

VALLEYTALK

ISSN 1067-4705

November 2007

Published bimonthly by
the Republican Valley
Library System,
2727 W. 2nd St. # 233,
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: (402) 462-1975
Fax (402) 462-1974

Toll Free 1-800-569-4961
[www.nlc.state.ne.us/
system/republican](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican)

Editors:

Sherry Houston, Administrator,
rplsadmin@inebraska.com

Kay Kloppenborg,
Administrative Assistant,
rplsasst@inebraska.com

We reserve the right to
edit or refuse all contribu-
tions.

Board Members

Judy Grandstaff, President
Patty Hall, Vice Pres.
Suzann Christensen, Sec.
Tony Anderson
Pat Bonge
Sonja Burpo
Nancy Cantin
Vicki Casper
Laura Cundiff
Norma Dannatt
Terri Johnson
Vicki Perrie

Featured Librarian: Vicki Casper, Hildreth Public Library

Ten years ago, after one hour of instruction, Vicki Casper became the new Public Library director in Hildreth.



Vicki totally learned on the job, but ten years later, the Hildreth Public Library has become an integral part of the community. Hildreth is a small community in south central Nebraska that embodies community spirit and a sense of humor. When you leave, the sign says, "Leaving Hildreth, resume normal behavior".

This year, Vicki was the registration chairman for the NLA/NEMA conference. She had stacks of inserts to put in 450 bags to give to attendees at the conference. She called up some of the local community members and volunteers came and the children showed up and they stuffed the inserts into the bags. Hildreth is a small community with willing volunteers and knows how to utilize the residents efficiently. Vicki's husband is the Police Chief, the Fire Chief and the Village Superintendent. She said when budget time rolls around, he wants money for the streets and she wants

money for books so it is an interesting time.

Last year, the library director's job opened at Axtell Public Library, so Vicki decided she could do both jobs and she has. In a one-person library, you have variety and you have to know how to do everything. Her biggest challenge so far is to get everything done for both places such as cataloging, summer reading, statistical reporting, etc. Customer service is Vicki's top priority, and her libraries reflect her desire for excellent customer service. After starting at Axtell, Vicki noticed the collection was lacking quality easy readers for the preschool and lower elementary students. So Vicki wrote a youth grant to the Nebraska Library Commission which she received. The grant allowed her to purchase books for the preschoolers in Axtell. Now all the preschools in town come to the library and Vicki also started a story time for them.

In Hildreth, the school is consolidated so the Public Library has become a community center for the students after school, during vacations, and in the summer. Vicki decided to purchase a Sony Wii and games for the students. It has been a huge success. Not only are the young adult students coming in to play games, they check out books and read magazines, while waiting for their gaming turn. Her new plan is to have a family gaming night as the parents are eyeing the games while the kids play. Gaming levels the playing field for all and the kids are more than happy to help each other understand the games. Last week a 4th grade girl beat a senior boy at one of the games. The Wii and the library are always busy. She lets everyone have food and drink, but she never has a problem with spilling. Vicki says, "I don't have a

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

quiet library", but I know she has a well used library.

Hildreth Public Library uses Follett Destiny software which allows the library catalog to be on the web. Her internet provider is Glenwood which has an excellent reputation in the area. The next plan is to convert part of the fire station into the library and enlarge the fire station. Hildreth has a Friends group which has started to raise money for the addition. They have had movie nights and are making plans for a bake sale and other money making projects.

This year, the ice storm was a big factor in both Axtell and Hildreth. Hildreth was without power for three weeks. Vicki said every day was a bad hair day, but the communities came together and learned to make do with little. The library in Hildreth did have a generator because it was

connected to the city office which allowed the computers to work and even then, people wanted to use the library. A slogan comes into mind when I think about Vicki's libraries, and that is the NLA/NEMA slogan from two years ago: "Libraries—Heart and Soul of Communities".

By: Sherry Houston



We the People Bookshelf Grant deadline January 25, 2008

The We the People Bookshelf is a set of classic books for young readers from Kindergarten through high school.

Each year NEH identifies a theme important to the nation's heritage and selects books that embody that theme. This collection of theme-related books is the Bookshelf. In addition to introducing young readers to good literature, the Bookshelf promotes understanding of abstract or general ideas through the power of particular stories.

The theme for the Bookshelf is announced at the beginning of each academic year in September. The first four themes were "[Courage](#)," "[Freedom](#)," "[Becoming American](#)," and the "[Pursuit of Happiness](#)."

