



SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

SOWINGS

May 2014

A few weeks ago it was announced that the cable channel TNT gave the green light to a series called *The Librarians*, as a continuation of the earlier Noah Wyle “Librarian” movies. In honor of this announcement of epic proportions, let’s take a look some famous people who worked in libraries.

Melvil Dewey – Do I really need to say why he would be here? I imagine that if you ask anybody off the street for a famous librarian, at least half would say “That Dewey guy” as their answer. One thing you may not know is that Dewey had a habit of making powerful enemies and his friends were often bailing him out of trouble. He was also known to have tension with Charles Cutter, a fellow America Library Association founder and creator of the Cutter Classification which is also used today in libraries.

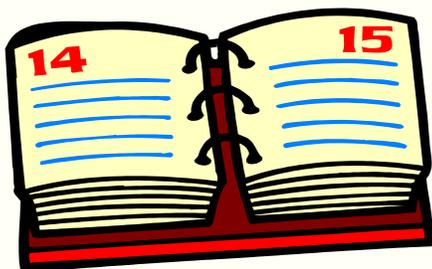
Golda Meir- Golda Meir was one of the signers of the Israeli Declaration of 1948 that declared the establishment of the nation of Israel. Later on, she served as its Prime Minister. She also served as an ambassador and Minister of Labour in her political career. The Broadway play Golda was inspired by her life. Before all that – she worked in libraries in Milwaukee and Chicago during her time in the United States.

(Continued on page 2)

Photo of the Month



Palmyra had some new bookends to show off! The bunnies visited storytime this month. Their owners are Noah and Jaisah Huber. See pages [8](#) and [10](#) for Palmyra Memorial Library’s News Around the System!



CALENDAR

May 2014

May— National Bike Month

May 9th— Lost Sock Memorial Day

May 11th— Mother’s Day

May 11th, 1904— Salvador Dali’s birthday

May 11th, 1997— Deep Blue, the chess-playing computer created by IBM, defeated world champion Garry Kasparov.

May 12th— International Nurses Day

May 14th, 1804— Corps of Discovery (Lewis and Clark Expedition) embark on voyage to Pacific coast.

May 15th— SELS Training Extravaganza. See page [4](#).

May 15th, 2010— Jessica Watson becomes youngest person to sail non-stop and unassisted around the world solo.

May 16th, 1843— First major wagon train sets off on the Oregon Trail.

May 16th, 1901— Sherlock Holmes is visited by Dr. Thronycroft Huxtable about a kidnapping case (*The Adventure of the Priory School*).

May 17th— International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia

May 19th, 1925— Malcolm X born in Omaha. Celebrated annually as Malcolm X Day.

May 20th— William Bragg’s last day at SELS.

May 20th, 1570— First modern atlas issued, titled *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*.

May 20th, 1609— First publication of Shakespeare’s Sonnets by Thomas Thorpe

May 20th, 1927— Charles Lindbergh begins first non-stop flight from New York to Paris.

May 22nd, 1992— Johnny Carson’s last episode of *The Tonight Show*.

May 23rd— World Turtle Day

May 24th, 1941— Bob Dylan’s birthday.

May 25th— National Missing Children’s Day

May 25th— Towel Day— a tribute to author Douglas Adams.

May 25th, 1803— Ralph Waldo Emerson’s birthday.

May 26th— Memorial Day- SELS Office Closed.

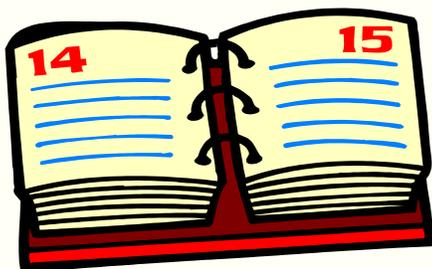
May 26th, 1897— *Dracula* by Bram Stoker is published.

May 30th— Golden Sower Reading Day/ June CASTL. See page [6](#) for details.

May 30th, 1908— Mel Blanc’s birthday- voice of Bugs Bunny and many other Looney Tunes characters.

