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Republican Valley Library
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We reserve the right to
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What Should We Do??

Many libraries, both school and public, are wondering what to do about their existing library automation systems. Some have older programs that will not work with new computer operating systems (i.e. Windows 7). Others have products that are no longer supported (companies have gone out of business or been purchased). And, still more are trying to decide if they are getting their money's worth with the expensive maintenance agreements that are in place. Some libraries have never automated and would like to do so now, but are confused by the dizzying number of companies and options.

Selecting an automation program or **I**ntegrated **L**ibrary **S**ystem can be time-consuming. Each library director and board need to examine a variety of products and decide what level of service the budget will allow and, within that parameter, which system will fulfill the community's needs. Systems are available with a variety of functionality in every price range.

Purchasing an ILS is an important, long-lasting, and possibly, expensive decision. Here is a list of well-known vendors in alphabetical order and their websites. Contact information is provided, as well. The prices included in this article are "ball park" figures only. Actual prices are based on many factors including the size of the collection, number of workstations, and the add-on services requested (i.e. book jacket covers, reviews, etc.) and are subject to change. Please contact the individual vendors for specific pricing for your library.

Auto-graphics, AGent VERSO: <http://www4.auto-graphics.com/>. Complete ILS with catalog access for patrons via the Internet. Recently purchased by Lexington Public Library, but their online catalog is not yet operational. No cost information available. For specific details, contact Lynn D. Shrewsbury, Midwest Sales Representative, at lds@auto-graphics.com or call (800) 776-6939 Ext. 1538.

Biblionix, Apollo: <http://www.biblionix.com/products/apollo/>. An automation system designed for small- and medium-sized public libraries. Vendor offers a free trial with a demonstration library or your own data. Service subscription prices are quoted on an individual library basis. This is a hosted system and the annual fee includes all server functionality, backups, customer support, upgrades, and access to a user forum. The local contact is Clark Charbonnet. Email him at clark@biblionix.com for more information.

Book Systems, Atrium: <http://www.atrium.net/>. Complete ILS with catalog access for patrons via the Internet. First year cost including all transition expenses, technical support and training is approximately \$2,000. This system would be hosted by Book Systems, so very little local technical support is needed. The yearly cost of \$995 includes the Customer Service Agreement (technical support), the Hosting Fee, and all upgrades. The local representative is Merideth Wilcox. Email his assistant, Catherine LaMori at clamori@booksys.com or call (800) 249-6574 Ext. 6764 for more information or to schedule a demonstration.

Continued from page 1

COMPanion Corporation, Alexandria: <http://www.goalexandria.com/>. This is the system that the consortium in the Panhandle is using. To see the catalog, go to <http://libraries.ne.gov/sidney> and click on “Library Catalog” on the right-hand side of the page. According to a recent presentation to an RVLS library, the first year cost would be around \$1,500 with a yearly Customer Service Agreement fee of nearly \$900 after the first year. For more information, email info@companioncorp.com.

Follett, Destiny: <http://www.follettsoftware.com/library-automation-software>. A centrally-installed school library software system. Can be either district-hosted with your own technical support staff or hosted by Follett. A number of small public libraries have older Follett products, but this company has specialized their ILS software and support for schools. No cost information is available. Call (800) 323-3397 for more information.

InfoVision, Evolve: http://infovisionsoftware.com/library_software.php. Complete ILS designed for maximum convenience and ease of use, the system can be accessed over the Internet or run on your own servers. For libraries with 15,000 records or less the software cost is \$2,400. Implementation and training, including 2 full days of in-house training and data conversion, is \$2,500. These expenses can be set up on an extended payment plan. The \$900 yearly maintenance fee includes hosting, all upgrades, and call-in and online technical support. This fee is negotiable for small libraries. Contact Sarah Overbey for complete pricing details at soverbey@infovisionsoftware.com or (800) 849-1655 Ext. 106.

Library Thing: <http://www.librarything.com/>. Allows anyone to create a catalog of materials for free or very low cost (unlimited materials for a one-time \$25 fee). No automated circulation system—library would use pockets and cards. Biggest benefit—patrons can see your catalog online. RVLS is in the process of adding our professional collection and audio-books to Library Thing. See it at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/RepValleyLibrarySys>. Sort by using the drop-down “Collections” menu in the upper left-hand corner of the page.

