

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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Republican Valley Library
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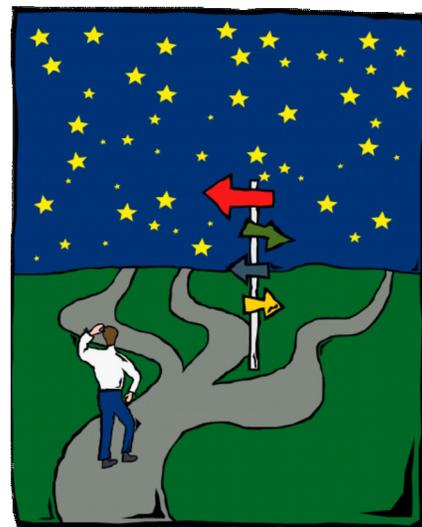
We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

Board Members

Dixie Codner
Jody Crocker
Annette Eisenhart
Beth Falla
Jane Hilton
Pat Hughes
Tim Johnson
Robyn Johnston
Mo Khamouna
Vicki Perrie
Sky Seery
Dana Wade

Traveling Towards Transition

The Nebraska Regional Library Systems are collaborating to make the transition from six Systems to four Regions happen as smoothly as possible. Representatives from the Systems are meeting to begin the work of establishing governing boards, rewriting By-Laws, and completing the legal paperwork for the state and federal governments to go from six individual non-profit corporations to four by December 31, 2014. A map that shows the reconfigured regions is available on page 2 of the June 2014 edition of *ValleyTalk* and on the Nebraska Library Commission's website at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/systems/>.



Over the years, the Republican Valley Library System governing boards have been conservative with the operating budget. Due to their careful use of the funds granted, RVLS has some money in savings. In order to use this money for the direct benefit of RVLS member libraries before the planned reconfiguration of the Systems, the Board has decided to offer approximately 40 small grants this fall. These grants are intended to promote Continuing Education for library staff and/or programming in all types of libraries. **Every institution in the Republican Valley Library System is eligible to apply.** Grant recipients will be determined by a random drawing from all eligible applications that are postmarked September 1 - 30, 2014.

Now is your chance to do something special—attend the NLA/NSLA Conference, develop a circulating puppet collection, set up a digital sign at your circ desk, start a Lego Club, get some new bean bag chairs, buy extra copies of the Golden Sower nominees...the possibilities are endless. Put your thinking cap on and come up with something that will make the programming in your library exciting and inviting! Complete details and application form for the RVLS Grant program are included with this newsletter.

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting

June 6, 2014 9:30 am

McCook City Library

McCook, NE

PRESENT: Jody Crocker, Dixie Codner, Annette Eisenhart, Beth Falla, Pat Hughes, Tim Johnson, Vicki Perrie, Sky Seery, Dana Wade, Mo Khamouna.

ABSENT: Jane Hilton, Robyn Johnston.

ALSO PRESENT: Denise Harders (Systems Administrator), Kay Kloppenborg (RVLS Admin-Assistant), Rod Wagner (NLC Director), Peggy Lipker (Superior), Tina Walker (MPCC), Sherry Houston, Sharon Bohling, Lisa Fortkamp (Imperial).

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Jody Crocker called the meeting to order at 9:47am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (3.7.14) Dana Wade moved to accept the minutes, Pat Hughes seconded. The minutes were accepted as read.

