



# SoLiS

Newsletter of the

## Southeast Library System

SOWINGS

December 2013

Heading into the end of the year, we will begin to be besieged by “Best of 2013” lists. Whether it is the best music, movie, apps, ads, mixtapes, restaurants, TV shows, etc., they will pop up everywhere. And of course, we love having book lists to look at. For some of our collections, this is the time of year when we see the titles featured on those lists get a second look. Just a quick little bit of digging has brought up well over 40 “Best books of 2013”, and there will probably be many more that come out the rest of the month. A few might actually wait until the year is over to publish theirs.

Here is where we take it to a little bit of an absurd edge and present our “Best Lists of Best Books of 2013” list. Actually this is in no way a complete list, and it is quite possible we left out your favorite best book list, so let us know and we will add it to our list on the website.

Honorable Mention: Book Riot’s [Top 10 of Top 100 Book List](#). This list looks at the best books of all time.

Without further ado, here are some of the lists we have found. The lists are clickable in the pdf format, and will also be put on the SELS webpage at: [selsne.org/toptenlists.html](http://selsne.org/toptenlists.html)

*(Continued on page 7)*

### Photo of the Month

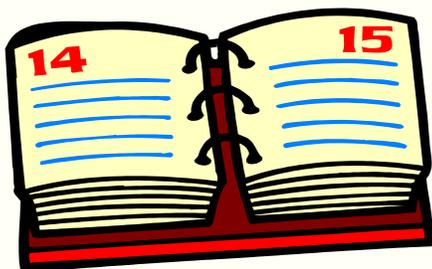


*Chris Bradley as Darth Vader checking out the book Star Wars.*

*From the 501st Central Garrison’s visit to Plattsmouth Public Library. More on page [3](#).*

### Save the Date!

**April 18th-** SELS Friends will host Aged to Perfection at James Arthur Vineyards.



# CALENDAR

## December 2013

**December 24 and 25**— SELS Office Closed.

**January**— National Soup Month.

**January 1st**— SELS Office Closed.

**January 4th**— Trivia Day.

**January 9th**— Nebraska Library Commission Online Accreditation and Strategic Planning Meeting. The meeting will be hosted through GoToMeeting and will take place from 1:00 to 4:30. Registration details forthcoming. Call or email SELS for more info.

**January 9th**— Deadline for Southeast Library System's New Year Give-Away. See page [3](#) for details!

**January 10th**— CASTL Meeting at Greenwood Public Library. This month will, once again, feature round-robin book talks. Pick a book that was featured on a "Top" list for 2013 (See this month's Sowings for ideas). All are welcome. Please let the SELS office know if you plan on attending.

**January 11th**— Amelia Earhart Day.

**January 16th**— NLC Accreditation and Strategic Planning Meeting in Beatrice. The meeting begins at 10am. Registration details forthcoming. Call or email SELS for more info.

**January 19th**— Edgar Allen Poe's Birthday (born 1809).

**January 20th**— Martin Luther King Jr. Day, SELS Office Closed.

**January 26th**— Australia Day. In 1788, a shipload of convicts from British prisons arrived and established a prison colony.

**January 27th**— Lewis Carroll's Birthday (born 1832).

**January 29th**— International Puzzle Day.

**January 30th**— Nebraska Library Commission Online Accreditation and Strategic Planning Meeting. The meeting will be hosted through GoToMeeting and will take place from 1:00 to 4:30. Registration details forthcoming Call or email SELS for more info.

**January 31st**— Zane Grey's Birthday (born 1872).

**February 5th**— Digital Learning Day: [www.digitalllearningday.org/](http://www.digitalllearningday.org/).

**February 13th**— CASTL Meeting at Wymore Public Library.

**March 6th**— World Book Day <http://readingagency.org.uk/children/005-get-involved/world-book-day-2014.html>.

**March 9– 15**— Teen Tech Week: <http://teentechweek.ning.com>.

**March 13th**— CASTL Meeting at Exeter Public Library.

**April 18th**— SELS Friends Aged to Perfection at James Arthur Vineyards.

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### TOP TEN SELS BOOK KITS FROM 2013

1. UNWIND
2. STUCK IN NEUTRAL
3. BOOK THEIF
4. HEAT
5. FULL TILT
6. THE SCHWA WAS HERE
7. THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART TIME INDIAN
8. THE PRIDE OF BAGDAD
9. THE ADORATION OF JENNA FOX
10. UGLIES