Library World: <http://www.libraryworld.com/>. Complete web-based library automation service which includes management of cataloging, circulation, patron records, inventory control, and reports. Loomis Public School uses Library World. You can access their catalog at <http://loomiswolves.org/>. Click on “Loomis Library Online” on the left-hand side of the page. New libraries are created with an automatic free 30-day trial period. Up to 50,000 catalog records and 20,000 patrons is \$425 per year. Support is provided online, via email, and through a toll-free number. Automation supplies such as barcodes and scanners are available for purchase. For further information call (800) 852-2777 or email sales@libraryworld.com.

Mandarin, M3: <http://www.mlasolutions.com/products/m3.php>. The basic M3 library management package is offered as a free download. Modules included are a patron access catalog, circulation, cataloging, and group editor. Does not include web access to the catalog unless optional product is purchased for \$260. Annual Service and Update Agreement is \$620 per site and includes the software license, reports, unlimited 24/7/365 technical support and product updates. The yearly fee for web access to the catalog is an additional \$125. The Nebraska Library Commission uses a Mandarin catalog. To see it, go to <http://nlc.nebraska.gov> and click on “NLC Catalog” at the top of the webpage. For more information, contact Arthur Graham at artg@mlasolutions.com or (800) 426-7477 Ext. 751.

Pioneer Library Automation Consortium: <http://lcpioneer.wordpress.com/>. This Nebraska group uses Koha Open Source ILS software. There are currently 16 member libraries. The intention is to be a multi-type consortium, but public libraries remain the priority for 2012. Holdrege Area Public Library is one of the founding members of this consortium. To see the catalog, go to <http://holdregelibrary.org/> and click on “Search Online Catalog” on the left-hand side of the webpage. Basic membership costs include a \$250 orientation fee, a one-time database set-up fee based on the library’s number of bibliographic records (up to 25,000 records = \$750), and 15 cents per record migrated. The annual maintenance fee is based on several factors including size of legal service area, operating revenue, collection size, and circulation. The expected minimum annual payment is \$350. No server hardware is required. If you have any questions or comments about membership in the Pioneer Consortium, please contact Steve Fosselman of the Pioneer membership committee at sf@gi.lib.ne.us or 308-385-5333.

PrimaSoft Small Library Organizer Pro: http://www.primasoft.com/pro_software/library_software_pro.htm. Self-contained library software that will manage circulation, cataloging, patron records, and reports. No online catalog access for patrons. 30-day free trial. Total cost is \$245.

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.

**May, 2012 — Hastings Memorial Library,
Grant, NE**

**June, 2012—Dundy County Library,
Benkelman**

**July, 2012—Bartley Public Library,
Bartley, NE**

**Aug. 2012— Red Cloud Public School
Red Cloud, NE**

Not booked after August, 2012.

If you would like to schedule a time for your library to use the Ellison.

Please email us at:

**rvlsasst@inebraska.com or
rvlsadmin@inebraska.com**

SYNC Summer 2012

**2 Free Audiobook Downloads Each Week
This Summer June 14 - August 22, 2012**



Teens and other readers of Young Adult Literature will have the opportunity to listen to bestselling titles and required reading classics this summer. Every summer, SYNC YA Listening pairs with AudioFile to provide

two **FREE** audiobooks each week. They pair a contemporary young adult book with a classic piece of literature.

The list includes many titles that are bound to be on high school summer reading lists including *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Grapes of Wrath*, and *The Call of the Wild*.

RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name _____

Library _____

Event _____

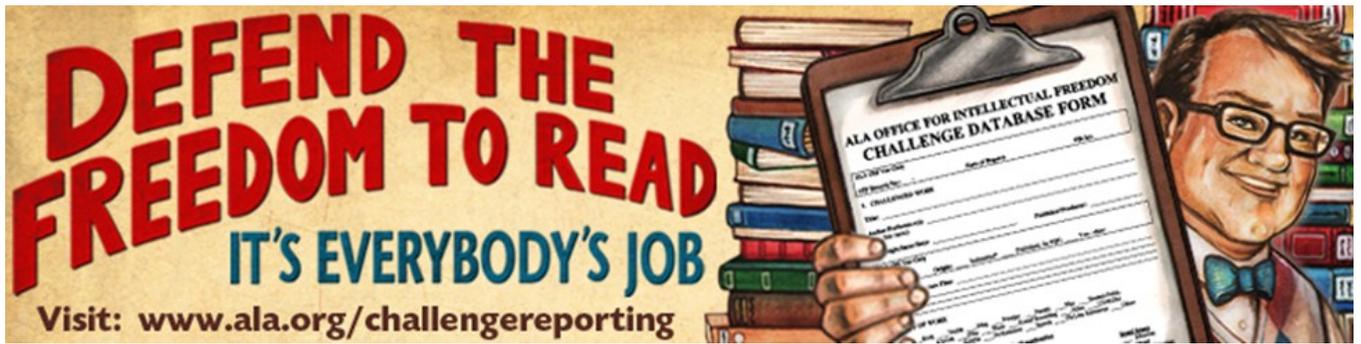
Date of event _____

Scholarship requested for _____ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested _____

Other information:

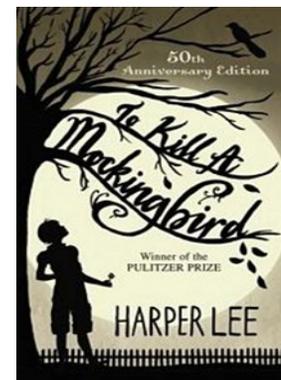
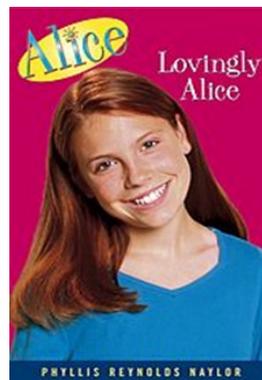
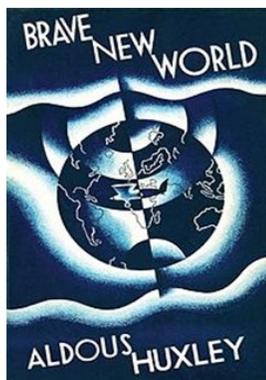




Top Ten Banned Books of 2011

This list of the **Top 10 Banned Books of 2011** was compiled by the Office for Intellectual Freedom (American Library Association) from 326 recorded challenges.

- ◇ *ttyl; ttfn; l8r, g8r* (series), by Lauren Myracle (offensive language; religious viewpoint; sexually explicit; unsuited to age group)
- ◇ *The Color of Earth* (series), by Kim Dong Hwa (nudity; sex education; sexually explicit; unsuited to age group)
- ◇ *The Hunger Games* trilogy, by Suzanne Collins (anti-ethnic; anti-family; insensitivity; offensive language; occult/satanic; violence)
- ◇ *My Mom's Having A Baby! A Kid's Month-by-Month Guide to Pregnancy*, by Dori Hillestad Butler (nudity; sex education; sexually explicit; unsuited to age group)
- ◇ *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie (offensive language; racism; religious viewpoint; sexually explicit; unsuited to age group)
- ◇ *Alice* (series), by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (nudity; offensive language; religious viewpoint)
- ◇ *Brave New World*, by Aldous Huxley (insensitivity; nudity; racism; religious viewpoint; sexually explicit)
- ◇ *What My Mother Doesn't Know*, by Sonya Sones (nudity; offensive language; sexually explicit)
- ◇ *Gossip Girl* (series), by Cecily Von Ziegesar (drugs; offensive language; sexually explicit)
- ◇ *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee (offensive language; racism)



NLA—ADVOCACY DAY—2012

Terri Johnson from North Platte Public Library was a recipient of a scholarship from RVLS to attend Advocacy Day—2012. Her comments are:

Thanks so much for the scholarship to attend Advocacy Day. Tim and I really enjoyed the opportunity to talk with our senator, see the legislature in action and to gain more ideas in advocating for libraries. We really enjoyed having lunch with you as well. Below is my report of the day.

NLA Advocacy Day 2012

What a pleasure to attend an NLA Advocacy Day (formerly known as Legislative Day) without snow. The 8 AM coffee and donut hour at the state capitol was crowded with librarians, state senators and conversation. My husband, Tim, and I quickly found our District 42 senator, Tom Hansen, who also happens to be the brother of a good friend of ours. After a few minutes of trying to talk over the noise of the group, he invited us to his office to visit. Tina Walker from Mid Plains Community College joined us and we had an hour to visit with Senator Hansen about his work on the appropriations committee and the bills he was interested in this term. He promised to come in and visit our library soon. The appropriations committee had a noon meeting so he wouldn't be able to join us for lunch.