May 31th— World No Tobacco Day <http://www.who.int/tobacco/wntd/en/>

Inside this issue:	
Sowings	1
Calendar	2-3
2014 Extravaganza	4-5
2014 Golden Sower Day	6
Sowings, continued	7
News Around the System	8-10
CCC Lib Classes	11
CASTL Wrap Up	12
Board Minutes	13-15
Back Page	16



CALENDAR

May 2014

June— Audiobook Month

June 1st, 1974— Heimlich Maneuver published in *Emergency Medicine*.

June 1st, 1926— Birthdate of Andy Griffith and Marilyn Monroe.

June 2nd, 1692— Bridget Bishop, first person to stand trial for witchcraft in the infamous Salem Witch Trials, convicted and hanged to death eight days later.

June 5th, 1989— An unknown man stands in front of a row of tanks halting their advance after the Tiananmen Square Protests of 1989.

June 6th— National Doughnut Day

June 6th— Yo-Yo Day

June 8th— National Best Friends Day

June 9th— Donald Duck Day. Donald Duck made his first appearance in *The Wise Little Hen*. Donald is turning 79 this year.

June 11th, 1184 BCE— Troy razed by the Greeks as calculated by Eratosthenes (chief librarian of the Library of Alexandria, for more information on famous librarians, see this month's Sowings article on page [1](#)).

June 13th— First Friday the 13th of the Year.

June 13th— Blame Someone Else Day. It's Friday the 13th, everything will go wrong. Why not absolve yourself of blame?

June 14th— Flag Day

June 14th, 1949— Albert II, a Rhesus monkey, was sent on a mission into outer space. He was the first monkey in and died on his return as a result of parachute failure.

June 15th— Father's Day

June 17th— Eat Your Vegetables Day

June 17th, 1987— The last Dusky Seaside Sparrow dies. The species is officially considered extinct as of 1990.

June 18th, 1873— Susan B. Anthony fined 100 dollars for attempting to vote in the Presidential election.

June 20th— SELS Board Meeting in Pawnee City.

June 21st— Summer Solstice

June 21st— Go Skateboarding Day

June 25th, 1947— *Diary of a Young Girl* (*The Diary of Anne Frank*) first published.

June 28th— Start of Ramadan

June 28th— Paul Bunyan Day. Celebrate the creator of the Grand Canyon, a man so massive that his lumberjack friends used to grease his pancake skillet by "ice skating" with butter. Don't forget his loyal companion, Babe the Blue Ox.

June 29th— Camera Day, say cheese.

June 30th— Meteor Watch Day

SELS Training Extravaganza

May 15, 2014 at Seward Memorial Library

	Lab	Track 1	Track 2
9:00- 9:30		Welcome & Refreshments	
9:30- 10:30	What's New with Google with Megan Boggs	Weeding with Denise Harders	Sharing the 411 about Your Library with Joanie Barnes
10:30- 10:45		Break	
10:45- 11:45	Google Glass with Jake Rundle	Books Guys Like: An All Male Book Discussion	Day-to-Day Advocacy with Brenda Ealey
12:00- 1:00		Lunch	
1:00- 2:00	Privacy Maintenance with Scott Childers	Weeding with Denise Harders (Repeat)	Using the Q Method with William Bragg
2:00- 2:15		Break	
2:15- 3:15	What's New with Google with Megan Boggs (Repeat)	Book Club Resources with Lisa Kelly	Humor, What's So Funny? with Dee Aguilar

Seward Memorial Library 233 S 5th Street, Seward [Directions](#)

Mark the sessions you'd like to attend

	Lab	Track 1	Track 2
9:30			
10:45			
1:00			
2:15			

Enclose \$25 registration fee (includes lunch) for each person attending. Attendees will earn 4 hours of CE.

Registration deadline is **May 12th, 2014.**

Payment Included

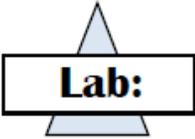
Payment to Arrive Later

Name: _____

Organization: _____

E-Mail: _____

Make checks payable to **Southeast Library System**, 5730 R St., Suite C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505 Fax: (402)467-6196


Lab:
What's New with Google? And More with Megan Boggs, Seward Memorial Library:

See what's new with Google and Google Apps and the variety of ways that both can be used to their fullest advantage in the library setting.

