



Plain Speaking

Central Plains Library System

Educate Connect Inspire

Volume 1, Issue 3

June/July 2015

Nebraska's Children's Choice Award

The Sower, a 19,000 pound bronze statue, stands on top of the Nebraska State Capitol building in Lincoln. He is sowing seeds of grain, and something much greater. He is the symbol of sowing the seeds of agriculture, life, hope, and prosperity. He is symbolic of the state of Nebraska as a major agricultural state. Because of the symbolism surrounding the Sower, the statue was selected to be the symbol of the Nebraska children's choice literary award, **The Golden Sower**.

The first Golden Sower award was presented in 1981. Three awards are presented annually in the following categories: Primary, Intermediate, and Young Adult. Thousands of Nebraska's children participate annually by voting for their favorite title. To be eligible to vote, a reader must have read or heard a minimum of four of the current nominees from one category. Voting is open to all eligible Golden Sower readers in the State of Nebraska through public and school libraries. Voting is free and no registration is required.

The Central Plains Library System is pleased to offer a new Golden Sower service for the upcoming 2015-16 school year. We have 2 complete sets of the Primary and Young Adult nominees and 3 complete sets of the Intermediate titles. See page 2 of this newsletter for a comprehensive title list. These book sets will allow you to give the children in your community the chance to get an early start. Host a Golden Sower book club. Read primary nominees to children entering grade K – 3rd. Read a chapter a week from an intermediate nominee to keep your 4th -6th graders coming back for more.

Contact the Hastings Office to make a reservation for your school or library to borrow a set.

Hastings Office
2727 West 2nd Street
#233
Hastings, NE 68901

Kearney Office
816 East 25th Street #7
Kearney, NE 68847

Denise Harders
402-705-1409
denise.cpls@gmail.com

Sharon Osenga
308-708-1688
sharonosenga@gmail.com

Kay Kloppenborg
800-569-4961
cplsasst@gmail.com

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MEGAN SVOBODA
KATHY THOMSEN
JULIA VANMETER

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N O M I N E E S

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2015-2016 Primary Nominees

- ***Simpson's Sheep Won't Go To Sleep*** by Bruce Arant
- ***The Day the Crayons Quit*** by Drew Daywalt
- ***No Pirates Allowed! Said Library Lou*** by Rhonda Gowler Greene
- ***Rufus Goes to School*** by Kim T. Griswell
- ***Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch*** by Anne Isaacs
- ***My Crocodile Does Not Bite*** by Joe Kulke
- ***The Invisible Boy*** by Trudy Ludwig
- ***Sophie's Squash*** by Pat Zietlow Miller
- ***Super Hair-O and the Barber of Doom*** by John Rocco
- ***That Is Not a Good Idea*** by Mo Willems

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2015-2016 Intermediate Nominees

- ***Hold Fast*** by Blue Balliett
- ***Sky Jumpers*** by Peggy Eddleman
- ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*** by Chris Grabenstein
- ***Charlie Bumpers vs. the Teacher of the Year*** by Bill Harley
- ***Darling: Mercy Dog of World War I*** by Alison Hart
- ***A Snicker of Magic*** by Natalie Lloyd
- ***Half a Chance*** by Cynthia Lord
- ***Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin*** by Liesl Shurtliff
- ***The Girl from Felony Bay*** by J. E. Thompson
- ***The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond*** by Brenda Woods

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2015-2016 Young Adult Nominees

- ***Turn Left at the Cow*** by Lisa Bullard
- ***The Testing*** by Joelle Charbonneau
- ***The Lightning Dreamer*** by Margarita Engle
- ***The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die*** by April Henry
- ***QB 1*** by Mike Lupica
- ***Far Far Away*** by Tom McNeal
- ***Prisoner 88*** by Leah Pileggi
- ***Counting by 7s*** by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- ***Golden Boy*** by Tara Sullivan
- ***Stung*** by Bethany Wiggins

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CENTRAL PLAINS LIBRARY SYSTEM