# {News Around the System}

## Star Wars in Plattsmouth



*Christian Mercado as a Tusken Raider (Sand People) making a craft at the library on Star Wars Day.*

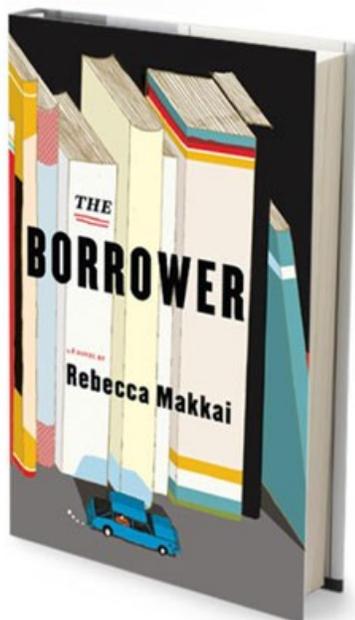
By Evis Zamora, Plattsmouth

Approximately 75 *Star Wars* fans were on hand at the Plattsmouth Public Library on Saturday, December 7th to meet Rebel Officers of the 501st Legion. Darth Vader, Boba Fett, a Tusken Raider, and 3 Rebel officers were on hand for pictures and autographs. It was very exciting to meet them and they even participated in the "Darth Vader Bean Bag Toss Game" and making Yoda puppets before departing for their home galaxies. Thank you to all six of the 501st Legion members for donating their time and to all of the fans for attending, it was a great day.

## Gingerbread House at Fairmont

By Wanda Marget, Fairmont

December 7th was Gingerbread house building at Fairmont Public Library!



## SELS GIVE-AWAY

Southeast Library System is giving away three autographed books for the New Year! The contest is open to anyone who works at a SELS member library. All you have to do is send an email to [sels-ne@gmail.com](mailto:sels-ne@gmail.com) and you will be entered into the drawing. The books are THE BORROWER by Rebecca Makkai, THE OCEAN AT THE END OF THE LANE by Neil Gaiman, and MOON HOAX by PAUL GILLEBAARD. DEADLINE IS JAN 9!

## Walking in a Winter Wonderland

By Evis Zamora,  
Plattsmouth

"Walking in a Winter Wonderland" was the theme of The Plattsmouth Library's annual Holiday party held on Monday, December 9th. Santa and Mrs. Claus were special guests and went back to the North Pole with a list of very good children. The Friends of the Library group provided cookies and juice as well as presents of new books for each child in attendance. The guests also made snow globes and edible marshmallow snowmen to take home as a souvenir. Thank you to the Friends of the Library group for volunteering and helping the kids make their craft projects. We are already making plans for next year's party and we look forward to seeing everyone then.



## Happy Holidays from the staff of SELS

Need a display idea for the first part of January?

Why not put out some self help books for your customers with New Year's Resolutions?



{News Around the System}

# Grant Opportunity

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program. Only libraries within the 50 states are eligible to apply. The Libri Foundation does not offer grants to libraries outside of the United States.

Libraries are qualified on an individual basis. In general, county libraries should serve a population under 16,000 and town libraries should serve a population under 10,000 (usually under 5,000). Libraries should be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department. Please note: Rural is usually considered to be at least 30 miles from a city with a population over 40,000.

Applications are accepted from independent libraries as well as libraries which are part of a county, regional, or cooperative library system. A library system may also apply if all the libraries in the system meet these requirements.

Applications are accepted from school libraries only if they also serve as the public library (i.e. it is open to everyone in the community, has some summer hours, and there is no public library in town).

A branch library may apply if the community it is in meets the definition of rural. If the branch library receives its funding from its parent institution, then the parent institution's total operating budget, not just the branch library's total operating budget, must meet the budget restrictions. Please note: Town libraries with total operating budgets over \$150,000 and county libraries with total operating budgets over \$450,000 are rarely given grants. The average total operating budget of a BOOKS FOR CHILDREN grant recipient is less than \$40,000.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN grant recipients that have fulfilled all grant requirements, including the final report, may apply for another grant three years after the receipt of their previous grant. Grant recipients that do not fulfill all the grant requirements, including the final report, are not eligible for another grant.

There are three ways to obtain a grant application from The Libri Foundation:

Read the application instructions and [fill out the form online](#). The form must be printed out, STAPLED, signed, and returned to The Libri Foundation via mail.