A Google Glass Demonstration with Jake Rundle, Hastings Public Library:

Interested in seeing Google Glass in action? Come join Jake Rundle as he shows off this new Google product. He'll talk about the "glasses" and what the library in Hasting has done with them.

Privacy Maintenance with Scott Childers, Southeast Library System:

Maintaining your online privacy is now a skill a person needs to know. In this session, Scott Childers will walk you through a couple of tips and tricks to help keep your online identity under your control.


Track 1:
Weeding with Denise Harders, Republican Valley Library System:

Weeding is a vital part of keeping your library relevant and a well maintained collection makes it easier for your patrons to find what they want. Denise Harders will share some tips on this important part of librarianship.

Books Guys Like, An All Male Book Discussion Part II:

A panel featuring George Matzen (Webermeier Memorial Library), Tom Schmitz (Lincoln Regional Center), Sam Shaw (Nebraska State Penitentiary), Scott Childers and William Bragg (SELS) where they talk about the books they enjoy. There will be reviews as well as time for questions and answers.

Book Club Resources with Lisa Kelly, Nebraska Library Commission:

Join Lisa Kelly as she discusses some of the various book club resources that exist around the System and State.


Track 2:
Sharing the 4 I about your library with Joanie Barnes, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (Love Library):

Promotion is only one step of the four steps of marketing. We will discuss how libraries everywhere are doing the first 3 steps of marketing (probably without knowing it) and how to incorporate that last part. Resources and ideas will be shared.

Day-to-Day Advocacy with Brenda Ealey, Gere Branch (Lincoln City Libraries):

What you do everyday is a form of advocacy for your library, whether it is talking with the movers and shakers of the community, to providing great customer service. Everyone can do advocacy and everyone should.

Using the Q Method with William Bragg, Southeast Library System:

Interested in using the "Q Method" for surveys and community feedback? This session will demonstrate how the method is done, what the results will look like, and how to interpret those results.

Humor, What's So Funny? with Dee Aguilar, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute:

How many times have you laughed today? Seriously, the benefits of humor and laughter are multi-dimensional, no matter your age. From improving your disposition to improving your cardiovascular health, laughter has a major effect on your health and wellbeing. Laughter has been shown to lower blood pressure, decrease anxiety, increase energy, and help us connect socially with others. In this presentation, Aguilar will explain why finding something to laugh about – every day – is so important.

2014 Golden Sower Reading Day/ June CASTL

Join the CASTL Meeting on May 30th and vote for your favorite GOLDEN SOWER NOMINEES. This is a perfect time for public and school librarians to see the many titles on the Golden Sower Big List for Kindergarten through Third Grades. Vote for your favorite top-ten, and consider purchasing these titles for your collection. There will also be book talks of the books on the Intermediate and Young Adult lists during the afternoon.

Seward Memorial Library

You will need you provide your own lunch. Five hours C.E will be awarded.

May 30th, 2014

Please RSVP so we have an accurate count of attendees.

9:00am

Email Scott at scott.childers.sels@gmail.com or call 402.647.6188.

Regular CASTL attendees, please note that the meeting begins an hour earlier than our normal meetings!

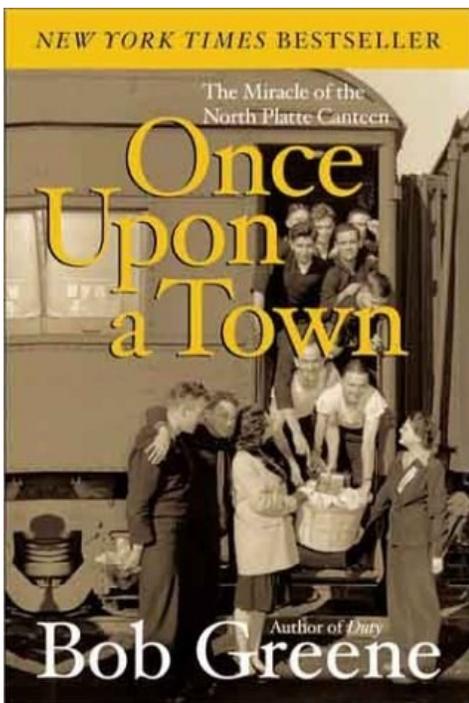
Seward Memorial Library: 233 5th Street Seward, NE 68434

One Book, One Nebraska Book Kit

Once Upon a Town by Bob Greene– 10 copies

In search of "the best America there ever was," bestselling author and award-winning journalist Bob Greene finds it in a small Nebraska town few people pass through today--a town where Greene discovers the echoes of the most touching love story imaginable: a love story between a country and its sons.