Applications for the "[Created Equal](#)" Bookshelf are being accepted online September 10, 2007, through January 25, 2008. Applicants will be notified by March 31, 2008, whether or not they will receive a Bookshelf. "Created Equal" programs will be conducted in libraries between May 1, 2008, and April 30, 2009.

Titles selected for the *We the People* Bookshelf might highlight important chapters in American history; or express universal themes that are integral parts of American culture. The books are intended to represent the rich texture of the American heritage, a tradition that has incorporated ideas and texts from around the world.

NEH awards the Bookshelves to libraries across the country for use in programs primarily for young people. U.S. public and school (K-12) libraries are eligible to apply. In return for receiving a Bookshelf, libraries organize programs that highlight the theme and encourage young readers to explore the selected books.

The American Library Association (ALA) collaborates with NEH to deliver this program. ALA staff and libraries help to select the books, and work directly with the nation's libraries to disseminate information and to encourage libraries to take part in the "We the People Bookshelf" grant program.

For more information see <http://www.wethepeople.gov/bookshelf/index.html>



RVLS NEWS

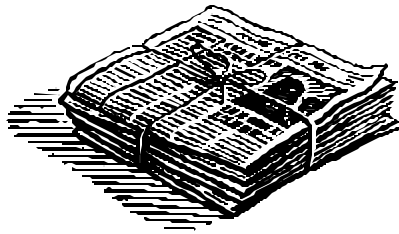
Our esteemed Susan Franklin sent us the following:

What's Perkin' at Perkins Library (Hastings College)

Hastings College Perkins Library has myriad changes brewing this year: new spaces, new faces, new services, resources and events, and new forays into Web 2.0, to name a few. Our walls are adorned with new framed posters and art. The new art includes two pieces of student artwork. One painting, purchased by our employees in honor of Dee Yost, is called "Bare Hills Are Prime for Planting" and is by Nicole Gustafsson. The other painting is a rendition of "The Lion and the Mouse," by Laura Jensen. New interlibrary loan assistant **Meg Curtiss** has started a project to add our Serials Holdings to OCLC. Our new brainstorming room, thus named because of the special brainstorming table, contains couches, beanbag chairs, and a TV/DVD/VHS combo. Our webpage has been revamped, including an e-suggestion box through which students can communicate with us, and Public Services Librarian **Susan Franklin** has initiated a facebook outreach that has been quite successful thus far. Our library's group page is called, "I Recline on Couches, Living on Coffee and JSTOR: Friends of Perkins Library." If you're on facebook, befriend **Susan** or **Bob Nedderman** and please join our group!

We upgraded from Ebsco's Academic Search Elite to Academic Search Premier.

We celebrated some old events (Banned Books Week and Chilling Readings @ the library on Halloween) with some old friends (Sigma Tau Delta English Honorary Society), but added a pumpkin carving contest to the Hallow-



een mix and a new observance, International Talk Like a Pirate Day.



Left -Right: Bob Nedderman, Constance Malloy and Kala Enevoldsen at the Banned Book Reading.



What kind of socks do pirates wear? ARRRRRRRGyle, of course! You learn something new every day at Perkins Library!

+++++

Jaime Potter at Harvard Public Library reports they have a new e-mail address:

harvardnelibrary@live.com

+++++

Holdrege Public Library has scheduled Christmas with Laura Ingalls Wilder for December 9. – Scholar and actress Betty Jean Steinshouer, who has specialized in the study of author Laura Ingalls Wilder for over 20 years, will present "Christmas with Laura" December 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the Holdrege Library Community Room.

Pam Soreide, Library Director, said "We are excited to bring Betty Jean to Holdrege in December because the emphasis will be on the back-

ground of the Little House on the Prairie books and on recalling how special the Ingalls family made holiday times, even though they had little money. One tradition we will be adopting for this program is Laura's own gingerbread recipe, served with hot apple cider."

Betty Jean Steinshouer, who is best known in Nebraska for her many years on the Chautauqua circuit in "Willa Cather Speaks," is a native of Missouri. Now a Fellow in the Florida Studies Institute, she calls Laura Ingalls Wilder her earliest scholarly pursuit. Steinshouer recalls elementary school field trips to Mansfield to visit Rocky Ridge, the Wilders' farm.