1st Annual Meeting

July 24, 2015

Fonner Room—College Park

Northeast corner of Hwy 281 and Hwy 34 intersection

Grand Island, NE 68801

10:00 am —11:15 am CPLS Board Meeting

11:15 am —11:30 am Registration

11:30 am —12:15 pm Annual Meeting

12:15 pm —12:45 pm Lunch (Included in your registration fee)

1:00 pm — 2:00 pm “Cool Tools for You and Your Library” - Christa Burns, NLC

“New Internet tools, technologies and websites are appearing every day, and you can make use of them in your personal and professional life. Librarians can harness the full potential of these tools to provide innovative library services and programming, stay organized, be creative and improve productivity. Christa Burns, from the Nebraska Library Commission will introduce you to new and emerging online tools to empower you to accomplish great things at your library.”

Registrations Due by July 17, 2015



Registration Form: CPLS Annual Meeting—July 24, 2015

Name: _____ Library: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send this registration form and \$10 registration fee to:

Central Plains Library System

2727 West 2nd Street, Suite #233

Hastings, NE 68901

CPLS News

Tina Walker, Mid-Plains Community College Area Director of the Learning Resource Center was named the 2014-2015 winner of the award for MCC Professional Achievement in Student Support. She earned this award by being an outstanding student advocate and by constantly seeking means to improve student learning and retention.



Indianola Public Library celebrated their 75th Anniversary during National Library Week with an Open House and Book Sale.

Picture Books by Subject



Vicki Casper from the **Hildreth Public Library** decided to take a big leap and arrange her picture books (fiction and nonfiction) by subject. It was a lot of work to get done, but now it is a real hit with her patrons. First Vicki selected the topic areas that would best serve her patrons. (Call the Hastings System Office for suggestions.) Then it was time to pull the books off the shelves and stack them in subject groups. This part was much more difficult than I had anticipated. After that, the books are marked with stickers and the topic areas are noted in the online catalog. Then Vicki was ready to wipe down the shelves and place the books, face out, in bins labeled with the subject.



This arrangement allows parents, caregivers, and teachers to quickly flip through picture books about the subject they want. Children love to take bins off the shelves to browse. Shelving is easy...just drop the book in the bin that is labeled with the correct topic.

Sounds like a win, Win, WIN to me!

2015 Golden Sower Award Winners

Primary –

Creepy Carrots by Aaron Reynolds, illus. by Peter Brown

Intermediate –

The False Prince by Jennifer A. Nielsen

Young Adult –

Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz



Over 71,000 students read the Golden Sower Award nominees this year and voted for their favorite book.

University of Missouri — Columbia School of Information Science And Learning Technologies (SISLT) Open House

Saturday, June 6, 2015
10 am-1 pm

Central Plains Library System Office
(815 E. 25th St., Suite 7, Kearney, NE)

Join us for an open house and learn about the opportunity to earn your MLS from Missouri!

- In-state tuition
- Classes meet at UNO and online
- 39-hour program you complete on your schedule

Laura England-Biggs
Program Liaison, SISLT

Phone: 402-290-3969
E-mail: engandle@missouri.edu

Kreutz Bennett Grants Awarded



Ten Nebraska public libraries recently received a helping hand, thanks to the generosity of a lifelong educator, the late Shirley Kreutz Bennett of Lincoln. Each year the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund, an affiliated fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF), accepts proposals for matching grants for public libraries in communities with populations of fewer than 3,000.

Following Ms. Kreutz Bennett's wishes, a Fund Advisory Committee composed of her nieces and nephews recommends grants in three areas: planning grants leading to accreditation; enhancement grants to improve library services; and facilities grants for new construction or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries.

All grants require a certain level of matching funds and evidence that the project has broad community support. Approximately \$80,000 is available each year. Grant seekers are encouraged to review the guidelines and application procedures at www.nebcommfound.org/fund/kreutz-bennett. For more information, contact Reggi Carlson, NCF Communications Director, (402) 323-7331 or rcarlson@nebcommfound.org.

The following CPLS libraries received grants in 2015:

Arapahoe Public Library

The Fund Advisory Committee approved a grant of \$5,120 for a project that involves digitization of more than 80 reels of microfilm from seven area newspapers dating back to 1879.