During World War II, American soldiers from every city and walk of life rolled through North Platte, Nebraska, on troop trains en route to their ultimate destinations in Europe and the Pacific. The tiny town, wanting to offer the servicemen warmth and support, transformed its modest railroad depot into the North Platte Canteen.



Every day of the year, every day of the war, the Canteen--staffed and funded entirely by local volunteers--was open from five a.m. until the last troop train of the day pulled away after midnight. Astonishingly, this remote plains community of only 12,000 people provided welcoming words, friendship, and baskets of food and treats to more than six million GIs by the time the war ended.

In this poignant and heartwarming eyewitness history, based on interviews with North Platte residents and the soldiers who once passed through, Bob Greene tells a classic, lost-in-the-mists-of-time American story of a grateful country honoring its brave and dedicated sons.

-from Goodreads.com

Check out <http://www.selsne.org/services.html> for the list of Book Club

Sowings Continued

J. Edgar Hoover – The infamous FBI head took a job at the Library of Congress when he was 18 years old. He worked in the orders department before moving into cataloging and being a clerk. He later used the skills he learned there to revamp the FBI’s filing system many years later.

Madeleine L’Engle – A few years after releasing her book, *A Wrinkle in Time*, she began serving as a volunteer librarian with the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine and worked there for over thirty years.

Giacomo Casanova – Casanova earned an almost mythological reputation as a ladies man, at least if you believe his memoirs. The last 13 years of his life, he served as a librarian in the castle of Duchcov Chateau in the modern day Czech Republic.

Beverly Cleary – Before she began writing, she earned her library science degree at the University of Washington in Seattle and worked as a children’s librarian in Yakima, Washington. It was her experiences there that inspired her to write the children’s books that her patrons, and herself, were looking for.

Pope Pius XI – Before he became Pope, he was a librarian and scholar in the Biblioteca Ambrosiana in Milan. After a stint there, he was elevated to the Vice-Prefect of the Vatican Library, then Prefect for a while before becoming an archbishop and eventually Pope in 1922. He is also the titular Pope of the recent book “The Pope and Mussolini”.

Ben Franklin – inventor, philosopher, diplomat, librarian. He started the first lending library in America, The Library Company. Originally it was a private library that eventually opened up to serve Congress. Until the 1850s it was the largest public library in America and in the 1950s it was transformed to a research library and still exists today.

There are more famous and infamous librarians, both real and fictional, but we only have so much room. Perhaps we’ll visit other librarians another time.

Scott Childers, Executive Director
Southeast Library System

News from the System Office

Southeast Library System is pleased to announce that we will be moving offices! It won’t be difficult to find our new space as it is directly across the hall from our current location. The move will take place sometime in early June, so expect plenty of pictures of the new space and updated contact information in the next newsletter!

As many of you have heard, William Bragg, the current assistant for SELS, will be leaving near the end of May. His last day will be the 20th of May. For those interested in seeing him off, after the May 15th Training Extravaganza, there will be a gathering at La Carreta Mexican Restaurant in Seward.

Southeast Library System is seeking a new Administrative Assistant. Information on applying for the position can be found at <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/>.

Kate Marek, a past Administrator for Southeast Library System, has become Dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences at Dominican University in River Forest, IL.

{News Around the System}

Front Porch Award Presentation at Palmyra



The Presentation of the Front Porch Award in Palmyra drew nearly 50 people. People of all ages stopped in to eat cake and offer congratulations. Karen Frank, last year's recipient of the award was there to help present the award to Glenda Willnerd, the Library Board, and the Palmyra Memorial Library. Also debuting at the library was a flag donated by the IOOF. Palmyra's Library Board President, Lucinda Faunce, had just picked up the flag earlier that morning. The flag was flown above both the state capital building and the nation's capital building and it will have a new home at the Palmyra Library.



