click on the date and the explanation will come up. We plan to keep it up to date so check it out.

Everything is very trendy and easy to use; however, today the telephone lines are down and so we can't get to anything....hmm! The moral is have another plan just in case!!



Book Sets Available

RVLS has the following Book Sets available for check-out. All the sets have study questions and some have other information to assist with your book group.

- *One False Move* by Alex Kava (4 hardbacks and 8 paperbacks)
Recommended for Adult Audience. A crime novel set in Nebraska written by a Nebraska author.
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak (14 paperbacks and one unabridged audiobook)
Recommended for Grades 9-12 or Adult Audience. Consider using this with a group of senior citizens as it is about Nazi Germany and the Holocaust told from the German perspective.
- *Crazy Horse* by Mari Sandoz (15 paperbacks)
Recommended for Grades 9-12 or Adult Audience. Nebraska's very own Mari Sandoz writes about the last days of Crazy Horse.
- *Rescue Josh McGuire* by Ben Mikaelson (14 paperbacks)
Recommended for Grades 4-6. An adventure story set in the Montana wilderness.
These book sets are checked out for 6 weeks to libraries/media centers, book groups, or anyone else interested in having a group reading experience.

The Nebraska Library Systems received a Youth Services grant from the Nebraska Library Commission to purchase more book sets for check-out so watch for new sets on this list. We will be adding at least 10 new titles very soon. If you have any recommendations, e-mail us with the titles. The books have to be for Kids in Grades 4-12 so we can't get adult books this time!





VISION of the Future
 For
LIBRARIES AND MEDIA CENTERS
 Sponsored by RVLS and ESU #15

When: Tuesday—March 11, 2008

Where: Country Kitchen, Highway 6 & 34, McCook, NE

No Workshop Charge / Lunch on your own

Agenda:

10:00—11:00 **AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner**
Presenter: Judy Henning,
 Kearney Public Schools

11:00—11:45 **Focus Group—The Future Course of NEBRASKA Libraries**
Facilitator: Sherry Houston
 RVLS

11:45—1:00 **Lunch on your Own**
Duane Munson Book Exhibit
 (Duane Munson will have his book exhibit all day.)

1:00—3:30 **Assessment**
Presenter: Dr. Pam Springer
 Papillion-LaVista Schools

Register for "Vision of the Future" with RVLS Office or ESU 15

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Verjean Garey
ESU #15
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**Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting
January 11, 2008 10:00 a.m.**

RVLS Office Landmark Center

2727 West 2nd Street Hastings NE 68901

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Pat Bonge, Vicki Casper, Suzann Christensen, Laura Cundiff (following doctor appointment), Norma Dannatt, Judy Grandstaff, Patty Hall, Terri Johnson, Vicki Perrie

OTHERS PRESENT: Sherry Houston (System Administrator), Kay Kloppenborg (Administrative Assistant), Sally Snyder (NLC), Mary Nelson (NLC Commissioner), Jim Conner (Trustee College Consulting Team)

ABSENT: Sonja Burpo, Nancy Cantin

PRIOR TO THE MEETING: The board thanks Sherry, Kay and Judy Grandstaff for providing morning refreshments AND a wonderful lunch. Wow! *Thank you.*

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: President Judy Grandstaff called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Introductions were made and roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2007 meeting was made by Vicki Perrie and seconded by Terri Johnson. Motion carried. Mary Nelson will bring a copy of **The Book of Spam** to the March meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sherry explained the different financial reports and answered questions. We are doing well financially and have expended 46% of this year's budgeted funds. The financial report was filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE: Several thank you messages were shared (for calendars, scholarships, and from members of the Maywood sophomore class after using the One Book One Nebraska **Crazy Horse** book kit).

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: *[A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.]* Sherry highlighted portions of her administrator's report, including the December 12 NACO meeting and the upcoming April 10 Spring Colloquium featuring Gene Ambaum (not his real name) and co-writer/artist Bill Barnes who created "Unshelved". The RVLS office has been reorganized and files cleaned. An updated RVLS directory was published and distributed. The NLA Paraprofessional spring meeting will be held March 19 and will be a videoconference using sites across the state. Judy gave an update about the Basic Skills classes taught in November.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be held on June 6 in Hastings at the Hastings Museum. Room rental is \$50 and Sherry will contact a caterer. Several catering possibilities were offered. William Kloefkorn, author of One Book One Nebraska title **Restoring the Burnt Child**, will speak. The Nebraska Humanities Council may underwrite Mr. Kloefkorn's costs.

Web Page/Camera: The RVLS web site, which is in the form of a blog, is up and operational. *(It looks wonderful -- thank you, Michael Sauers!)* The purchase of a new Canon 870 camera was necessary. Sherry and Kay are learning how to keep the web site current.

Summer Reading Program: There will be two opportunities for participation in summer reading program workshops; a two-day Youth Services Retreat in Aurora on March 13-14 and a one-day session in Indianola (hosted by Judith Hollers) which will be held at the Indianola Christian Church on April 4. Patty Hall and staff will be presenters.

Book Kit Grant: All library systems received a Youth Grants for Excellence grant (approximately \$2,150 per system) which will be used to purchase young adult book kits (ten different titles, 20 books per title). Suggestions for titles have been given to Sherry. Storage space is an issue for the RVLS office. Sherry will begin weeding the older videotapes.