"Even in third grade, I took notes," she laughed. "I felt a kinship with Laura because I too was growing up on a dirt farm with hard chores to do. My classmates had wall-to-wall carpeting and central heating while I was chopping wood and hauling water from the well. I was ashamed of my family's poverty until I read the Little House books and realized that they were about as poor as we were, and that money didn't matter as much as happiness."

Christmas with Laura Ingalls Wilder is both a study and a celebration of the holiday's importance in the Wilder lore, examining whether it was a religious holiday for them, a social one, or both. The program is free and open to people of all ages – children are most welcome, accompanied by an adult, although the program's main focus is literary history.

+++++

Hastings Memorial Library in Grant has a new Library Director. **Robin Quinn**, a Grant native, graduate of Hastings College and former employee of Hastings College Perkins Library has moved back to Grant from St. Louis and is the new director of the Public Library. Welcome back to Nebraska, Robin.

Vicki Casper has resigned her position as the **Director of Axtell Public Library** and is going to pursue her educational media endorsement at UNK. She will still be the Director of Hildreth Public Library. Happy studying Vicki! **Janice Soderquist** will return as the **Director of Axtell Public Library**. Good to have you back in RVLS, Janice.

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.

December 1, 2007: Orleans C.B. Preston Memorial Library—Raylene Stephens

January 1, 2008: Wallace Public Schools—Deb Jameson

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

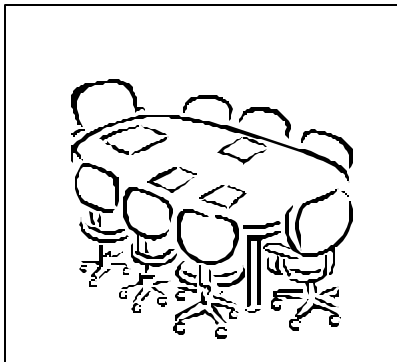
June 1, 2008: Hastings Memorial Library (Grant)—Robin Quinn

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: [Crazy Horse](#), [Rescue Josh McGuire](#) and [One False Move](#), as well as equipment that you can borrow for your Library needs.



2007-2008 RVLS Board Meetings

Friday, January 11, 2008

RVLS Office, Landmark Center, Hastings

Friday, March 7, 2008

Beaver City Public Library

Friday, June 6, 2008—Board & Annual Meeting

Location to be determined

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 10am. Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!



It's Your Move

CONFERENCE AWARDS!

The NLA/NEMA 2007 Conference is over for another year. Working with the conference committee was a pleasure. We are putting together the final reports and celebrating the end of a job well done. Many awards were given at the conference. Every winner was very deserving of the award she/he received. If you missed some of the presentations, here are the winners of the awards for 2007. **Congratulations everyone!**

Paraprofessional of the Year:
Angela Kroeger from UNO

PLS Excalibur Award:
Joan Birnie from Broken Bow

NLA Presidential Award for Excellence:
Scott Childers from UNL

NMRT Mentor of the Year:
Carol Connor from Lincoln City Libraries

Marie Sandoz Award:
Alex Kava, author

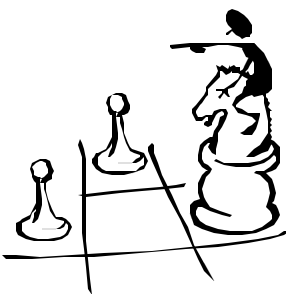
NLA Meritorious Service Award: Sandra Hartman from Falls City

C&U Distinguished Service Award: Jan Boyer from UNO

SCYP Mad Hatter Award:
Marcy Retzlaff from Norfolk Public Library

S&I Distinguished Service Award: Carolyn Bennett from Beatrice Public Library

S&I Promotion Award: Beth Goble from NLC



NEMA Past President's

Award: Dr. Pamela Springer of Papillion/LaVista Public Schools

NEMA Meritorious Service

Award: Sharon Osenga of Meridian Library System

NEMA Distinguished Media

Service Award: Sue Divan of YRTC, Kearney

NEMA Sound Off for Media

Award: Jeanne Bergsten of Kearney Public Schools

NEMA Presidential Award:

Information Power(IP) Committee

The Book of Spam—A Most Glorious and Definitive Compendium of the World's Favorite Canned Meat is authored by Dan Armstrong and Dustin Black. Dustin is the son of Linda and Dave Black. Linda is a newly appointed member of the Holdrege Public Library Board. Holdrege is mentioned on page 18. The picture book is a "hoot" (clever and inventive).—Submitted by Mary Kay Nelson

Library Legislative Day is February 13th, 2008.