{News Around the System}

Weeping Water Family Nature Night



By Aimee Morlan

On Tuesday, April 29th the Weeping Water Public Library and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District hosted a Family Nature Night. This event was a great opportunity for children and their families to learn about nature together. During this hands-on event, children were able to explore animals and their habitats, animal tracks, the science of bubbles, make honeycomb candles, butterfly wings, and trash art. These are just a few of the activities that were enjoyed by the 148 in attendance that night.



Bear Sightings Near Palmyra Memorial Library

By Glenda Willnerd

There have been reports of bear sightings near the Palmyra Memorial Library thanks to the careful tutoring of Peggy Leefers. The library hosted a two-week workshop on "How to Make a Teddy Bear." All participants agreed the stuffing was the most fun. Watch out Goldilocks!!



{News Around the System}

Herpetological Society returns to DeWitt for Third Year



By Gerry Powers

Nebraska Herpetological Society visited Burkley Library in DeWitt for the celebration of July 4th, 2013. They will be coming again this year on July 5th at 1:00 pm at the library. This will be the third year that the library has hosted the event.

SELS National Library Week Read In!

We hope that many of your participated in the Read In by taking sometime on the Friday of National Library Week. SELS sure enjoyed it. Pictured below are Dorothy and Roy Willis, Kent Munster, Scott Childers, and William Bragg.





Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Summer, 2014

May 27, 2014 – August 1, 2014

Enrollment begins April 11, 2014

<http://www.cccneb.edu/degreesonline>

See: Library and Information Services

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the first in the Library and Information Services curriculum, provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Foundational Principles and Code of Ethics
- Types of libraries and library departments
- Information Databases and the Internet

For information regarding course content, contact the instructor at mmagee@cccneb.edu

LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course will include the theories, concepts and activities integral to reference.

- Resources and services in 21st Century libraries and information agencies
- Effective use of print & digital resources
- Legal & ethical responsibilities

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services.

For information regarding course content, contact the instructor at mmagee@cccneb.edu

LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum

Erica Rose, Instructor

This capstone course is the last course in the Library & Information Services program and includes 40 on-site hours in a host library as well as a comprehensive review of LIS curriculum.

Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250

For information regarding this course, contact the instructor at erose@cccneb.edu

For information on 21st Century Librarian Scholarships, see Nebraska Library Commission website at: <http://nlc1.nlc.state.ne.us/nowhiring/Scholarships.asp>

"This project is made possible by a grant from The Institute of Museum and Library Services Librarians for the 21st Century Program, as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission."

For information concerning CCC Admissions or Registration, contact:

Dee Johnson

djohnson@cccneb.edu

402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780 extension 1418

CASTL Wrap Up

April's CASTL meeting was hosted by Sue Antes, Director of Syracuse Public Library.

We started the meeting with the round robin discussion. There was a lot of talk about the recently ended Library Madness tournament with many of the participants in the room. A few of the participants talked about how their numbers went up quite a bit during the promotion. Many of the libraries represented were finishing up summer reading plans.

The afternoon discussion focused on volunteerism in the library. One of the topics was on dealing with "bad volunteers". How do you handle them? If they just can't do the task originally assigned to them, some suggested giving them different tasks and give them a way to save face; perhaps they would be

better suited to other roles or just don't have the time right now. If they have bad behavior, they should not be kept around.

It was strongly suggested that if they do any work with the public that they sign a confidentiality statement. Volunteers are expected to have the same level of respect for patron's right to read and privacy as other staff.

Rewarding good volunteers was also talked about. Either individually or as a group, it can help build morale and show model behavior for other volunteers.

An interesting idea came out that libraries have a paragraph on each job a volunteer could do and have that readily available for when someone asks. This helps potential volunteers see what things they could be doing and gives the library staff something to hand out when the occasion arises.

Southeast Library System Meeting December 5, 2013 Seward Memorial Library, Seward, NE

Board Members Present: Becky Baker (Seward Memorial Library); Carolyn Bennett (Beatrice Public Library); Rebecca Bernthal (University of Nebraska-Lincoln); Ruth Carlock (Levitt Library, York College); Karen Frank (Greenwood Public Library); Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners); Sabrina Riley (Union College); Robin Sugden (Freeman Public School); Jan Thomsen (Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora); Dorothy Willis (Pawnee City Public Library); and Glenda Willnerd (Palmyra Memorial Library).