Next on the agenda was a briefing by NLA lobbyist Ken Winston, Rod Wagner and a few Nebraska Library Commissioners including Steve Batty from McCook. They encouraged us to build our users into advocates. You can start with a community group and have a member of that group help you in the planning process of how you can work together. Advocacy resources are available on both the AASL and ALA websites. I came home and found the following talking points: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/advocacyuniversity/toolkit/talkingpoints/librarysupport>

There was over an hour between the briefing and lunch to allow librarians to visit their senators' offices and many did. The Omaha Public Library actually assigned their attendees 3 offices each. Most had to visit with senators' aides as the legislature was in session. I've learned from the past that the aides do influence decisions so visiting with them is never a waste of time. Tim and I walked up the stairs to the chamber gallery and watched the senators in action as they discussed the merit of a child welfare bill.

The luncheon at the Cornhusker hotel was jam-packed with librarians and senators slipped in as they could get away from the legislative session. We enjoyed sitting with our own RVLS Director Denise and a CCC library student, Michelle McCay-Broyles and librarians from the eastern edge of the state and their senator from Plattsmouth. The highlight for me was Ogallala library director Kendra Kaskie's great talk on the value of a dollar invested in a library. Asking for a dollar from someone in the audience, she gave examples of the usefulness of libraries and finally when returning the dollar, she kept adding several more dollars as "return of the investment." I hope the senators got the point. The luncheon ended with the presentation of the volunteer awards. The volunteers ranged from about 14 years old to 83 years "young" and also included an entire Friends organization.

I greatly appreciated receiving a scholarship to attend this informative day.

Terri Johnson, North Platte Public Library



The YART Spring Meeting was held at Gothenburg Public Library on Saturday, April 14, with twelve people in attendance. See <http://www.delicious.com/nlayart/> for links to Young Adult blogs; information on grants for school and public libraries; book reviews; and handouts from this meeting. The YART Fall Meeting will be held in September in the eastern part of the state.

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting
March 2, 2012—10:00 am
Landmark Center
Hastings NE

PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Jody Crocker, Jane Hilton, Mo Khamouna, Vicki Perrie, Sky Seery, Dana Wade, Claudette Wielechowski,

ABSENT: Fe Cogley, Vicki Casper, Beth Falla

ALSO PRESENT: Denise Harders (Systems Administrator), Richard Miller (NLC Rep), Steve Batty (NLC Commissioner), Darlene Brumbaugh (Glenvil Public Library)

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mo Khamouna called the meeting to order at 10:12 am. (Introductions were performed a bit later.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (1.6.12) Correction – Page 2, New Business, Public Library Association Conference: the word "deets" should be "details". Vicki Perrie moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Tony Anderson seconded.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The checking account transactions were broken down to be very specific. Very helpful...thanks! Budget is on track, with 66% of the year completed and 68% of the budget spent. Denise reported that the E-Rate 2010 was received this week. Claudette Wielechowski made a motion to accept the financial reports, Dana Wade seconded.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mary Nelson sent a note regarding her gift that was purchased as a thank you for her time serving on the board. Vicki Perrie, Krista Schaffer, Michelle McKay-Bowles, and Sky Seery sent notes to Denise thanking her for meeting with them for their Foundations of Library and Info class. Sky Seery thanked Denise for writing a recommendation. Jane Hilton sent a note of thanks for the scholarship.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Denise is crazy busy! {That means she's super busy, not crazy.} There have been a lot of library visits, meetings, workshops and webinars. Disc cleaning numbers are in. 384 have been cleaned with 222 discs cleaned since 1.2.12. Income total is \$68.05 thus far. Puppet order went in, 4 new dies for the Ellison Machine have been ordered as well. The System is preparing an Automation list for the libraries. There were 49 responses with positive results for the Services survey. Denise will submit the report to Kathryn Brockmeier for the 5 year-end report.

The RVLS office will be closed the afternoon of April 6th (Good Friday) and all day on April 27th (Arbor Day) and May 28th (Memorial Day).