Valentine Public Library Foundation

This \$15,000 project grant will help fund the improvements planned for the front entrance of the library, making it safer and providing easier access to the library. The new entrance will meet all ADA requirements.





The Bram Stoker Awards

The Horror Writers Association chose the historic city of Atlanta, Georgia to announce the winners of the 2014 Bram Stoker Awards®. The presentations were made at a banquet held as the highlight of the Bram Stoker Awards Weekend, which was held this year as part of the 25th Anniversary World Horror Convention.

Bronze haunted-house statuettes were handed over to the writers responsible for creating superior works of horror last year.

This year's winners include:

Superior Achievement in a NOVEL

Blood Kin by Steve Rasnic Tem (Solaris Books)

Superior Achievement in a FIRST NOVEL

Mr. Wicker by Maria Alexander (Raw Dog Screaming Press)

Superior Achievement in a YOUNG ADULT NOVEL

Phoenix Island by John Dixon (Simon & Schuster/Gallery Books)

Superior Achievement in a GRAPHIC NOVEL

Bad Blood by Jonathan Maberry (Dark Horse Books)

Superior Achievement in NON-FICTION

Shooting Yourself in the Head For Fun and Profit: A Writer's Survival Guide by Lucy A. Snyder (Post Mortem Press)

Works can be recommended by any member of the HWA. Juries in each category also compile their top picks, and members with Active status then vote on works from both the member recommendations and the jury selections in a preliminary ballot. From there the field is narrowed to the final ballot and a list of nominees, from which Active members vote to choose the winners. The award is named for Bram Stoker, best known as the author of *Dracula*.



Smart Investing @your library[®] Builds Nebraska Communities

Money for college?...for retirement?...to buy a home?

Free online financial education classes for Nebraskans.

Get login password: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/FinancialEducation>.

Please tell your community about this free learning opportunity

Nebraska Librarians: Please help us invite the people of your community to a unique online learning experience. The Smart Investing @ your library[®] online class is a free online, self-paced educational opportunity using videos, mini-lectures, readings, links to Web-based sources, exercises, worksheets, and quizzes to provide unbiased financial education.

Curriculum customized to financial stage in life:

- Starting Out--generally those under age 40
- Building Up--generally those age 40 to up to 2 years before retirement
- Making it Last--retired or those retiring within 2 years

We would love it if you would share this message on your library Facebook pages

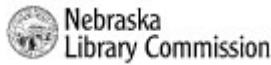
(<https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaLibrarians>). If you do please let us know—we want to LIKE it!

Encourage your local community members, library customers, volunteers, and coworkers to get a login password at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/financialeducation>.

If this sparks a need in your community, the Nebraska Library Commission has individual financial education books and bulk loan collections of print and DVD materials to share with your community. You can keep these materials for up to two months and merchandise them via an inhouse display, etc. See a list of materials offered at: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/finra/libs/FINRALoanCollectionOrderForm.pdf>.

If you have any question about the curriculum or bulk loans, please contact JoAnn McManus, joann.mcmanus@nebraska.gov, 402-471-4870, 800-307-2665.

This program is made possible by a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart Investing @your library[®], in partnership with the American Library Association. This program is sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and the Three Rivers Library System (formerly Northeast Library System).



Central Plains Library System

Helping Hand Award

The Helping Hand Award is offered annually by the Central Plains Library System to a deserving Trustee, Friend, Volunteer or Library Supporter.

Nominations may focus on, but are not limited to, the following: library promotion, library support, volunteer service. A minimum of two supporting letters for the nominee shall accompany the nomination form.

Nominations and supporting documentation are due to the Central Plains Library System Office by June 15, 2015.

Name of Nominee _____

E-mail: _____

Name of person making the nomination: _____

E-mail: _____

I am nominating this person because:

Additional pages may be attached as needed

NebraskAccess Changes

The Nebraska Library Commission is happy to announce major changes in the statewide database lineup offered through NebraskAccess as of July 1st. Based on requests that we have heard from librarians over the years, the content has been expanded and all the databases will be available to all types of libraries.