Also Present: Scott Childers (SELS Director); William Bragg (SELS Administrative Assistant); Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission).

Board Members Absent: Aimee Morlan (Weeping Water Public Library)

Meeting was called to order by Dorothy Willis at 10:10 a.m.

Consent agenda

A. October 24, 2013 Minutes: Richard asked that "the Summer Reading Program" be added to the October minutes to tell what the manuals and DVD's were in the mail for.

B. Transaction Report. No questions about it.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the consent agenda be approved.

Budget update

There is still extra money in the budget due to Scott only working part time at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Open board position

Hilary Sire would only have had 6 months left. Everything is kind of up in the air since we don't know what will be happening with the reorganization or when this will take place. There might be more counties in this system, it might

need to be renamed, and we would then possibly have to have a completely new Board. Karen recommended Deb Robertson from York or Debbie Aden to fill Hilary's position. Becky suggested we not fill the position at this time and made the motion that we leave the position open for the time being. Motion seconded. Passed

Technology Plan

Scott said we are probably going to have to have some short term technology plans since we do not know the future of the System. Rebecca asked about the technology inventory. Some items have not been used such as the Wii that has not been sent out in 2 years. The office needs a network router and a printer/copier/scanner, but what we have is adequate technology wise. Scott is questioning whether it would be better to lease or buy. Software is available to fax items from the computers. Becky suggested merging the technology plan in with our strategic plan rather than having a standalone plan for it. Scott is in favor of this since it isn't needed for E-Rate anymore. Becky moved that we add the technology plan to the strategic plan. Rebecca seconded. Motion passed.

The question was asked what the plan was for backing up the digitization. Scott said he is experimenting with Dropbox. He can get folders and use it as a off-site backup. Time will tell if we need to get the expanded services. Dropbox allows them to share documents easily. To put the paper documents into Dropbox, they would be scanned into PDF's. The logistics are not worked out yet. After the documents have been digitized the original documents will be shredded. Richard suggested that Scott contact Sue Biltoft about this. The goal is to empty out some of the file cabinets and make things more accessible. There is not a timeline for combining the technology plan and the strategic plan. This will be done as we edit the strategic plan

Executive Director Report:

Scott asked the Board to read over his report and ask any questions.

Most of the calls he has had have been about accreditation and strategic planning for public libraries.

The question was asked if there was anything exciting that happened at the Commissioner's meeting. It was mostly updates from the Commission such as the closure of the BTOP grant, etc. They want to expand the Overdrive program. The next Commissioner's meeting is on January 17th and Scott plans to be there.

Scott still needs to get out to the schools and Universities, but this is not a good time for doing that. No one has been calling and asking for Brenda, so Libraries seem to know that Scott has taken over as Director of SELS.

Report from Regional Systems Task Force

The Task Force met Nov. 7th and developed 2 options. They want the reorganization to be fair, equitable, and manageable. They looked at the population especially of public libraries, looked at broadband availability and highways, and projected highway building programs. They are trying to balance with the geography. At present they are pondering and looking at what they came up with, and checking to see if they have forgotten anything. They will make recommendations to the Commission; but the Commission will make the final decision. There is no territorialism in this group. Everyone has tried to determine what is best for the state. They are basing it on those factors and the facts. The report will go to Rod and Richard. They will take it to the Commissioners. The Task Force may meet in January again if they can find a day everyone can meet. Richard guesses the Commissioners will look at it at a March meeting and make a decision at the June meeting. Rod once mentioned a 6 months extension to put it in force. All directors' positions are filled, but some have already mentioned they will be retiring soon.

Friends Report:

Becky said "We had a movie, and we are going to have a movie." They had the book fair, but they haven't heard the numbers on the book sales. The system will get a check made out to them and they give it to the Friends. The movie theatre had the movie at the same time, but at a cheaper price. Becky said she felt bad charging \$8.00 when the theatre was only charging \$5.00. The theater manager couldn't do anything about it as he was told "You will have a morning movie." The next movie will be the Hobbit. A ring will be given as a prize at this movie. The deadline to get tickets is December 11th. These movies were the opening of the movie. The Friends will decide after they see how the Hobbit goes if they will keep having the opening movies. Becky said there was a bag of candy upstairs for the SELS people to pick up before they left.