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting – June 1, 2012 @ Dancing Leaf Earth Lodge, Wellfleet, NE. Registration is due by May 23, 2012. Lunch will be a buffalo stew {:/}, blue corn muffin and fruit/veggie trays. Casual attire/walking shoes are heavily suggested. All member libraries are welcome!

NEW BUSINESS:

RVLS Board Nominations – Due May 1, voted on at the Annual Meeting. There are 3 slots to fill due to board departure, and term limits. Mo and Dana will be on the ballot again, if desired as their first terms are up. There are a couple of people who have expressed interest.

Benefits for Administrative Assistant – Changes were made so that the Benefit Payment in the amount of the 15% of the gross pay will be awarded monthly as opposed to quarterly. Tony moved that the change be accepted. Vickie Perrie seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Periodicals Jobber – Popular Subscription Service – Periodicals Jobber submitted the quote to manage the subscriptions and RVLS will save \$11.00 and their sanity. Sounds like a win-win situation.

NLC COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

Steve brought a price list back from a conference for anti-virus software. He also shared about book repair machine. Attended NCompass Live on 2.15.12, Turning Your Library Around and had great reviews for it and highly recommends it. Steve purchased 6 Flip Cams through TechSoup and gave a short demo.

NLC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Nebraska Learns 2.0 has moved to <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nelearns>. Don't forget to check out the NCompass Live programs or watch when you have time via the Archives. Contact Christa Burns at the Commission if you are interested in hosting a presentation. **Basic Skills** are off and running, all are taught online using Moodle. See Commission website for more info. The Commission has 37 copies of "*I Am A Man*": *Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice* by Joe Starita for book clubs, etc. **2012 Nebraska Book Festival** is March 31 at 2 venues in Lincoln. See, <http://bookfestival.nebraska.gov> for more info. **Big Talk from Small Libraries** had a fabulous turnout with 444 attendees. All sessions will be processed and available in the archives. **Academic Freedom Video Contest** deadline is March 23rd. There are plenty of **grant opportunities** out there, see the NLC Blog for the full details. **SOPA and PIPA**, oh they are bad, bad news. Sure it's been postponed for the time being but libraries need to be aware of what it is and why it's concerning. See the recording of the NCompass Live session about this important issue. There are **47 webinars** (free, mind you!) in March. Take advantage of them! <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/CE/webinars.aspx>

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 with Jane Hilton making a motion to adjourn and Vickie Perrie seconding. The group then had a delicious lunch at Hunan's.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Annual Meeting – June 1st, (9 am) at Dancing Leaf Earth Lodge in Wellfleet.

Submitted by Sky Seery, RVLS Board Secretary

HAVE YOU EVER.....

Printable Paper

Have you ever had a child (or a child's parent) ask for graph paper to complete a homework assignment? This amazing website has over 900 papers you can download and print for **free**. They have graph paper, lined paper, financial paper, music paper and MORE. <http://www.printablepaper.net/>

Books in Series

Have you ever wondered which book came before or after a series title? Do you need to know the authors of the *39 Clues* series? The Nebraska Library Commission maintains a site that will answer all your series questions.
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/ref/booksinseries.asp>

Board Member Vacancy.....

If you, or someone you know, would like to be on the RVLS Board, we have 3 openings.

Please submit your nominations to Denise or Kay at the RVLS Office **before May 23, 2012.**



RVLS HAPPENINGS



Nana Real retired from the Library Director position at the **Dundy County Library in Benkelman** on April 30, 2012.

On April 11, the Library Board held an **Open House** to celebrate Nana's years at the library and the **new technology made available through the Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities grant**, administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Changes.....Changes.....Changes.....