To receive a paper application in the mail, please email your name and your library's name and mailing address to The Libri Foundation at [libri@librifoundation.org](mailto:libri@librifoundation.org). You may also request an application packet by mail, telephone, or fax at the address or phone numbers given on the Libri Foundation home page.

Application deadlines for 2014 are: (postmarked by) January 23rd, May 15th, and August 15th. Grants will be awarded January 31st, May 31st, and August 31st. The names of grant recipients will be posted on the [Grant Recipients](#) page within a few days after grants are awarded. Acceptance packets are usually mailed 14-18 days after grants are awarded.

If you want your books in time for your summer reading program, please apply for a January grant.

NOTE: DO NOT waste money sending your application by Express Mail, Certified Mail, etc. The application deadline is based on postmark date, not arrival date.

<http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html>

In November, the CASTL meeting was hosted by Director Becky Baker and her staff at Seward Memorial Library. Our day started with an update from Mary Jo Ryan of the Nebraska Library Commission, talking about the “Books Are Just the Beginning” campaign. This campaign is designed to encourage the idea that libraries offer so much more than just books. She distributed some materials that will be available from the Commission and demonstrated the website for the public at <http://booksarejustthebeginning.com/>

We then went to our round robin discussion. A recent medical emergency at a library brought about a good discussion on how to deal with this type of thing. Do you perform first aid, do you wait for the first responders, do you ask around for someone with medical training, and do you require staff to have first aid training for things like CPR? It was suggested that this be used as a future CASTL topic as there seemed to be more questions than answers.

Some discussion on Apollo running slow for some people came up, along with questions on printing labels being a bit off. There was lots of good news to be shared, as well with some successful fundraising reported from several libraries’ friends groups and we welcomed two new directors to their first CASTL meeting.

After lunch we went on a tour of the newly renovated Seward Memorial Library and then went directly into Megan Boggs of the Seward staff talking about a software tool they use on their public computers, Time Limit Manager, which automatically logs patrons off when they have hit their maximum number of minutes for the day.

After that, George Matzen from Webermeier Memorial Library of Milford demonstrated a product he uses to keep the public computers from being changed called Drive Vaccine which can be purchased very reasonably from Tech Soup. Drive Vaccine lets the library staff

very easily set up a baseline setup that the computer will revert to, helping keep the computer running smoothly. This software is comparable to Centurion’ Smart Shield or Faronic’s Deep Freeze, but doesn’t require a complete reboot just to make changes.

After the demonstrations we had a good discussion about computer use policy. Some discussion was had on requiring patrons to get a card, either a full library card or a “computer use only” card. Some points about what E-Rate restrictions mean about how to filter was brought up. A question was brought up about if some libraries had restrictions on how many people were on the computer at a time was asked. Some had limits allowing only one or two, some allowed two if the second were helping the first one with something complicated and others didn’t have a policy but were looking into it. The minimum age for allowing computer use was talked about, which then veered to discussion of unattended children and unattended persons policies.

The December CASTL was hosted by George Matzen and the Webermeier Memorial Library in Milford. Check next month’s issue for a CASTL Wrap Up.

The January Meeting will be held at the Greenwood Public Library on Friday the 10th. Hope to see you all there!



CASTL meetings are open to librarians of all types, library trustees, and library friends or supporters. The meetings typically start at 10:00 a.m., and wrap up by 3:00 or 3:30. Each meeting has a dedicated topic of focus, as well as a round robin for discussion and sharing of current issues, topics and library happenings. Attendees earn continuing education hours and you are welcome to join us for all or even part of the day.

- January 10th — Greenwood Public Library
- February 13th—Wymore Public Library
- March 13th—Exeter Public Library

# { CASTL Wrap Up }

(Sowings, continued)

### Library Lists:

Librarians making lists of books? I know it is kind of hard to conceive, but here we are. *Library Journal* released their [list](#) in November. For the kids & teens you can look at [School Library Journal's](#) and [YALSA's](#). New York Public Library also published a [children's list](#).

### Popular favorites:

Where do non-librarians get their book list fix? I think a lot get it from one of these sources. *Time's* [fiction](#) and [nonfiction](#) lists grab people's attention and so do *Entertainment Weekly's* [Fiction](#) and [Nonfiction](#) lists. For many customers, you can't beat Oprah's [list](#).