NEW BUSINESS

Gates: Serving Your Spanish Speaking Community: Sally Snyder shared information about these workshops, which will be held at nine sites around the state. They are funded by the Gates Foundation and presented via WebJunction. There will be lots of information presented and anyone is encouraged to attend.

Automation Workshop in Seward: Presentations will be made on January 25 by Follett, Biblionex, Polaris and ONELibrary Consortium. Discussion was held regarding a statewide library consortium. Mary Nelson spoke about changes being made in Talking Books. The new format will be flash drives and variable-speed reading machines. The state is currently planning for a six-year changeover period. Information was also shared about the bus trip to PLA in Minneapolis (March 24-29).

RVLS Board Meeting Mins. 1-11-08—continued from page 12

Library Legislative Day: February 12 is NLA Legislative Day. Efforts are made to be sure all area senators are invited. RVLS pays for their meals. If you have library volunteers who should be recognized, please nominate them.

CE Calendar: A meeting will be held on February 29 at UNO in an effort to create a more organized statewide continuing education calendar. (Judy Grandstaff dubbed this effort an “uber-meeting”.)

One Book One State: Sally Snyder brought RVLS a book kit for **The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak, the One Book One State Teens title. Discussion was held regarding ways to publicize this title as a multigenerational read, including posters, flyers and a possible author visit to Nebraska.

Computers Giveaway: RVLS has an older laptop and a digital camera which are no longer being used. It was decided by consensus to have interested libraries submit names for a drawing. Libraries may enter drawings for both items but may only win one.

Geographical Gatherings: Sherry shared information about the Nebraska Library Futures conference which will be held in June 2008. Prior to this meeting, focus groups will be held seeking feedback about library and information services. Focus group questions have already been formulated. Sherry will schedule a couple of focus groups as geographical gatherings. Suggestions for meeting places were North Platte and McCook.

Board Meetings and Members: The terms of Norma Dannatt, Vicki Perrie and Sonja Burpo will end in June. We will also replace the position of Nancy Cantin. Sherry discussed mileage costs for board meetings (\$500+ each time) and asked whether we should consider using OPAL or teleconferencing for at least one board meeting. Further discussion will be held in March.

NLC Representative/Report: Sally Snyder (*thank you, Sally!*) shared lilac/lavender/periwinkle handouts which listed these topics:

- Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Meeting
- “We the People Bookshelf”
- Public Library Statistics Report
- College of DuPage Teleconferences 2007-2008
- Student Internship Grants for Accredited Public Libraries and Certain State Institutional Libraries
- MARC 21 Bibliographic Records Training
- 2008 Summer Reading Program Materials
- Talking Book and Braille Services Advisory Committee Needs Nominees
- Nebraska Community Foundation Annual Report and Libraries
- NLA Legislative Day – February 12, 2008
- Computers in Libraries 2008 Conference Discount
- Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers Workshops
- Dollars for Data Libraries

NLC Commissioner/Report: Mary Nelson gave information about the 2007 Web Team Report (Lisa Kelly). NLC is working on revising its website. Mary shared handouts about an ROI (return on investment) calculator for library services (<http://www.lrs.org/public/roi/usercalculator.php>) which helps show the monetary value of your library.

Jim Conner/Trustee College Consulting Team: Mr. Conner spoke about his Effective Community Leadership Skills workshops which may be used to teach Trustees about the importance of libraries and Trustees’ responsibilities. Mr. Conner also serves on the Gates Foundation Advisory Committee. RVLS and Meridian systems are meeting with Mr. Conner to discuss a local Trustees workshop. Mr. Conner is also beginning to visit with NLC about his services.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: 10:00 a.m., March 7, Beaver City Public Library

Meeting adjourned, 12:18 p.m. After Sherry took a gazillion pictures of us, we ate a delicious lunch.

Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary



Catch The Reading Bug



Summer Reading Program

Indianola Christian Church

Corner of 5th & E Street

Indianola, NE

402-984-3882

\$15.00 Registration, includes lunch

9:30 - 11:00 Sally Snyder - Books

11:00 - 12:00 Idea Exchange

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch and Shopping for Summer Reading Program items

1:00 - 3:30 Crafts, Songs, Stories and Games with Jody Crocker

Bring ideas to share with the group OR

Send them in early and we'll copy them for you.

We'll have the Ellison there, so bring paper.

Registration for Summer Reading Program--Catch the Reading Bug in (Indianola)

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Library: _____

Registration Fee enclosed _____

Send to: Republican Valley Library System
2727 W. 2nd Street Suite #233
Hastings, NE 68901

or e-mail
rvlsasst@inebraska.com
rvlsadmin@inebraska.com



Spring Colloquium - 2008



A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Library Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum, the *Unshelved* guys

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

About Bill Barnes

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

About Gene Ambaum

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

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

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

Schedule of Events

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

Dinner: Windsor Pork Loin or Chicken Oscar or Tortellini Rosa

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

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

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

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

Name _____ Library _____
 Work phone _____ Work email _____

Please choose one: Pork Chicken Tortellini

Send completed registration form & payment of **\$35.00** to: **Southeast Library System,**
 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505. **Deadline: Wednesday April 2, 2008.**



Jerome K. Jerome

“It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do.”

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