- ◆ **Jennifer Einspahr** is the Assistant Director at the **Arapahoe Public Library**.
- ◆ **Cindee Wagner** is the Assistant Director at the **Culbertson Public Library**.
- ◆ **Melissa Whitefoot** has left her position as Director of the **Fairfield Public Library**.
- ◆ **Suzann Christensen** has left **Hastings Middle School** to accept a position at Horizon Middle School in Kearney. This is much closer to home for Suzann.
- ◆ **Kristin Friesen** is the new Librarian at the **Mary Lanning Memorial Health Care Library** in Hastings.
- ◆ **Sharon Bohling** is retiring as the school librarian for **McCook Senior High School**. Sharon plans to NOT work for a while. She hopes to stay in contact with all her library friends by visiting meetings and libraries.
- ◆ **Jackie Webster** is the Library Director at **Jensen Memorial Library** in Minden.
- ◆ **Sherri Hausmann** is retiring from Madison **Middle School in North Platte**. Sherri struggled with the decision to leave her library and will miss the students and faculty.
- ◆ **Lois Potter** is retiring from **Silver Lake Public Schools** in Roseland and Bladen. She plans to enjoy her free time by traveling.
- ◆ **Nichole Bermel** is the Library Director at **White Public Library** in Sutherland. Her first task is to select a new automation system.

RVLS Happenings—continued

Dream Big...READ!

The **RVLS Summer Reading Program Workshop** was held at the newly remodeled **Arapahoe Public Library**. Forty-one people representing 24 libraries attend the full day of fun. Each participant received a “Dream” gift bag from the host library. The day included crafts, program ideas, books, puppets, door prizes, and lunch at the local restaurant, Cunningham’s Feed. (The food was wonderful!)

Thank you to Cheryl and her staff, Jody, and Sally for inspiring us to **Dream Big**.



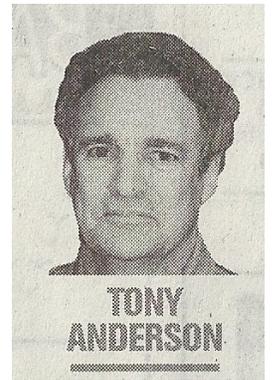
RVLS Happenings—continued

Week of Weeding Winner!

Claudette Wielechowski of Adams Middle School in North Platte won the random drawing for a Kindle Touch after the 1st Annual RVLS Week of Weeding. Twenty-three libraries (13 Public; 8 School; 2 Academic) from all across the System participated and weeded nearly **5,000** items!



RVLS Board Member, **Tony Anderson**, wrote an informative article on volunteering that was recently published in the Kearney Hub. In it, he wrote about the variety of organizations that he and his wife Keri have volunteered for over more than 30 years. Both Keri and Tony have been board members with the Republican Valley Library System at different times. Tony's second term ends on June 30, 2012. RVLS members appreciate the Andersons' leadership and we will miss them on our Board. At the end of his newspaper article, Tony mentions how important it is to step up and volunteer for groups that serve your interests. The members of the Republican Valley Library System are glad the Andersons took that advice.



Nebraska State Reading Classic Contest

The Reading Classic program encourages students to become life-long readers by creating teams for grades 3-9, reading award winning books, throughout the year. Students compete in teams of four, answering questions about the books they read. Competitions are held in the spring at local, county, and state levels. The contest is sponsored by the Nebraska State Reading Association.

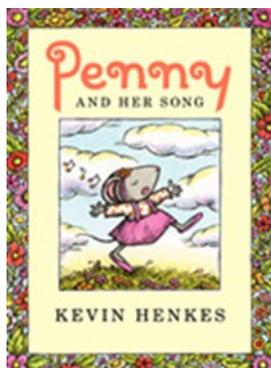
The Lincoln County Reading Classic teams did really well at the Nebraska State Reading Classic Contest on Saturday, April 14, 2012, in Dorchester, NE. The Division III 7-9th grade team won the state championship. The Division II 5-6th grade team was the state runner-up. Both teams are coached by Claudette Wielechowski at the Adams Middle School Library in North Platte.



I Met Kevin Henkes!

(As experienced by Denise in Philadelphia)

While exploring the exhibits at the PLA Conference, I saw a long line leading to the Harper Collins booth. I asked the person at the end of the line who was signing books. Surprisingly, I found myself next to a self-proclaimed Kevin Henkes Groupie. She is from Bozeman, Montana, and she has invited Kevin Henkes to her town yearly for more than 15 years. It has never worked out, but she is sure that he will eventually come to Bozeman. I held her place in line while she went to the booth to see how many books they had and to get a glimpse of Mr. Henkes. She had met him once before and described one of her prized possessions as a picture of herself with him. As we stood in line, I learned that Mr. Henkes graduated from high school the same year I did and all about his family.