FINANCIAL REPORT: We're almost through the year – at 89% of budget used. Training Ed and Supplies is over due to Summer Reading Workshop. It's worked out, but it's due to the meal costs of SRW, the income doesn't reflect that balance. By the end of June \$1,800 will be left. Annette Eisenhart moved, Mo Khamouna seconded to approve. The financial report was accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE: Jolene Heuertz from Silver Lake School in Roseland sent a thank you email about School Library Day hosted by Eastern Library System, which Denise recommended for her. Also received a note from NPCC, for the Week of Weeding Kindle, which they love.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Swinging into the new accreditation cycle, Denise has been attending a lot of meetings and hosting Workshop on Demand. *Dewey or Don't We?* was a fun workshop to hold at NP. Also attended Business After Hours in Hastings Public Library for fundraising.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nebraska Regional Library Systems Reorganization – The announcement was in the latest issue of the RVLS Valley Talk. Denise handed out a Q & A sheet regarding the Regional Library Systems Re-Configuration. Meetings will start in July with 3 representatives to work with 3 from Meridian. Scott Childers is working on finding a lawyer familiar with 501C3's. At some point an interim board will be created, and then it will go from there. January 1, 2015 is the date for the new reconfiguration. Sharon Bohling read a letter she had prepared, to take away, "If it's not broken, don't fix it." Denise stated that while the lines are drawn, she's hoping for a more State-Wide approach – it's no longer about this area or that area. If you are close to a meeting in a different system, join them. The key is accommodation; it's going to be a huge work in progress.

NLC Office Technology/CE Grant – The money is still in the bank, in limbo due to the reorganization. Rather than spend the entire \$1,200 on technology Denise proposed to cut it in half. Spend \$600 on a laptop and \$600 for the NLA Annual Conference in South Sioux City. Mo Khamouna made a motion to split the money, Dixie Codner seconded. The motion was approved.

2014 Board Meeting Schedule –
September 5, 2014 – Jensen Memorial Library, Minden
November 7, 2014 – Teleconference (Tentative)

NEW BUSINESS:

6 Month Budget – Not as easy as it seems. A lot of bills are paid yearly, like car insurance. Subscriptions are good until 3.15.15. One budget change, the copier fees have been more than anticipated, the copy machine budget was only slightly cut. For 6 months several items will no longer be purchased (still circulated, not purchased), see Books on CD. Dana Wade moved to accept the budget as prepared (6 months). Vickie Perrie seconded. The motion carried.

Employment Contracts – The PTO accrual went up, compensation remains the same for Denise. Kay's compensation went up 2%, her benefits and PTO stay the same. Mo Khamouna made a motion to approve the contracts. Annette Eisenhart seconded. The motion passed.

RVLS Savings – CD is at \$15,573. Denise would like to use this to benefit the RVLS libraries in the next six months. RVLS Small Grants – which RVLS libraries (of any type) can apply. NLA grant would be approx. \$400.00 (small fuel, registration, hotel). Golden Sower Grants is another possibility. No grant would be more than \$400. It would be a way for everyone to have a piece of this. Stipulation suggested by Denise, price justification, technology not eligible, each RVLS institution is limited to one grant. Advertise on 8.1.14, applications accepted after 9.1.14. First come, first serve, based on postmark. It was suggested to put the names in a hat and draw instead of based on postmark. Vickie questioned we are spending it, Denise said that anything over \$600 (after the reconfiguration) will go back to the Commission. Use it or lose it. Consensus among the group was to spend it in RVLS. Pat Hughes made a motion to cash in the CD to be used for Small Grants of \$400 for RVLS libraries. Dana Wade seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

SYSTEMS TRANSITION TO REGIONS – Pls. see above for previous conversations. Meridian and RVLS merging, Eastern and Southeast are merging as well. Our merger is more complicated.

NLC COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Steve was in CO {sitting by the lake with his dog! Lucky duck!} – no report. □ *Please note this is typical this time of year.* □

NLC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: John Felton is retiring on 6.27.14. Partnership w/NEST 529, scholarships for completing the summer reading program – 5 from each congressional district. The student received \$529 and library \$250. (See web page) McCook received an internship grant, in all \$32,000 were awarded for internships around the state. The Laura Bush 21st Century Grant is nearing the end. It has paid out a large amount of money towards scholarships, internships, etc. Overdrive is approaching 150 state members. There is \$150,000 available this coming year for ebooks and audiobooks. It is expected that the same amount or more will be available in the future years. Jan of 2015 will have a new Governor and 17 state Senators. Included in the group are new members of the appropriation committee. June 10th an important vote for Senators to vote for technology, specifically LSTA Funding. Hopefully he is very mindful of the libraries and shows his support in his vote. Thanks to those libraries going through or have gone through the accreditation process.