NLC Report

NPR's Book Concierge: Guide to 2013's Great Reads, called together Nancy Pearl, Maureen Corrigan, and David Greene among others and they came up with 200 of what they considered the best books that are now searchable by multiple

categories either on the website or mobile device. The list is described as a Venn diagram-y.

Nine Nebraska libraries were named star libraries by the *Library Journal* index which uses statistics from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the entity that provides federal LSTA funding to libraries. The libraries named are Bloomfield, Creighton, Genoa, Hartington, Oakland, Atkinson, Central City, Neligh, and Falls City. There is some controversy about the requirements they use, but it is national recognition for Nebraska libraries.

Young Readers are invited to enter the Letters about Literature Contest. It is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (in partnership with the Library of Congress' Center for the Book and Houchen Bindery Ltd.) The young people write letters to an author, living or dead, explaining how that author's work changed their view of the world. The Nebraska top letter writers will be honored in a proclamation-signing ceremony at the state capitol during National Library Week 2014. The winning letters will be placed in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. The winners from each state will then be sent on to a panel of national judges with LC's Center for the Book to determine winners and honor winners at each age level. There are three age levels: Grades 4-6 and Grades 7-8 must be postmarked by January 10, 2014, and Grades 9-12 must be postmarked by December 10, 2013. National winners receive \$1000 cash and honor winners receive \$200 cash awards.

John Felton has started a blog called Data Doodles from the data he collects from public libraries. The latest one is on how library programs have increased over the last 5 years. Statistics indicate that library programs rose 21.6%, and attendance increased by 22.8% from FY 2008 through FY 2012. Some of this can be attributed to the BTOP grant to 147 public libraries, but this trend was established before that. The Commission needs public libraries to put their statistics in the *Public Libraries Survey*. The libraries get \$250 for sending their data. The survey is due by February 14, 2014. After sending in the data the libraries can apply for accreditation. They are expecting more libraries to try to become accredited.

The Regional Library System Configuration Task force has begun its work. It is a great group of 9 people. They met October 2nd and again on November 7th and will make recommendations to the Commission on how to address the diminished funding for Nebraska's systems. Although not a member of the group, John Felton has produced numerous useful and informative maps and data sets for the group's deliberations.

The One Book One Nebraska Book has been chosen for 2014. It is *Once Upon a Town: The Miracle of the North Platte Canteen*. It was announced during the Nebraska Center for the Book's Celebration of Nebraska Books on Saturday, October 26th. It is the story of the North Canteen in North Platte. There were people who wanted to keep that Canteen. But the railroad didn't want it, and came in at night and bulldozed it down.

The Nebraska Library Commission was honored to receive the Jane Pope Geske Award "for exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or literature in Nebraska."

The Big Read is a national program that aims to revitalize the role of literature in American culture. Libraries can apply for grants. Those selected will receive a grant ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000, educational and promotional materials, and access to online training resources and opportunities. The deadline is January 28, 2014.

There are two more NCompass Live presentations in 2013. Past presentations are archived and available at the Nebraska Library Commission. They do good programming.

The Basic skills classes for 2014 have all have been scheduled. Laura Johnson will be glad to listen to those that are teaching the classes as she likes to improve them. They are interactive.

Public library directors are asking if they can try out the new Accreditation Guidelines even though their libraries are not up for reaccreditation this year. The answer is yes. They are interested in comparing their library to "peer libraries" with populations 15% lower and higher than theirs. Vern Buis, Computer Services Director at the Commission has made it possible for the comparative statistics to be drawn automatically from Omnibase, on which the annual data submitted via Bibliostat Collect are displayed. If your library didn't submit statistics for the last full year, there will not be any comparable statistics. Do not submit the application form if your library isn't up for re-accreditation. There is a link on their web site to submit CE training.