My new line-friend was getting visibly excited as we drew nearer to the author. She asked me to take a picture of her with Mr. Henkes on her iPhone. I was a little concerned about encouraging this fixation, but I agreed to do it. She got to the head of the line and started talking (really fast) and forgot to give me her phone. I got her attention by taking her phone out of her hand and snapping the picture. She was thrilled!

I was next in line and Kevin Henkes autographed two hardcover books for the RVLS System. We have **Junonia** with a discussion guide and **Penny and Her Song** with a picture book guide which includes discussion questions and activities for seven of Henkes' books. If you would like to be entered into a random drawing for either of these two

autographed books, please call the RVLS Office or send me an email. **We will have the drawing on June 1.**

Can't, Won't, Don't, Couldn't, Shouldn't, Wouldn't:

Combating Negative Nellies in the Workplace

(PLA 2012 Session)

We all know them...heck, sometimes we are them. Negative Nellie and Greta Griper are not helping to promote your library in the community! There are a number of reasons people are negative about their jobs:

Lack of feedback	Unrealistic expectations
Insufficient equipment	Few options/trapped
Favoritism	Micromanagement
Change	Supervisors/Managers

Other negativity factors include uncomfortable temperature in the workplace, lack of privacy, clutter, equipment malfunctions, irritating people, interruptions, distractions, noise, and boredom.

(Wow! All of these factors have been a part of every library job I have held in the last 25 years!)

Top Ten List of ways to control negativity in ourselves and our co-workers:

10. Set a time limit
9. See the bigger picture
8. 3, 2, 1...1, 2, 3
7. Laughter is the best medicine
6. Wear a rubber band (to snap yourself if you have a negative thought)
5. Stay in the present
4. Stop the thought!
3. Have a favorite saying
2. Be your own best friend
1. **Do something to help others**

PLA National Conference, Philadelphia

March 13-17, 2012

I attended my first-ever Public Library Association National Conference this spring. What an experience it was! The Philadelphia Convention Center sprawls across two full city blocks. The educational sessions were on the first level; the exhibits were on the second level; and the Opening and Closing Sessions were on the third level. It was imperative to plan the day before leaving my hotel; otherwise, I wouldn't have had time to get from one place to the next.

Wednesday was the Opening General Session with Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. He spoke passionately about the environment and what we could do to save the planet. The Exhibits Opening Reception was held immediately following Mr. Kennedy's address. The exhibit floor was the size of three football fields and it was packed with vendors vying for attention with give-aways and food. Overwhelming!

I figured out that there was a total of 10 unique program times when I could select sessions. I went to 9 programs and explored the exhibits during that last time slot. During the program breaks (an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon) the exhibits were jammed with people. I knew that if I wanted to actually talk to any of the vendors, I would have to go while at least some of the other librarians were in session. I will share information about all the programs I attended in this newsletter, on the RVLS website, and through the RVLS email list over the next couple of weeks.

Here is a list of the sessions I attended:

1. **Young at Heart:** YA Books with Adult Crossover Appeal—I talked about this session at the Summer Reading Workshop and gave away three autographed books.
2. **Meet This Season's Best in Debut Authors**—Information on this session is on the RVLS website. Enter the drawing for 4 different titles by first-time authors.
3. **No Fear Management:** Dealing with Difficult People, Difficult Situations, Difficult Conversations
4. **Program-Palooza:** 60 Programs in 60 Minutes!
5. **What Makes a Collection?** Redefining the Library through the Collection
6. **With Friends Like These...**
7. **Up to the Challenge:** Training Staff to Handle Intellectual Freedom Questions
8. **Get with the Program, Get Graphic:** Using Graphic Novels for Programming for Teens!
9. **Can't, Won't, Don't, Couldn't, Shouldn't, Wouldn't:** Combating Negativity Nellies in the Workplace (see page 11)

On Saturday, I attended the Closing General Session that featured Betty White. She spoke about her time on game shows, her long marriage to Allen Ludden, her love for animals, and her current projects. She was very sweet and entertaining.

I appreciated being able to go to Philadelphia for this gathering of more than 8,500 librarians. My head is still spinning with all the ideas presented, and I am anxious to share everything with all of you.