Jody Crocker adjourned the meeting at 10:57 with a short break before the start of the last ever RVLS Annual Meeting. {Special thanks to Jody and her staff for hosting annual meeting this year. Their newly renovated library is absolutely beautiful!}

NEXT BOARD MEETING: September 5, 2014 at Jensen Memorial Library in Minden, NE

Respectively submitted, Sky Seery, RVLS Board Secretary

Mark Your Calendar



- September 1.....Labor Day Holiday-RVLS Office Closed
- September 2-30.....RVLS Grant Applications due (see insert)
- September 5.....RVLS Board Meeting, Jensen Memorial Library, Minden
- September 12.....Library Commissioners Meeting, Lincoln
- September 8-19.....Basic Skills—The Community and the Library
- September 22-Oct. 3.....Basic Skills—Programming and Outreach
- October 8-10.....NLA/NSLA Annual Conference, South Sioux City
- October 20-31.....Basic Skills-Collection Management
- November 7RVLS Board Meeting, Conference Call



Enter Your Summer Readers to Win!

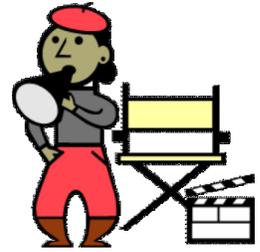
Nebraska's 529 College Savings Plans (NEST), First National Bank of Omaha, Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg and the Nebraska Library Commission are sponsoring the NEST Read to Win \$529! Drawing as part of library summer reading programs across the state. More than \$11,000 in NEST 529 College Savings scholarships and donations will be awarded.

Fifteen summer readers, five in each of Nebraska's three congressional districts, will be randomly drawn from those who complete a summer reading program. Each winner will receive \$529 in a NEST college savings account. The library of each winner will receive a \$250 donation. To enter, children must register for the summer reading program at their libraries and complete the program as defined by their libraries.

Go to this website to enter each qualifying reader's name, parents' phone number, parents' email, and your library name: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/youth/summerreading/scholarshipdrawing.aspx>.

The deadline is August 15, 2014. It is as simple as that!

Red Carpet Book Club



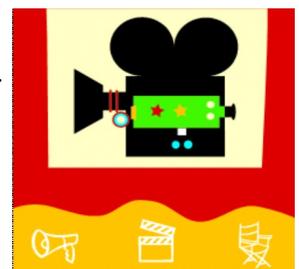
Organize a new book club to bring books and movies together.

Here are some suggestions for monthly meetings starting in September:

- **Desert Island Oasis:** Have your patrons read a book about being stranded away from civilization such as *The Lord of the Flies* or *The Mosquito Coast*. Then watch the movie and have everyone come prepared with the two items they would pack as their deserted island essentials.
- **Femme Fatale Friday:** Read Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* and then go as a group to the newly released movie in theaters in October.
- **Foodie Flick:** Just in time for Thanksgiving, read *Julie and Julia* and then watch the movie. Have patrons bring snacks prepared from one of Julia Child's cookbooks.
- **Every Time a Bell Rings:** Indulge your patrons in their most beloved Christmas movies of all time. Have each attendee bring a gift for a local children's charity. (Recommended book pairings: *A Christmas Carol*, *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Polar Express*.)
- **Leave the Lights On:** Create a Classic Horror Movie night. Read and watch some of the scariest books every made into film like: *The Shining*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *American Psycho*, or *The Stepford Wives*.
- **I'd Like to Thank the Academy:** Read and screen the best films to come from books, like *Gone With the Wind*, *Grand Hotel*, *The Godfather*, etc. just before the Academy Awards for 2015.
- **Running Wild:** Inspire patrons to connect to nature in their reading experiences. Read *Tracks: A Woman's Solo Trek Across 1700 Miles of Australian Outback*. The movie based on that book is due out in September 2014, so it may even be out on DVD by late spring.
- **I Love Rock & Roll:** Invite the local high school chorus to kick off a night of films for music lovers *Walk the Line*, *The Coal Miner's Daughter*, and *Amadeus*.
- **Rotten Tomatoes:** For your final meeting of the year, plan a Siskel & Ebert type review program for the season's hottest theatrical releases. Play a trivia game using those movies we all love to hate.