Think about attending and sitting with the Senator from your district. Last year the turnout was excellent and productive (and it was actually

fun!). Watch for information about registration on your e-mail. Let's keep our Nebraska Senators thinking about the importance of libraries in our communities.

LSTA Grants are due December 28, 2007

Grant Funding is now available from the Nebraska Library Commission for [Library Improvement Grants](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/statistics/lsta/lsta.html) (formerly known as LSTA grants). The application describes eligibility and other requirements, including scoring sheet with criteria, and contact information. Applications must be post-marked or hand-delivered to the Nebraska Library Commission by 5:00 PM (CT) on **December 28, 2007**. Check out for more details: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/statistics/lsta/lsta.html>

Public Library Statistical Report is due by January 31, 2008.

As of October 15, 2007 the Nebraska Public Library Statistical Report survey is available from Bibliostat™ Collect at: <http://collect.informata.com>. All public libraries are required to submit statistical data about library services and operations on an annual basis. Instructions and passwords were mailed to all public libraries, and the deadline for data submission is January 31, 2008.

For additional information, contact Kit Keller, Library Planning & Data Services Coordinator at 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, or via email kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us




On the Bookshelf



The following items have been recently added to the RVLS Professional Collection:

Books on CD

- *Dark of the Moon* by John Sanford
- *Dead Heat* by Dick Francis
- *Drop Shot* by Harlan Coben
- *The Final Detail* by Harlan Coben
- *Here If You Need Me: A True Story* by Kate Braestrup
- *The Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara
- *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah
- *Pontoon: A Novel of Lake Wobegon* by Garrison Keillor
- *Shoot Him If He Runs* by Stuart Woods
- *Spook Country* by William Gibson
- *Sweet Revenge* by Diane Mott Davidson
- *There is No Me Without You: One Woman's Odyssey to Rescue Africa's Children* by Melissa Fay Greene 

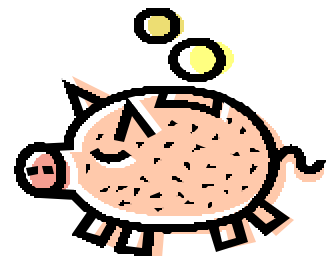
Books

- *Top-Notch Teacher Tips*, grades Pre-K-6 published by *the MailBox*

If you would like to borrow these items please contact the System office at: 800-569-4961 or <rvlsasst@inebraska.com>. If you would like to see list of all available items (including magazines routed), 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

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

Copyright law has its base in the United States Constitution, "The Congress shall have Power . . . To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries . . ." (United States Constitution, Article I, Section 8) Title 17 of the United States Code incorporates the Copyright Law of the United States of America as enacted as Public Law 94-553, 90 Stat. 2541, on October 19, 1976. To assist in the goal of promoting "the progress of science and useful arts", the Copyright Law not only protects the rights of the author or inventor, it contains provisions for rights of the users.

Often educators determine that since schools are not for profit institutions, thus they have carte blanche in using copyrighted materials. Educators do have expanded rights to use copyrighted materials as defined as Fair Use. "Fair use" has been interpreted to include those limited uses which are not likely to deprive a publisher or an author from income (Dr. Ken Crews). Educators must have an instructional objective aligned with the materials used in a face-to-face classroom setting.

The term Fair Use appears in Section 107 of the Copyright Law which follows:

Copyright Law of the United States

Section § 107. Limitations on exclusive rights: Fair use

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 106A, the fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include-

- (1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for non-profit educational purposes;
- (2) the nature of the copyrighted work;
- (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- (4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors.

Section 107 has evolved into the Four Factor Fair Use Test:

- * What is the purpose and character of the use?
- * What is the nature of the work to be used?
- * How much of the work will you use?
- * What effect would this use have on the market for the original or for permissions if the use were widespread?

All four factors must be considered to satisfy the Fair Use Test.

Dr. Ken Crews has developed a very helpful checklist for determining if the Fair Use Concept applies. It is available online at <http://www.copyright.iupui.edu/checklist.htm>.

Copyright and Fair Use in Education, NLAQ NLA Quarterly, Vol. 34, No. 4, Winter 2003, page 25-30,

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/nlaquarterly/2003-4-Brunken.htm>

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.