Richard reminded us about *United for Libraries*. The Library Commission supports this membership for all of the state's public libraries to ensure that Nebraska library staff, friends, trustees, and foundations can take advantage of services to enhance fund raising, advocacy, and public awareness. www.ala.org/united/nebraska gives information about the resources that are available in Nebraska for library trustees, library directors, and library staff at no charge. Some of the things available are: Trustee Academy which has online courses for library boards. Baby Boomer Volunteers for Libraries and Friends. There is a Webinar series on recruitment and retention, Resource Collection Zones, current and archived newsletters, toolkits, electronic publications, special offers, etc. And there is a new free toolkit on starting a

school library Friends group: "Friends Groups: Critical Support for School Libraries" available at: www.ala.org/united/friends.

Accreditation: The people who went through the 1st year of strategic planning had a shorter time to prepare than what they will have in the 2nd or 3rd year so they cut them some slack. The libraries were told to turn in their strategic plan by the end of the month. A lot of the libraries had never done this before. Now there has been training on this. The major problem was that people didn't understand the link between finding census information and how that would relate to the services that were provided. Training has been set up in all 6 systems in January. Everybody up for reaccreditation should have an opportunity to come to strategic planning training. The training will be 3 hours long and food might be provided. Richard said that with receiving the statistics there were 53 public libraries that applied for accreditation. Three had never been accredited before. Eleven earned bronze, 21 silver, and 6 gold. Fourteen reached a higher level, 7 dropped, and 25 stayed at the same level.

SELS Membership List

Rebecca mentioned that the SELS membership list in her binder was last updated in 2007. There are several parochial schools in Lincoln that are not on the list. Scott asked her to send the list of these schools to him and Will.

Future Board Meetings

We need to decide where the upcoming Board meetings will be. In February it will be at Geneva or Deshler. Scott will check on this. The April meeting is at Greenwood, and the June meeting is at Pawnee City.

Committee Meetings

- **Marketing Committee**

SELS needs to change the logo and have new letterhead, etc., but right now it is necessary to wait because of the changes that may take place. Sabrina has a freshman student who prepared a new brochure for SELS. The brochure was passed around so everyone could examine it. Everyone seemed to like the brochure. At the next meeting they will be working on the Front Porch Award. If anyone has a suggestion for the Front Porch Award it is to be sent to Glenda.

- **Services Audit Committee**

Becky, Karen, Robin and Will met. They will retype the Service plan. They want to simplify it. For Example, they said they didn't think it was necessary to send out an email to remind everyone to look at the SoLis.

- **Continuing Education Committee**

Rebecca, Carolyn, and Jan met. Richard joined them. Extravaganza will take place on May 16th in Seward. In January, Scott and Will plan to put together a poll of possible topics that librarians could be interested in to get an idea of how many would be interested in the various topics. They hope to have the results by the SELS meeting in February.

- **Executive Committee**

The Executive committee of Dorothy, Kent, and Ruth met and completed the 6 month evaluation of Scott. We feel he has had a great beginning. We like that he is making telephone calls and going to visit the libraries. He said he still has the schools and universities to visit.

News around the System

Rebecca said that UNL is looking for a Data Curation librarian and a Cataloging librarian.

Carolyn said they have a new person at their library that has a background in children's services. They are in the process of getting a building plan made to expand into the lower level. They are also starting a seed library. They are thinking of using a spreadsheet for organizing the seeds. Master gardeners are packaging seeds for them. Also, 6 or 7 seed companies have sent boxes of seeds. They still need a children's librarian. Beatrice has to teach City Hall why it is good to be accredited. They are having a Great Books giveaway.

Pawnee City's Friends and Foundation groups are discussing the possibility of merging together.

Becky said Seward is using libraryconsignment.com for their extra books. Bookprospector.com was used at Beatrice.

Karen made the motion that the meeting adjourn, Carolyn seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Ruth Carlock, Secretary

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties
of:

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Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •
Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

Editors

Scott Childers
William Bragg

Mailing Address

5730 R St., Ste. C-1
Lincoln, NE 68505

Phone Numbers

Local: 402-467-6188
Toll Free: 800-288-6063
Fax: 402-467-6196

E-mail

wbragg@windstream.net
selsne@gmail.com

Website

<http://www.selsne.org>

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*"Our truest life is when we are in
dreams awake."*
-Henry David Thoreau

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.