By: Denise

Disc Cleaning and Repair



Each RVLS member library has through June 30, 2012, to have 25 discs cleaned and repaired for **FREE**. If you have more than 25 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc. If you come to the RVLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

The RTI ECO Auto-Smart is amazing! It will repair almost all scratches, no matter how deep. However, if the disc is cracked, we cannot fix it.

This is a great time to try out this new service...the first 25 discs are free until June 30, 2012!

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

Republican Valley Library System

2012 Annual Meeting

June 1, 2012

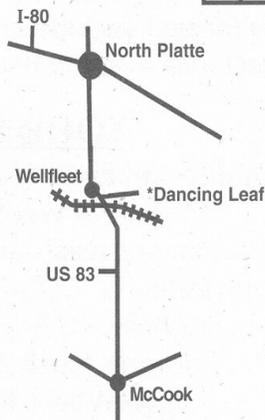
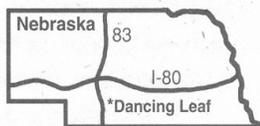
Dancing Leaf Earthen Lodge

6100 E. Opal Springs Rd.

Wellfleet, NE



- 9:30 RVLS Board Meeting
- 11:00 RVLS Annual Meeting
- 12:00 Lunch (Authentic Buffalo Stew)
- 12:45—NE Library Commission Report by Rod Wagner
- 1:00 pm—2:30 pm—Guided Tour of Dancing Leaf Lodge.



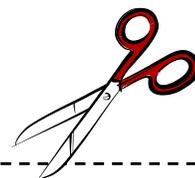
25 miles south of North Platte on Highway 83, then 2 miles east on Opal Springs Road at Railroad Tracks

<http://www.dancingleaf.com/>

Everyone is Welcome

Casual Dress Suggested

Registrations Due— May 23, 2012



Registration Form

Republican Valley Library System
2012 Annual Meeting—June 1, 2012

Name: _____

Library: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send this registration form and \$20 per person to:

Republican Valley Library System
2727 West 2nd St. Suite #233
Hastings, NE 68901

Mark Your Calendar



- May 1** "We Speak Your Language" kits should be transferred to RVLS
- May 14-15** Basic Skills—Reference
- May 23** Registration Deadline for RVLS Annual Meeting (Everyone welcome)
- June 1** RVLS Annual Meeting, Dancing Leaf Lodge, Wellfleet (see page 14)
- June 4-15** Basic Skills—Management and Supervision
- July 1** "We Speak Your Language kits should be transferred
- July 2-13** Basic Skills—Intellectual Freedom and the Core Values of Librarianship
- July 13** Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion, UN-L
- July 23-Aug. 3** Basic Skills—Library Governance
- Oct. 17** 2012 NLA/NEMA Pre-Conference (see page 13)

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Tech Tips

The April 2012 issue of *Computers in Libraries* features an article written by Jessamyn C. West about helpful websites. Her name may seem familiar because she presented at the Big Talk from Small Libraries Online Conference and she is the author of ***Without a Net: Librarians Bridging the Digital Divide***, which was given to all librarians attending last year's Technology Planning Summer Camp.



One site Jessamyn recommended is called **Mousecise**. It is at <http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing>. If you have patrons that don't understand the difference between a click and a double-click, this is a site for you. It gives novice computer users a chance to practice mouse skills at their own pace using a very simple series of web pages.

Staying safe on the Internet is a big concern for beginners. One helpful site is called the **Very Simple Phishing Quiz** which is located at <http://www.opendns.com/phishing-quiz>. Phishing is a common technique used to obtain information such as usernames, passwords, and credit card and bank account numbers. Phishing sites masquerade as trustworthy organizations (i.e. your bank, eBay, Amazon) and send emails that appear to be from a well-known company. Their goal is to entice the inexperienced user to click on a link in the email and enter private information. This easy-to-use teaching tool pairs an authoritative-looking website with a link's URL and asks whether or not they go together. At the end of the quiz, users are given tips on how to identify dangerous links.



Republican Valley Library System
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233
Hastings, NE 68901-4684



Serving Counties:

Adams
Chase
Clay
Dundy
Franklin
Frontier
Furnas
Gosper
Harlan
Hayes
Hitchcock
Kearney
Lincoln
Logan
McPherson
Nuckolls
Perkins
Phelps
Red Willow
Webster

Whatever the cost of our libraries,
the price is cheap compared to
that of an ignorant nation.

--Walter Cronkite