NebraskAccess will provide access to:

MasterFILE Complete ^{NEW}	Thousands of full text magazines, journals, and reference works; more than one million images
Primary Search ^{NEW} (designed for elementary age students)	Full text magazines and reference works including <i>Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia</i>
NoveList Plus ^{NEW}	Reading recommendations, book summaries, reviews, and suggestions for fiction and nonfiction
NoveList K8 Plus ^{NEW}	Reading recommendations for the younger crowd, tools for teachers and parents
Biography Reference Bank	Full text magazines, journals, and reference works
Biography Reference Center ^{NEW}	Full text reference works and narrative biographies
MyHeritage ^{NEW}	Global genealogy resources
Points of View Reference Center ^{NEW}	Critical analysis with overview, point and counterpoint on hundreds of topics for middle and high school students
Legal Information Reference Center ^{NEW}	Full text reference works (NOLO Press publications); legal forms
Small Business Reference Center ^{NEW}	Full text reference works; videos
Consumer Health Complete ^{NEW}	Full text reference works and periodicals, videos
Science & Technology Collection ^{NEW}	Full text magazines and journals
Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection ^{NEW}	Full text magazines and journals
FirstSearch databases	FirstSearch databases including WorldCat will continue to be available; however, the interface will be changing in late summer.

Databases that will be discontinued as of July 1, 2015 are: OmniFile Full Text Select eLibrary
HeritageQuest Online
Books in Print

Any library that wishes to subscribe individually to eLibrary, HeritageQuest Online, or Books in Print through ProQuest should contact Susan Knisely by email, susan.knisely@nebraska.gov, or phone, 402-471-3849 or 800-307-2665 for information about placing orders.

Follow the NebraskAccess mailing list (<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/nebraskaccess/maillinglist.aspx>) to keep up with the training events being planned and other details on the transition.



Cover One

The System has purchased a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. This machine easily binds up to a 2 ½” thick book and it has a sliding wall to hold smaller books in place. It will also work with legal size and well as regular 8 ½ x 11” size items. Repaired books will be ready to use in just 20 minutes! Go to <http://www.coverone.net> and click on the link for Book Repair Demo on the left-hand side of the page to see it in action.

We are working on the policy and pricing for use. At this time, we expect that the machine will stay in the Hastings Office and books will come here to be repaired. Once the Board has all the details worked out, we will send out an announcement.

For now, save those books where the glue has popped or books that have lost individual pages. We'll let you know when we're open for business.

Disc Cleaning and Repair

The System Office has the ECO AUTO-SMART Fully Automatic Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From January 1 thru June 30, 2015, each CPLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.



- If you have more than 10 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc.
- If you come to the CPLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

Central Plains Library System Leadership Award

The Leadership Award is offered annually by the Central Plains Library System to a deserving library employee. Nominations may focus on, but are not limited to, the following: customer service, innovative programs, technological development. A minimum of two supporting letters for the nominee shall accompany the nomination form.

Nominations and supporting documentation are due to the Central Plains Library System Office by June 15, 2015.

Name of Nominee: _____

Library: _____

Address: _____

Name of person making the nomination: _____

E-mail: _____

I am nominating this person because:

Central Plains Library System Board Meeting
April 20, 2015 10:00 am
Ord Township Library
1718 M Street, Ord, NE.

PRESENT: Dixie Codner, Jody Crocker, Judy Hagan, Kristi Hagstrom, Pat Hughes, Mo Khamouna, Rochelle Kruger, Sky Seery, Kathy Thomsen, Julia Van Meter

ABSENT: Tim Johnson, Robyn Johnston, Shawna Lindner, Debra Moninger, Megan Svoboda

ALSO PRESENT: Denise Harders (CPLS Director), Sharon Osenga, (CPLS Director), Kay Kloppenborg (CPLS Admin Asst.), Richard Miller (NLC Rep)

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Jody Crocker called the meeting to order on 4.20.15 at 10:02 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Please see corrected minutes sent out via email on 4.16.15. Kristi Hagstrom moved to accept minutes, Judy Hagan seconded.