These ideas are courtesy of Random House Library Marketing.



Bite-Sized Tasks



- ⇒ Pull 10-20 books for withdrawal once a week.
- ⇒ Shelf read one section of shelves. This keeps the shelves in order but is still manageable. Remove any books that look especially worn and weed them. Record the next section that needs to be examined on your to-do list to help you remember where you stopped.

Grants from the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund

Nebraska public libraries located in communities of fewer than 3,000 residents are eligible to apply for grants in 2015. Grants will be made in three areas: **Planning Grants** (leading to accreditation); **Enhancement Grants** (leading to improvement of library services and/or programs); and **Facilities Grants** (contributing toward new facilities or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries). Community leadership must be exhibited in grant applications indicating the likelihood of the sustainability of improvements.

Short applications received on or before **October 1, 2014** will be considered for the grant cycle awarded in March 2015. If approved, the full application is due 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 2015.

Cool (Free) Web Tools



Typing Club is a popular website offering free online touch typing lessons for all ages. This website provides 100 free activities that begin with the basics and progress into difficulty until you can touch type on your entire keyboard. Each lesson gives you instant real-time feedback about your accuracy and speed.

Go to <http://www.typingclub.com/> to try it out.

A free keyboarding game, which is designed for children from 2nd through 5th grade, is **Typing Rocket** http://www.abcya.com/typing_rocket.htm. In this game, players have sixty seconds to make fireworks explode by typing the letters that appear on the rockets. The rockets speed up as the game progresses. The final score is calculated by hits minus misses. This is fun! My highest score was 65. For the younger set go to

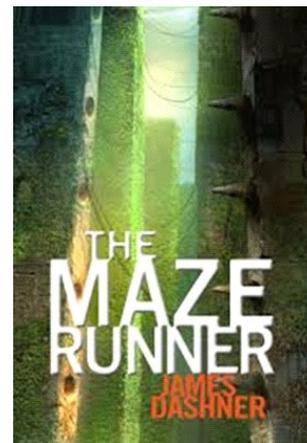
Typing Rocket Junior http://www.abcya.com/typing_rocket_junior.htm.

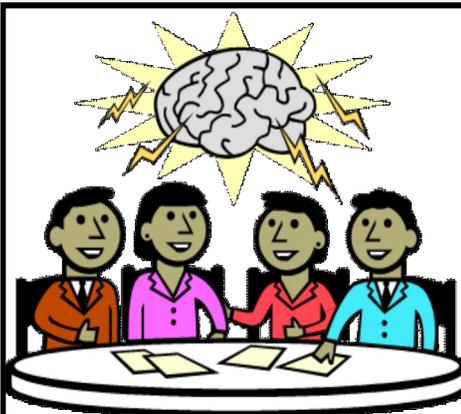
The Maze Runner

Do you want to start off the school year with a Book Club for teens? James Dashner's book **The Maze Runner** is sure to be a hit! It has been recommended for teen boys and reluctant readers and the movie is scheduled to be in theaters on September 19th:

Thomas is deposited in a community of boys after his memory is erased, soon learning they're all trapped in a maze that will require him to join forces with fellow "runners" for a shot at escape.

The Nebraska Library Commission has 12 copies available in a Book Club Kit. Contact the Reference Desk at 1-800-307-2665 to request it.