### Book People:

Of course, those whose business is to read, print, and sell books would have a list. News sources that don't have their own lists, they usually write about [Amazon's](#) and [Barnes & Noble's](#). Very few mention [Publisher's Weekly](#) though. [Bookpage](#) also has a list out. For a list voted on by the readers, you can look at Good Reads' various [lists](#). *Kirkus Reviews* has their [lists](#) up as well. Looking for the National Book Awards list? It is [here](#), along with pictures from the after awards party. [Fiction Award Winners](#) has their list that shows and also mentions what other awards and honors a book received.

### Traditional Media Outlets:

NPR chose not to do a list this year, but do a book concierge [web app](#) that lets you add multiple filters to find that perfect book. The *NY Times* is often a favorite source for people to get their "what's the best thing to read" suggestions, but they aren't the only big newspaper to put out a list. [Washington Post](#), [Kansas City Star](#), [Chicago Tribune](#), [St Louis Post Dispatch](#), [Seattle Times](#), Wall Street Journal (both [fiction](#) and [non-fiction](#)), and [USA Today](#) all have released a list or two.

[Forbes](#), [Huffington Post](#), [New York Magazine](#), [Economist](#), [The Atlantic](#), [The New Yorker](#) all have lists out as well.

### Some niche lists:

Of course there are lists for niche interests. For example, you can get the [20 best books for every kind of 20-something](#) via PolicyMic. How about some [books](#) for Physics fans from *Scientific American*? *History Today* provides their [best history books](#) and there's even a list for the [best medieval books](#) of the year. We found a [best books for city planning & urban design](#) courtesy of website Plantizen. [Information Week](#) and [Inc.](#) have their best books for business out and *National Journal* has its [best political books](#) list.

SELS' Book Tree

### International:

Sometimes you want to get a really different perspective, so why not look at what's being read in some other countries? How about a list from Australian site [Get Reading](#), Canadian newspaper *The Globe and Mail's* Canadian ([Fiction](#) or [non-fiction](#) lists), the UK newspaper *The Guardian's* [collection of lists](#), or [Marie Claire UK](#)? For a really specific list, let's look at the [best celebrity books](#) from the UK newspaper *The Telegraph*.

As always, looking at such a collection of lists makes a person both grateful that quality reading material is still being produced, and a little sad that there's not enough time to read it all!

Happy Holidays and have a Happy New Year!

Scott Childers, Executive Director  
Southeast Library System





# Author Fair

Meet and greet over **thirty** local authors.

Panel discussion about the writing and publishing process

Questions Welcomed

Saturday, January 11th

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sump Memorial Library

## Discussion Panelists

Authors:

Bruce Arant

Julia Cook

Cort Fernald

Michelle Homme

Kent Sievers

Lisa Pelto, President and CEO  
of Concierge Marketing Inc.

## Additional Featured Authors

Danielle Airola

Leo Biga

Brian Bogdanoff

Shawn Brink

Tamsen Butler

Sean Callahan

Marilyn Coffey

Harold Dwyer

Ean Garrett

Natalie Guenther

J.P. Hansen

Leah Hoins

Kay Hughes

Joy Johnson

Ben Justman

Janet Laird

Mark Langan

Tracy Lovett

Abraham Mangar

Harold Mann

Barbara Eymann-

Mohrman

Frank O'Neal

John T. Price

Chris Raabe

Kim Schenkelberg

Donna Schoeppner

Emma Sherman

Jay Slagle

Celeste Snodgrass

Kim Stokely

John Witzel

 <http://www.sumplibrary.org/>  
222 North Jefferson  
402-597-2040



# The History of African Americans in Nebraska

[www.gpblackmuseum.org](http://www.gpblackmuseum.org)

The Great Plains Black History Museum is proud to announce the publication of *The History of African Americans in Nebraska*.

This stunning 8.5" x 11" limited-edition volume will contain 160 four-color pages of fascinating text with approximately 325 historical and current photographs that depict the heritage of African Americans in Nebraska.

This book will act as a tool to educate all people especially youth in Omaha and throughout Nebraska about the treasured history of African Americans and inspire all to follow great leaders from the past, authored by Patrick D. Jones Ph.D. and Jared Leighton.