FINANCIAL REPORT: QuickBooks is up and running. Periodical subscriptions are paid for the year. A memo will be added to the QuickBooks report that explains purchases further so Kay does not have to duplicate the report in another format.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you note from Betty Warnke for the Kindle she won for the Week of Weeding. Thank you note received from Dana Wade.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS: Sharon: Final refund checks from Eakes and Universal Service for Meridian have been received. Gary Riggs will be contacted to look at books before the end of June. Promotional items are well liked. Second Summer Reading Workshop was a success with 41 in attendance. Twelve attended Koha meeting in Holdrege. ***Individual Report:** Visited a number of libraries, meet with new directors, and assisted w/weeding. Shared information about retiring library personnel and library renovations in the CPLS area.

Denise: RVLS bank account is still open, waiting for E-Rate refund. Leftover money has not been moved, waiting for refunds. Four Meet & Greets in Holdrege, North Platte, Atkinson, & St. Paul, averaged 6 to 8 people at each session. Directors are taking suggestions for Book Kits – especially the Golden Sower Kit. ***Individual Report:** Insurance is proving to be a challenge, see more in New Business. Worked out the banking issues also, free online access for non-profit. Directors have been in Holdrege, three elementary schools are combining to one building so they have been weeding and assisting. Denise attended Advocacy Day in March. Transporting the cutting machines. Elwood purchased Overdrive, Denise conducted a training to gain interest in that service. School Librarian's Day in North Platte. Denise traveled, met w/new librarians, etc. Working on the never ending E-Rate forms.

Transition to the new system has been very complex but a good thing as far as libraries reaching out via phone or email. Both directors are pleased with the response by all in the Central Plains Library System.

The Honda was sold for \$5,000. Purchased a 2015 Ford Escape SUV.

Will look at the Summer Reading Workshop and change things up in the future sessions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Action Items

Division of Director's Duties – Sharon will maintain website, Flickr. Denise will take care of the newsletter and Pinterest. Sharon will oversee the Workshops on Demand schedule and take over the QuickBooks administrative duties by going to Hastings on the 15th and 30th of each month to take care of payroll, bills & financial reports. Alternating audio book selection monthly.

There will be two weeks of weeding – it's a hot topic! A Workshop on Demand will be created for these libraries to utilize. Possibly an NCompass Live session that would be archived forever.

Judy Hagan agreed to allow other libraries in the north to use her cutting machine and dies. Will continue to think about transporting the cutting machine/dies.

Brief Adjournment at 12:07pm for lunch.

Jody called the meeting back to order at 12:38pm.

Board will revisit the director duties at our next meeting. Pat Hughes made a motion to accept the duties as described. Mo Khamouna seconded. The motion carried.

CPLS Operating Policies and Procedures – CPLS Policies and Procedures, with a change on the Compilation of Financial Statements to biannual. Julia Van Meter made a motion to accept the CPLS Policies and Procedures as presented w/noted change. Kristi Hagstrom seconded. The motion carried.

System Plan – 2014-2015 System Plan needs to be presented to the Commission by July 1. Needed is an Ad-Hoc Committee to assist with this System Plan. Committee members are: Sky Seery, Dixie Codner and Jody Crocker. Judy Hagan made a motion to accept the ad-hoc committee. Rochelle Kruger seconded. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Items

Committees – Sharon suggested a Continuing Education committee. Members are as follows: Kristi Hagstrom, Judy Hagan and Mo Khamouna.

Annual Meeting – Planning on July at Central Community College, Grand Island campus. Will ask Christa Burns to present a 50 Cool Tech Tools as it is always such a big hit at the NLA Annual Conference. Planning will continue.

Binding Machine – Denise and Sharon presented the #620 Machine from Cover One for purchase. Cost is \$1,195.00. \$500 is budgeted for this machine and w/the nearly \$7,000 transferred after the Meridian System checking account is closed, there is money to purchase this machine. RVLS has unbudgeted money as well. A fee for supplies is yet to be determined but Denise proposed \$.50 per paperback and \$1.00 per hard-back. Pat Hughes suggested a summer intern to assist with binding. Mo Khamouna made a motion to purchase the #620 Binding Machine. Pat Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried. Guidelines/policies will be created after the purchase.