Workshops on Demand

Two new workshops have been added to the list of **Workshops on Demand**:

- User Experience (UX): A Different Approach to Customer Service
- Making Space for Makerspaces

Click the *On Demand* tab on the RVLS webpage (<http://libraries.ne.gov/rvls/>) to see the full list.

Disc Cleaning and Repair

From July 1, 2014 thru December 31, 2014, each RVLS member library is eligible for 10 free disc cleanings.

- If you have more than 10 discs that need repair, you may mail them to us and we will repair them and mail them back to you 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. **Note:** If the disc is cracked or scratched on the label side, we cannot fix it.

2014 RVLS Board Meetings

Friday, September 5, 2014
Jensen Memorial Library — Minden

Friday November 7, 2014
Conference Call



The Ellison

The Ellison cutter and dies are available for your library to use in Dec. 2014 and also any month in 2015, except January & May.

Please contact the RVLS Office, if you would like to schedule it for your library.

Republican Valley Library System Annual Meeting

June 6, 2014 11:00 am

McCook City Library

McCook, NE

Welcome: President Jody Crocker called the 2014 Annual Meeting of the general membership of the Republican Valley Library System to order at 11:23 with an extremely warm welcome. There were 28 in attendance.

Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting: The minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting were read by board member Sky Seery. Annette Eisenhart made a motion to accept the minutes with a couple of corrections (don't you just love auto correct?). Sharon Bohling seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Nebraska Regional Library Systems Reconfiguration – Denise read the announcement regarding the new System Reconfiguration which will be in place by Jan. 2015. A map with the new regions is included in the packet. With this restructure, libraries of all kinds will still be served. Rod Wagner passed around a Q & A sheet regarding this reconfiguration.

Presentation of Budget: With the reconfiguration plans in place, Denise created a 6 month budget to run through 12.31.14. RVLS Board approved the budget in their meeting prior to the Annual Meeting. Not an easy task to create a 6 month budget, there is a balance between the yearly subscriptions and payments.

Introduction of Board Members: Board members who have expiring terms have agreed to stay on due to the reconfiguration for the 6 month period. Board Members were given a token of appreciation for their dedication to the board. *{Trust me when I say the pleasure is ours.- Sky}*

Administrator's Report: Denise included a pamphlet that highlighted the RVLS services and projects. New services include Workshops on Demand. 18 were completed in the last year. Every 6 months new offerings are available on the RVLS website. Denise was really busy during the year.

Other Business:

Rod Wagner provided an NLC Report –John Felton is retiring on 6.27.14. Partnership w/NEST 529, scholarships for completing the summer reading program – 5 from each congressional district. The student received \$529 and library \$250. (See web page) McCook received an internship grant, in all \$32,000 were awarded for internships around the state. The Laura Bush 21st Century Grant is nearing the end. It has paid out a large amount of money towards scholarships, internships, etc. Overdrive is approaching 150 state members. There is \$150,000 available this coming year for ebooks and audiobooks. It is expected that the same amount or more will be available in the future years. Jan of 2015 will have a new Governor and 17 state Senators. Included in the group are new members of the appropriation committee. June 10th an important vote for Senators to vote for technology, specifically LSTA Funding. Hopefully he is very mindful of the libraries and shows his support in his vote. Thanks to those libraries going through or have gone through the accreditation process.

The very last ever RVLS Annual Meeting ever was adjourned at 12:13 by Jody Crocker. The group enjoyed a tasty lunch and then toured the Frank Lloyd Wright home {Special thanks and to Jody Crocker and her staff for hosting annual meeting this year! They had a marvelous spread for all.

{Their newly renovated library is simply gorgeous!}

Respectively submitted, Sky Seery, RVLS Board Secretary



Republican Valley Library System
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Serving Counties:

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

Libraries are like a frosty glass of milk for the American soul—tasty, wholesome, mother-approved and more importantly, a necessary part of a healthy intellectual life.

~ Editorial, *Georgetown Voice*, 7 April 2005