RVLS Calendar

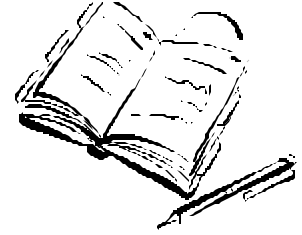
December 2007 HAPPY HOLIDAYS

9—Christmas with Laura Ingalls Wilder at Holdrege Public Library—See page 3

January 2008

11—RVLS Board Meeting, Hastings Landmark Center

25— Automation Vendor Day at Seward Memorial Library



February 2008

13—NLA Legislative Day

March 2008

13-14—Youth Retreat and Summer Reading Program Workshop in Aurora See insert

24-29—PLA 12th National Conference, Minneapolis -Take the Bus! See page 11

April 2008

4—RVLS Summer Reading in Indianola - “Catch the Reading Bug”

15—Ben Mikaelson in Hildreth and Holdrege

16—Ben Mikaelson at Hastings Middle School

29-May 2—MPLA Salt Lake City

June 2008

6—RVLS Annual Meeting,

October 2008

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



Hastings Public Library in Hastings has added some attractive banners to their building.

The banners were designed by Pam Bohmfalk, Assistant Director and Kathryn Wilke, with input from other staff members of HPL. The banners were made and installed locally by Watson Signs of Hastings.

Nice addition to the building and the Hastings downtown area.



Reader Gone Wild

It was one of those slow, hot, humid afternoons during the dog days of summer. I was done teaching summer school, it was too oppressive to bike and too soon to start packing for summer vacation. Arrgh! It was the dreaded dog days of summer. I was looking for something to do – not of the work variety but of the “this slightly resembles work but it isn’t” variety. I paced around the house searching for something to occupy my time. Then there in the upstairs hallway I spied it... a project of utmost importance that had absolutely no discernable value.

Let me fill you in on a little backstory first. For a few years I’ve been buying books faster than I can read them. I used to be able to afford to buy just one book at a time. But as our children have grown up and moved on my husband and I had a tad bit (and I do mean a tad) more disposable income. Much to my husband’s dismay I did dispose of it and much of my disposal involved books. I started buying two, three, four and up books at a shot. But, funny thing, I still could only read them one at a time. So my pile of books to be read had grown exponentially. I thought an entertaining way to pass the time that day would be to count all of my “to be read” books. But there were ground-rules, well, ground-rule. For a book to be included in my count I had to have sincere intentions of reading it. Shh! Don’t tell, but some of my purchases have been on the shelf so long that they have lost their appeal, the thrill is gone! I’ve thrown them over for newer books that still have that tantalizing new book smell, that still have the power to beckon to me seductively from the bookshelf, those little vixens! I fearlessly jumped in and tirelessly counted. 177. Yep, that’s not a misprint, 177 books, eagerly standing with straight spines waiting their chance to be lovingly held in my hands and read.

Yikes! 177! Even I was shocked. Seriously, when they are divided among five bookshelves it does **not** look like there are that many. Let’s do the math here. I’m no math whiz but I know there are 12 months in a year and four weeks per month. Multiply 12 by 4 and you get 48 weeks per year so if I read one book a week for three years I **still** wouldn’t be through them all. Did this shocking math fact prompt me to change my book buying habit? I should say it did. Well, for a month it did. Then I attended an author’s book talk at Lee Booksellers. There was no way I could listen to that charming author talk about his books and not buy them! That would have been just rude and I am not a rude person. Oops! Raise the count to 181.

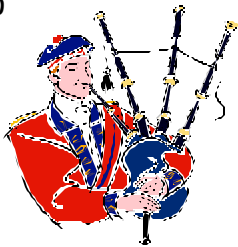


The final straw was last week when another book nut and I hit a bookstore that was giving away, yes, folks, I said **giving** away their 2007 unedited publishers’ copies. They gave us boxes and told us to take as many as we wanted. Are you kidding me!!!! I lost control completely and brought home 57 books upping my total to 238 unread books and moving right into the 5 year range. That was it! I decided that I positively was not buying another book until I had put a good dent in my “to be read” stack.

Wait a minute!

Is that a new Sue Grafton book coming out in December? Oh, shoot, make that 239.

Submitted by Cathy Mohnike
Sutton Public School



SCOTLAND TOUR

Visit the sites of Bonny Scotland! July 19th—August 1, 2008.

Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems.

Tour is open to anyone interested in Scotland.