Hastings Business office Lease – Landmark Center where Denise and Kay are located have offered a new 2 year lease July 1 that increases the rent \$25/month for a total of \$575. This includes a reception office, office and storage room with access to a conference room. Julia Van Meter made a motion to stay at the Landmark Center w/the 2 year lease. Dixie Codner seconded. The motion carried.

Insurance – Business/Comp Policy – Two policies w/American Family Insurance - Employee Dishonesty Policy tied w/Worker's Compensation policy, other policy is the business insurance. Denise received a bill for \$200 for the last quarter of the year when she added Sharon to the policy. However, the System does not owe that money as Sharon wasn't included until January 1, 2015. Denise wrote letter to national company, sent copies of payroll and they agreed that the System does not owe this money. Local agent has been less than forthcoming regarding the new policy change. Denise would like to search for different insurance that can handle the System needs with timely and accurate response. Pat Hughes suggested meeting w/insurance agent, telling him to get it together or the System walks. Julia Van Meter stated that the agent isn't working for the System, when Denise is doing the legwork. Kristi Hagstrom made a motion to shop around for new insurance to fit the System needs. Kathy Thomsen seconded. The motion carried.

Policies for System Services – Bulk Loan - Denise suggested offering the services of the System outside of the CPLS boundaries at a different price point, where before we would only offer those services inside the System boundaries. Kristi Hagstrom works with Cozad with their own Bulk Loan. She suggested taking the system out of it. Message will be sent to those libraries in the old system to see if they'd like to be included. Jody would be like to see if libraries in the CPLS area would like to participate. Pat Hughes suggested keeping it for a year to monitor. Julia Van Meter would like a note included in the outside libraries to look for Bulk Loan within their system.

Disc Cleaning/Repair – Currently the System charges \$0.50 per disc, that money is used not only for repair but postage. The System is usually eating postage. Sharon suggested \$0.50/disc and actual postage. Kay will keep track of postage and Sharon will bill it. Julia Van Meter made a motion to raise the price \$0.50 + postage and service only the CPLS region. Pat Hughes seconded and the motion carried.

Scholarships – Start with a clean slate – there is no money until the next fiscal year. Scholarships will be \$100.00. Dixie Codner made a motion to change the name to CPLS Scholarship Policy, Mo Khamouna seconded. The motion carried.

Savings Account – Julia Van Meter stated it would be nice to have a savings account. Kristi Hagstrom made a motion to put the extra money in a savings account (after the purchase of the binding machine). Julia Van Meter seconded. The motion carried.

System Awards – Meridian had a Helping Hand Award (volunteer) and Leadership Award (deserving employee). Was advertised in the newsletter and awards were presented at the Annual Meeting. Judy Hagan made a motion to continue with the System Awards, renamed appropriately. Rochelle Kruger seconded. The motion carried.

NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Skillsoft, for library staff training available. Over 500 classes and it's free. Contact Laura Johnson with questions. 2015 Nebraska Book Festival is April 25, 2015 at UNO's Weitz Community Engagement Center. Writing workshops in the morning, book signings in the afternoon. The Mildred Bennett Award will be announced prior to the reception and evening events feature NeBooks Project Student & Teacher Showcase. Updating Supplementary Public Library Data can be completed at any time. There are grants available to accredited Nebraska public libraries: Youth Grants for Excellence and Library Improvement Grants. Check out upcoming NCompass Live programs. Letters about Literature winners/runner-up announced 4.8.15 at a proclamation-signing ceremony at the Capitol. Please visit the NLC website for more information regarding all of this information.

Jody Crocker adjourned the meeting at 2:00pm.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Annual Meeting, date to be determined at CCC in Grand Island.