Don't miss your opportunity to become part of this historic endeavor. **MUST ORDER BY DECEMBER 30, 2013**

## PRE-ORDER YOUR COPIES NOW!

Pre-Order your copies for \$40.00\* each

Order 25-100 books:

Receive recognition on the sponsor pages in 3000 copies of the book

Order 101-250 books:

Receive recognition on the sponsor pages in 3000 copies of the book

Recognition on the museum's website

Order 251+ books :

and receive all of the above plus (2) tickets to the book launch celebration

\*Regular retail cost will be \$45.00 after book publication February 1, 2014



## Support the Great Plains Black History Museum

## ORDER FORM

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Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail order form and payment to:**

Great Plains Black History Museum  
 Attn: Terri Sanders, V.P. Marketing & Development  
 105 North 31st Avenue, Suite 219  
 Omaha, NE 68131

Payment Options\*\*

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**\*\*Special Billing options for Qualified Organizations**

**402-216-3852**

**[terrisanders@gpblackmuseum.org](mailto:terrisanders@gpblackmuseum.org)**

SELS Board Meeting  
Clark Enersen Partners, Lincoln, NE

June 20th, 2013

Board Members Present: Rebecca Bernthal, Becky Baker, Sabrina Riley, Kent Munster, Dorothy Willis, Karen Frank, Robin Sugden, Barbara Hegr, and Ruth Carlock.

Also Present: Aimee Morlan, Richard Miller, Carol Speicher, and William Bragg.

The Meeting was called to order by Board President, Barbara Hegr. She put forth a motion to pass the consent agenda. It was seconded by Karen Frank, motion carried. The minutes of April 15th, 2013 and the transaction report were accepted as submitted.

The financial report included a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. Major items discussed were the salary for the new executive director of SELS, the hourly wage of the administrative assistant, the Colloquium account, and the way the current budget keeps track of reimbursements. The board was presented with two alternate budgets. Budget two included a higher salary for the new executive director and a raise for the administrative assistant. A motion to pass budget number two was made by Becky Baker, seconded by Karen Frank, motion carried.

The hiring committee presented the board with their recommendation and a motion for Scott Childers as the new executive director of SELS, motion carried. Scott will begin the job part-time as he finishes up at Kilgore Memorial Library. A motion was put forth by Becky Baker for the current hiring committee to talk with Carol Speicher about extending her agreement as interim director, motion seconded by Ruth Carlock, motion carried.

Barbara began the discussion of reworking the System's vacation policy. The amount of hours allowed to be carried over at the beginning of each new fiscal year will be reduced from 320 hours to 200 hours. Becky Baker made the motion for this change, seconded by Robin Sugden, motion carried. A motion to reduce the vacation carry over hours for the administrative assistant from 72 to 50 was made by Becky Baker, seconded by Robin Sugden, motion carried.

Carol Speicher presented an Interim Report to the board detailing SELS activities since the last board meeting. Highlights were SELS' Training Extravaganza at Union College in Lincoln, daily discussions about the Regional System's history and function between Carol and William, and the upcoming Planning Workshops for Library Reaccreditation.

The SELS Friends Report, presented by Becky Baker. The Aged to Perfection event at James Arthur Vineyard was a success. Dues for annual membership should be paid this time of the year. SELS Friends plan to offer a hospitality suite at the NLA conference in Kearney. Movie dates for private showings booked for Catching Fire in November and The Hobbit part Two in December. An annual meeting for the Friends group will be scheduled for some time in either July or August, yet to be determined. Terms for two of the SELS Board Members will expire at the end of the month. Nominations will go to the current Friends members list. Like with the ballots which will go out shortly after. Richard Miller gave a report from NLC. This report covered the new guidelines for Accreditation and the planning meetings being set up to aid libraries with the new process. NLC will be presenting a number of grants for librarians to attend the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Omaha, OCLC CatExpress, Nebraska Book Award and State Poet Nominations, New Talking Book Video Aimed at students, and Kreutz Bennett grants for libraries.

Election of New officers, President: Dorothy Willis, Vice-President: Kent Munster, Secretary: Ruth Carlock. Motion for ballot, as presented, by Karen Frank, seconded by Sabrina Riley, motion passed

#### Committee Meetings:

CE Committee – upcoming CASTL meetings. Planning Meetings. YSR- eastern

Marketing/ Promotion – Getting the SELS name out – looking for things to give away. Expanding listserv. Programming involving academic libraries. C.E. for academic support staff and support staff in general.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:33

Southeast Library System Meeting  
Beatrice Public Library

August 23, 2013

**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); Aimee Morlan (Weeping Water Public Library); Sabrina Riley (Union College); 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:** Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners); Hilary Sire (Barnes & Noble Booksellers); Robin Sugden (Freeman Public Schools).