- The personalized two week tour will depart July 19th.
- Air arrangements will be made on your own when the registration deposits have been received in January 2008. Airfare will be in addition to the land cost.
- Tour must have 12 people. If less than 12 people register, the tour will be cancelled.
- Land cost is \$3,000.00/person in shared rooms. Single supplement is \$650/person. If you wish to have a roommate assigned please let us know.
- Deposit of \$500 is due by January 31, 2008.
- Full payment is due June 15, 2008.
- The land cost includes the following: Twelve nights accommodation with accompanying breakfast, bus, driver/tour guide, dinner on six nights and entrance/tour fees.

For more information/brochure contact:

Scotland Tour

Meridian Library System

1015 Central Avenue, Suite B

Kearney, NE 68847



FREE TALKING BOOKS SO YOU CAN KEEP ON READING!

Individuals with visual or physical disabilities may qualify for free talking books from the Nebraska Library Commission. No one needs to forego the pleasure of reading just because they cannot see regular print or hold a book or turn its pages. Not when recorded books, magazines, and playback equipment are free to any qualifying Nebraskan.

The Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service, working with the Library of Congress, offers 60,000 book titles and 100 magazines, mostly on cassette. The book collection includes nationwide bestsellers, westerns, biographies, history, and romances. Our Prairie Lane Studios record books and magazines about Nebraska or the Great Plains.

A cassette player is loaned to each borrower. It has large buttons and can be adapted with finger extenders for the control keys and headphones for private listening. All materials are mailed to borrowers and returned to the Talking Book and Braille Service postage-free.

For information or an application form,

Contact: Dave Oertli, Director 1-800-742-7691

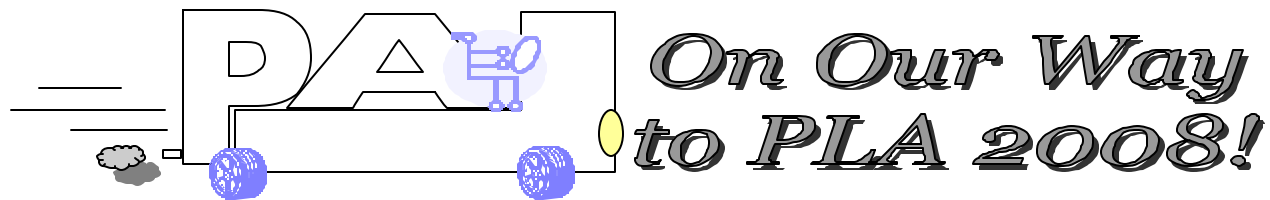
Talking Book and Braille Service

talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us

If you prefer, an application form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/tbbs/tbbs11.html>.





Of Course There Is A Bus Trip.

This will be the fourth annual Road Trip– we're heading up north for the Public Library Association 2008 Conference.

March 24-March 29, 2008

Use the bus trip to network with your peers, catch up on your sleep, finish that book, or watch a movie. But most of all, use the bus for the opportunity to attend a national conference for **FREE!** That's right, thanks to the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, and to a grant* from the Nebraska Library Commission, there will be no cost for the bus ride. (Riders are responsible for their own hotel arrangements and conference registration.)

The PLA National Conference has a reputation for excellence and offers attendees more than a hundred high-quality educational programs, world-class speakers, a bustling exhibits hall, and countless networking opportunities and social events, making the conference one of the most popular and successful events for the public library world.

The 2008 conference promises more of the same in Minneapolis, a city that continually tops travel destination lists for its cutting-edge architecture, vibrant arts scene, award-winning theatre, tax-free shopping, and renowned restaurants.

Bookmark www.placonference.org and check back often for updated information on registration, conference programming, special events, travel, and insider tips on everything Minneapolis has to offer. **John Wood**, former executive with Microsoft and founder of Room to Read, will help kick off the conference with an inspirational account of how he left his corporate job to change the world. **Kevin Nealon**, of 'Hanz & Franz' fame, will do the closing keynote.

Early Bird registration for the PLA conference ends January 18, 2008.

Pick-ups for the bus will be in Lincoln, Omaha, & South Sioux City.

So sign up today to join Road Trip 2008!

Please let us know your serious interest as early as possible, so that if we need to reserve a larger bus we can!

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

*This project was supported in part by a Continuing Education and Training grant, awarded by the Nebraska Library Commission.

**If space permits, each rider may bring a non-library affiliated guest, who, according to grant stipulation would be required to pay \$100.

**Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting
November 2, 2007 10:00 a.m.
Hildreth Public Library 248 Commercial Avenue Hildreth, NE 68947**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Pat Bonge, Sonja Burpo, Vicki Casper, Suzann Christensen, Laura Cundiff, Judy Grandstaff, Patty Hall, Terri Johnson, Vicki Perrie **ABSENT:** Nancy Cantin, Norma Dannatt

OTHERS PRESENT: Sherry Houston (System Administrator), Richard Miller (NLC), Mary Nelson (NLC Commissioner), assorted husbands and grandchildren

PRIOR TO THE MEETING: The board thanks Vicki Casper for hosting the meeting and providing wonderful refreshments. Sherry distributed posters, calendars and other freebies while Vicki Perrie set up the new Dell laptop purchased for each system administrator by NLC. (After connecting to the library's wireless network, Vicki proceeded to share interesting news tidbits with us throughout the meeting. Tony was limited to giving the weather report.)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: President Judy Grandstaff called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2007 meeting was made by Terri Johnson and seconded by Patty Hall. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sherry explained the different financial reports and answered questions. We are doing well financially. One major expenditure was the audit, and copies of the audit report were shared with the board. Edward Jones has changed the format of its financial reports, making them easier to interpret. As recommended by the auditor, Sherry has combined the local and savings accounts into one savings account (a Wall Street Investor account at Heritage Bank). The financial report was filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you from Sharon Bennett/McCook for the scholarship to attend NEMA was shared. Scholarship recipients will write articles for the newsletter.

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. It was a busy month for her, and she expressed thanks to all RVLS members who assisted with NLA/NEMA. A special thanks was made to Vicki Casper, registration chairperson, and to her library board and nineteen student volunteers who filled all the registration bags. Sherry shared that Donna Lammers, Red Cloud, is experiencing continued health problems. North Platte Public Library will be closed from December 3 – 22 while the remainder of the library is re-carpeted. Judy Grandstaff will be teaching the next series of Basic Skills classes in St. Paul and North Platte. Gates Training was mentioned. The State Advisory Board will meet November 16 in Grand Island and all are invited to attend. A tour of the library will be held prior to the meeting. Michael Stevens will be the featured speaker at the November 29 fall colloquium. Sherry will attend NACO on December 13.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting: It was decided to move the annual meeting to Hastings. Speaker options include William Kloefkorn, author of **Restoring the Burnt Child**. Site options include the Hastings Museum, Hastings Public Library, Elks Country Club, Hastings College, Central Community College, and Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital. A tour of the new Hastings Middle School is a possibility. Further discussion will be held at the January meeting.

Ben Mikaelson: Thanks were expressed to NLC for funding Ben Mikaelson's author visit. He will be in central Nebraska visiting schools where students read **Rescue Josh McGuire** (One Nebraska One Book Kids selection) on April 15 (Broken Bow/Hildreth/Holdrege) and April 16 (Hastings). Fairfield and Clay Center will attend the Hastings site. Anyone is welcome to attend his presentations and more information will be forthcoming.

Old Business—Continued

Discussion was held about the costs of author visits. Kent Haruf, author of **Plainsong** and **Eventide**, will keynote next year's Nebraska Center for the Book annual event. McCook is having Nancy Sharp Wagner present sessions on November 17. Mary Nelson promoted Holdrege native Dustin Black, co-author (with Dan Armstrong) of **The Book of Spam**.
[Spam diatribe held at this point]

NEW BUSINESS

Web Page: Michael Sauers "needs" pro bono work and has offered to redo RVLS's web page. (Quoting Sherry: "Hooray!") We shared comments with Richard about NLC's web site. Preliminary discussion is being held about an Open Source union catalog for Nebraska.

Summer Reading Program: Northeast, Meridian, and RVLS will host the summer reading program workshop on March 13-14 in Aurora. Patty Hall and staff will conduct a workshop in Indianola, also in March, date to be determined.

Tech Plan: The committee was thanked for a job well done. A motion to approve the revised tech plan (with the addition of equipment acquisition dates) was made by Terri Johnson and seconded by Tony Anderson. Motion carried.

[New topics of conversation: wireless connectivity, encryption, energy consumption]

PLA: A bus leaving from Lincoln will transport people to PLA in Minneapolis (March 24-28). Sherry is planning to attend, as is Richard Miller. (Richard's quote regarding bus legroom: "I fold up well".) RVLS will grant scholarships for PLA attendance. MPLA (60th Anniversary) is in Salt Lake in April. Richard indicated that NLC might reconsider granting a bus for that trip. In the event that no bus is available, carpooling may be organized.