Respectfully submitted,

Sky E. Seery

Wild Rice Soup

1 1/3 cups Lundberg wild rice blend
(available at Wal-Mart stores)

1 Tab. Canola oil

1 quart water

1 medium onion, chopped

1 celery rib, finely chopped

1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup all-purpose flour

3 cups chicken broth

2 cups half-and-half cream

1/2 teas. Dried rosemary, crushed

1 tea. salt

2 cans cooked chicken bread chunks

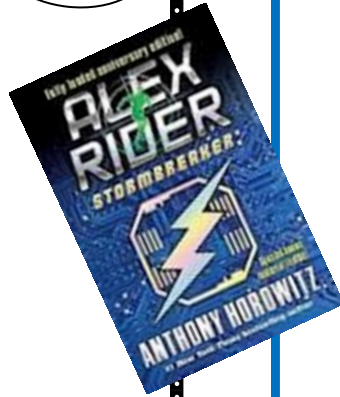
Directions:

1. In a medium saucepan, combine the rice, oil and water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, in a Dutch oven, cook the onion, celery and carrot in butter until vegetables are almost tender. Stir in flour until blended; cook and stir for 2 minutes. Slowly stir in broth and undrained rice and chicken chunks. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until slightly thickened. Reduce heat; stir in the cream, rosemary and salt. Simmer, uncovered, for about 20 minutes or until rice is tender.

Yield: 8 servings (about 2 quarts)

Recipe courtesy of CPLS board member,
Kathy Thomsen, Director at Lexington Public Library

Mmmm



New Book Set

CPLS added an exciting new Book Set to our collection. **Stormbreaker** is the first book in a series by Anthony Horowitz. It chronicles Alex Rider's first mission. Here is the review from *School Library Journal*:

Alex Rider's world is turned upside down when he discovers that his uncle and guardian has been murdered. The 14-year-old makes one discovery after another until he is sucked into his uncle's undercover world. The Special Operations Division of M16, his uncle's real employer, blackmails the teen into serving England. After two short weeks of training, Alex is equipped with several special toys like a Game Boy with unique cartridges that allow it to scan, fax, and emit smoke bombs. Alex's mission is to complete his uncle's last assignment, to discover the secret that Herod Sayle is hiding behind his generous donation of one of his supercomputers to every school in the country. When Alex enters Sayle's compound in Port Tallon, he discovers a strange world of secrets and villains including Mr. Grin, an ex-circus knife catcher, and Yassen Gregorovich, professional hit man. The novel provides bang after bang as Alex experiences and survives unbelievably dangerous episodes and eventually crashes through the roof of the Science Museum to save the day. Alex is a strong, smart hero. If readers consider luck the ruling factor in his universe, they will love this James Bond-style adventure. With short cliff-hanger chapters and its breathless pace, it is an excellent choice for reluctant readers.

Call or email the Hastings office to request this Book Set which has 10 paperback books and an audiobook on CD.

Free Computer Skills Classes for Library Staff

The Nebraska Library Commission has prepaid for all Nebraska library staff to participate free of charge in online training. Access more than 450 classes (most on computer skills) offered by Skillssoft through WebJunction.

Build Computer skills and earn library certification C.E. credits. Take these self-paced, inter-active classes on any computer at any time—day or night. **And they are FREE!**

For more information go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/>

Classes include:

- ⇒ Microsoft Word
- ⇒ Microsoft Excel
- ⇒ Microsoft Power Point
- ⇒ Information Security
- ⇒ Social Networking
- ⇒ Computer Operating System
- ⇒ And **Many** more

Central Plains Library System

Mark Your Calendar

June 1-12	Basic Skills, Library Finance
June 6	University of Missouri-Columbia Open House, CPLS Kearney Office 10 am – 1 pm
June 15-26	Basic Skills, Library Technology
July 3	Independence Day Holiday, CPLS Offices Closed
July 10	Nebraska Library Commission Meeting, Lincoln
July 17	Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries Meeting, Online
July 20-31	Basic Skills, Collection Management
July 24	CPLS Annual Meeting, College Park, Grand Island
July 25	21 st Annual Literature Festival, Norfolk Public Library
August 10-14	Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (Contact NLA)
August 19	Quarterly Meeting with Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln
Aug. 24-Sept. 4	Basic Skills, Library Policy
October 1-3	Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference, Little Rock
October 14-16	NLA/NSLA Annual Conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln

“Having fun isn’t hard
When you’ve got a
library card.”

~Marc Brown



We're On the Web

libraries.ne.gov/cpls