**Meeting was called to order** by Dorothy Willis at 1:05 p.m.

#### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Examined the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Minutes and discussed the Transaction Report  
Karen moved and Jan seconded to approve consent agenda. Motion passed.

#### **Budget Changes Update**

Will is still working on QuickBooks so he doesn't have available the report we usually have. SELS hasn't spent much. He will email that sheet sometime next week.

#### **Account Signature and Credit Card Approval for Scott**

Scott's signature is on the checking account, but there needs to be something in the minutes showing that the Board has given their approval for him to sign on the credit card account. The Board agreed that the Director's name should be on the checking account. We should also have a Lincoln Board member's name on the checking account. Rebecca's name is on the account, and she will accept this responsibility again. Karen made a motion and Becky seconded that we have a Lincoln Board members name on the checking account. Motion passed. Karen moved and Becky seconded to also put Scott's signature on the credit card. Motion carried.

#### **2013/2014 system Plans**

In Goal 1 D. strike using letterhead. A phone call is fine. There are a couple of dates that need to be adjusted. Service role 3, Goal 3, Objective 2: either strike or update to maintaining the Apollo automation system. Change the date at the beginning to 2013.

It is the responsibility of the Executive committee to do some updating. This year is the year to update policies. The policy on vacation time has already been changed. Will went through and updated all of the NEMA and Administrator information. We need to strike the line that says one of the Administrative Assistant's duties is the newsletter. Where it says Military Leave, change Haydon Art Center to SELS.

The technology plan was to be reviewed. Dorothy talked with Scott about changing some things because people from small libraries can't get away to attend meetings. Scott can do a lot with Technology. He wants to update what we do. Face to face is important. What he changes will be supplementary.

#### **Interim Report and Report from August NLC Quarterly Meeting**

Scott has visited a couple of libraries. His last day at York is Sept. 10. His first full time date with SELS is September 16<sup>th</sup>. Between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> there is a youth retreat and a CASTL meeting which he will attend. He will be on part time for those.

On Wednesday, Scott and Dorothy attended the quarterly Regional meeting. There is still talk about rearranging the systems or reducing to only 4 or 5 system s. A committee is being formed to discuss the rearrangement and we need a representative on the committee. The committee is to report back the first quarter of 2014. Right now everything is up in the air. They may look at other options. Our SELS representative should be a current Board member who knows

the system pretty well and would speak out. We do not want a short term solution and need to be adaptable to change. This committee must look at a lot of factors including the geography, distances, population, where there is growth or diminishing factors, trends, and money. Karen suggested Dorothy be the representative for SELS and she said she was willing to do it. Dorothy will probably be communicating to us by email and will appreciate feedback via email.

Librarians are needing information on the Affordable Care Act. Another Ncompass Live will be on this topic September 4<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that if a person hadn't watched the previous sessions, to watch the new one coming out first because it is more updated. Information should be available soon for libraries to give their patrons.

The Basic Skills schedule is out and Scott will be doing two of the trainings.

A Mutual Learning Core has been started. Twelve students are part of the initial core. It is an attempt to get MLS students as computer trainers and coaches that would be available to libraries. Mary Jo Ryan will be sending information out on this.

Gail Formanack, the Director of ELS, is on the reorganization committee. We are to email Dorothy with any thoughts.

Will has the contact information for SELS Board members. We are to check over our past information and be sure it is correct.

### **SELS Friends Report**

The SELS Friends met August 9<sup>th</sup>. The officers stayed the same. They are planning to have a hospitality room at NLA Conference and having pizza in the room since there is no banquet this year. A private movie showing will be held in November/December. They received a \$500 donation for hosting the week of conference. Becky Baker's Library Foundation won the Meritorious Service Award from NLA. The Bylaws were changed to consolidate the Annual Board Meeting and Membership Meeting. Scholarships will not be given this year.

### **NLC Report**

September is Card sign-up month. This is done to remind the parents and children that a library card is the most important school supply of all. ALA would like to hear of library plans for this event.

The ARSL meeting is in Omaha, September 25<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>. Statewide forty-three librarians received grants to attend.