NLC Commissioner/Report: Mary shared information about the workshop sponsored by Eastern Library System entitled "How to Raise More Money on the Local Level for Your Library". This will be presented by Sally Reed, Executive Director of FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries USA). She also reported on Thinking Outside the Borders and the guest librarians who visited Nebraska in October. Mary said everyone had a good time and it was a great networking experience.

NLC Representative/Report: Richard Miller shared salmon/pumpkin/orange handouts (*thank you, Richard!*) and highlighted these topics:

- Library Improvement Grants
- "We the People Bookshelf"
- Gates Technology Workshops
- Letters About Literature Contest
- Public Library Statistics Report
- Children's Book Week
- Nebraska Book Awards Titles
- College of DuPage Teleconferences 2007-2008
- Library Exhibits and Displays in Nebraska Libraries
- Student Internship Grants

Richard gave kudos to Sherry for a job well done at NLA/NEMA and heard many good things about the event. A nice variety of people were in attendance. Future sites of the convention were mentioned. Discussion was held about student interns. Talking Book magnets were distributed.

[Final topic of discussion: "Dewey or Don't We?"]

Miscellaneous: Newsletter articles are due by November 15.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The next board meeting will be held at the RVLS Office (Landmark Center, Hastings NE) at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 11, 2008.

Meeting adjourned, 12:03 p.m.



NLA/NEMA 2007 CONFERENCE A SUCCESS



This year the NEMA/NLA Conference was held in Kearney at the Holiday Inn on October 24th, 25th and 26th. Two excellent keynote speakers with Nebraska ties, shared information about their lives and professions. Harley Jane Kozak, an actress and an author spoke on Thursday while National Geographic magazine photographer, Joel Sartore was the speaker on Friday.

Many great breakout sessions were offered, my favorites were the sessions featuring the Golden Sower Award winners Mary Downing Hahn, Keiko Kasza and Natasha Friend. Hearing the history behind these winning books was both interesting and entertaining. Students were on site to give the awards to these wonderful authors. The paras designed a great new addition this year, a scavenger hunt with a Hawaiian theme. It was a great draw to the vendor area as well as a lot of fun for the participants.

These are just some of the highlights of the 2007 NEMA/NLA Conference; it would be impossible to mention all the worthy activities packed into a short 3-day span. A conference like this takes a lot of time, preparation and hard work to put together. Everyone involved deserves to be complimented on a job well done!

Sharon Bennett
Central Elementary School, McCook

I enjoyed attending the NLA/NEMA conference in Kearney. The individual programs were informative and I learned about some new ways to use the resources that are available through the library system. The keynote speakers were wonderful, and I especially liked Mem Fox. She gave us a lot of insight on how to read aloud to children, or to anyone, and keep them involved with the story. I thought the conference was well organized and the facilities were good, even with all the remodeling going on.

Pam Leibhart
Lied Imperial Library

Attending this year's conference was a first for me, so I wasn't sure what to expect. Nervous as I was, I found it to be full of valuable information as well as enjoyable. I absolutely love working with kids and took home the most from Mem Fox's pre-conference presentation and Deb and Nancy's story hour session. After listening to Mem Fox, I couldn't wait to read aloud to the Story Hour kids, and I learned of some great "power packin" books and activities to do just that from the story hour session.

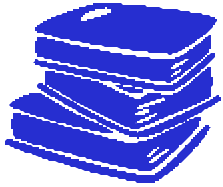
Lisa Fortkamp,
Lied Imperial Public Library

We have not attended the NLA/NEMA conference for a few years and this was definitely a great year to go. I must agree with my colleagues and, I'm sure everyone that was present, that spending the day in the Mem Fox Workshop was time well spent not to mention a lot of fun. "I've Got Just the Book for You" was a great reminder to take a little more time with our clients and the presenters had some fresh ideas. "Getting Familiar with Windows Vista" was a very educational presentation and I hope anyone unable to attend will have access to the information John provided. I was very interested in the presentations on Teen programming and thought the presenters had a lot of great ideas, I hope we have the time and energy to implement even some of what they are doing at their libraries.

All of the sessions we attended were very informative and overall we thought this was a great conference. We really appreciate the scholarships, granted to us by the RVLS and the Nebraska Regional Library Systems that helped with our expenses. Thank you so much.

Beth Falla
Lied Imperial Public Library





Serving Counties:

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

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."
-Helen Keller

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Hastings, NE 68901
Permit No. 565