Information Today is offering a group discount through the Nebraska Library Commission to all Nebraska librarians who plan to attend the Internet Librarian Conference in Monterey, CA, October 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration ends September 27, 2013.

The September 4<sup>th</sup> NCompass Live will be on the Affordable Care Act. Mary Sauers will be the presenter.

John Felton has posted a URL to help libraries create online data collection forms for collecting the statistics needed for the annual report of library statistics.

The Basic Skills classes will be starting in September and registration is open now for the first two class dates.

The newest Commissioner appointed to the Nebraska Library Commission for a three-year term is Michael LaCroix who is the Director of the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library at Creighton University.

The talking Book and Braille Service has recently put out a new video for students and school libraries to help those with a print-related disability. It is short and cool to watch.

Small-town Public Library Grant forms must be turned in by October 1<sup>st</sup>. These grants are for towns with fewer than 3,000 residents. Last year seven towns received these grants which totaled about \$70,000. Also, enhancement grants are available. These are matching grants. This fund was set up by Shirley Kreutz Bennett of Lincoln who wanted smaller communities to have better access to knowledge and information. The grants are available in three areas: planning grants leading to accreditation; enhancement grants to improve library services and/or programs; and facilities grants for new facilities or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries. Approximately \$70,000 is available each year for these grants.

Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Scholarships were given to 16 Nebraska students in undergraduate Library Science programs. At this time there is no more money for graduate degrees. There is still money for undergraduate degree

scholarships. The recipients were listed on the sheet Mr. Miller handed out.

### **Appointment of Committees**

A sheet on the SELS Committees was handed out. The Committees are:

**Services Audit** – Becky Baker, Karen Frank, Robin Sugden, [Dorothy Willis].

**Continuing Education** – Carolyn Bennett, Jan Thomsen, Rebecca Bernthal, Aimee Morlan [Ruth Carlock].

**Marketing/Promotion** – Hilary Sire, Sabrina Riley, Glenda Willnerd [Kent Munster]

Charge to Services Audit committee

Review SELS services. Include consideration of current practice, system resources (financial & human), results of Systems' future meeting.

Consult with System libraries and other System Board members as necessary.

Identify a) Services to discontinue; b) New or revised services (might include different delivery methods.

Make recommendations for changes/improvements at the [date] Board meeting.

### **Committee Meetings**

We are to choose someone to be the chair.

Richard Miller mentioned that he had Tickets for the Trustees Workshop and links for the Scholarships.

### **Committee Reports and Executive Committee Policy Review Report**

**Continuing Education Committee** – Carolyn Bennett, Jan Thomsen, Rebecca Bernthal, Aimee Morlan, [Ruth Carlock].  
Jan is Chair.

The committee talked about CASTL. Summer reading will be held at Nebraska City in early November. Brenda always did a lot of the calling. Glenda had a person to suggest for Summer Reading. Will had some ideas. People need to be called. If Scott wants us to do some of the calling he is to let us know. Fiz Bang Boom is the summer reading for Kids.

Someone had asked about a Presenters Fair that was held about 10 years ago and they wondered if we would do that again. Different vendors were invited to come to it.

Extravaganza will be at Seward in May. Meghan Boggs from Seward could do a session on Password Management. Some librarians are asking us to offer multiple sessions so they can choose to go to more if two sessions they would like to set in on meet at the same time. Scott will help work the logistics out.

**Marketing/Promotion Committee** – Hilary Sire, Sabrina Riley, Glenda Willnerd, [Kent Munster]

Sabrina brought up the fact that SELS doesn't focus much on Academic Libraries issues. SELS provides training that covers other librarians, but not Academic Librarians. They are going to talk about what would be good to support academic libraries. Branding for SELS was discussed. There is a need for a Logo to display on the readers. They had tried to update the logo. Hope more committee members will be here next time

**Services Audit** - Becky

They plan to start a list of current services that include all types of libraries. Services also need to be provided for paraprofessionals. They would like to know who retired so they can follow that. Recommendations are needed by the December meeting.

### **Future meetings**

Oct 24 – (Maybe Aurora)

Dec 5 - Seward

SELS Annual Report will be saved until next meeting.

**Meeting was adjourned** at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Ruth Carlock, Secretary

## Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties  
of:

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Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •  
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## December 2013



*Winter is Coming...*  
-George R.R. Martin,  
Game of Thrones

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](http://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.