



# NEMA News

Winter 2011  
Volume 54

## President's Message

I am so fortunate that I was able to participate in both the NLA/NEMA conference and the AASL conference. Our state conference is amazing each year because of the tremendous contribution of so many NEMA and NLA members as presenters, organizers, hosts, and active participants. Contracts for the sites and dates are signed three years in advance of the conferences, and the planning for the next conference begins even before the current year's conference takes place.

For me, attending the AASL conference in Minneapolis Oct. 25-28 was the icing on the cake. I felt the national conference was a celebration of school librarians. The adventure began by sharing a bus with 29 other NEMA

members. It was a great time for networking and socializing as the bus traveled from Kearney to Minneapolis. Once we arrived in Minneapolis, we had time to get settled in and explore a bit before the EBSCO luncheon on Thursday kicked off our conference activities. NEMA executive secretary Kim Gangwish was one of 44 presenters at the Thursday afternoon Exploratorium.

There was a plethora of breakout sessions. I was reassured by more than one NEMA member that our state breakout sessions held their own against the national ones. The sheer number of exhibitors was also overwhelming.



NEMA President  
Karen Buckley

My thanks to the library education programs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and at Kearney and to NEMA for sponsoring the bus.

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## Format Change for Membership Directory

Next year our NEMA Essentials and Membership Directory will be available in a password-protected online database. One goal is to make the directory more readily available to our members and to allow

easier updates to contact information. Too often, the CD is at work or elsewhere and not where one needs it. The change will be a cost-saving measure, as well.

### Special points of interest:

- NEMA Board meeting Jan. 28, 2012, 10:00 am at Culler Middle School in Lincoln.

## Jayne Hlavac Receives "Sound-Off for Media" Award

Jayne Hlavac, Schuyler Central High School Librarian, was honored with NEMA's Sound Off for Media Award, which is given to individuals who have "demonstrated creativity and innovation in the profession" as they "developed and implemented ideas or programs promoting school library media."

She has organized events for the national "Teen Read Week @ Your Library" for many years at Schuyler

Central High School. Other projects include: providing books at various reading levels for readers of all abilities and in other languages, primarily Spanish and Chinese; monthly themes with book displays to encourage reading about different topics; and monthly featuring of biographies. She offers after-school-tutoring space in the Media Center and has participated as a tutor in prior years. The Schuyler Media Center has a

welcoming atmosphere with "teen spaces," such as a reading corner and a futon arrangement. She assists students with interlibrary loans for pleasure and research and offers treats and bookmarks as reading incentives for various holidays or special days. Jayne also contributes an article each month to the Warrior Signal, detailing upcoming events in the SCHS Library Media Center.

"Mrs. Hlavac is a dedicated



teacher librarian that I admire and enjoy working with," said nominator Beth Kabes. "It is with great pride that I would like to nominate Jayne Hlavac for the Sound Off for Media Award."

## Glenda Willnerd Receives Distinguished Service Award

Glenda Willnerd, who retired from Lincoln Public Schools District Library Media Services this past spring, was honored with NEMA's Distinguished Service Award. Glenda has been a school librarian at every level, from pre-kindergarten to district level administration.

"Glenda selflessly gives of her time, expertise, and many talents to promote the library profession and multiple literacies among students, teachers, school librarians, parents, and community patrons," wrote Nancy

Larimer. "She has been a leader in creating nationally recognized guides for students and educators: the *Guide for Developing and Evaluating School Library Programs* (NEMA), now in its seventh edition, and the recently updated *Guide to Integrated Information Literacy Skills* (Lincoln Public Schools)."

Additionally, Glenda has been active in local, state and national library organizations, serving on multiple committees and offices within state organizations as well as

representing Nebraska in both AASL and ALA. She continues to serve on the Southeast Library Systems Board of Directors and as NEMA's representative on the State Advisory Council on Libraries.

Many LPS librarians contacted NEMA about why Glenda should be honored. A sampling of their endorsement e-mails includes:

"Glenda has been a passionate leader for library media services throughout the state and

cont. pg. 5

## Something to Shout About

Keith Curry Lance, Linda Hofschire. *School Library Journal*. New York: Sep 2011. Vol. 57, Iss. 9; pg. 28

I hope by now you have all had the opportunity to read Keith Curry Lance's newest study, published in the September issue of *School*

*Library Journal*. If not, let me recap it for you.

Lance used information he gathered from the National Center for Education Statistics. He wanted to document how layoffs of school librarians were affecting the reading scores

of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. He chose 4<sup>th</sup> grade scores because they were the scores states had reported most, and sadly more elementary librarians are being lost than those serving older populations.

Students' reading scores

declined in the states where librarians were lost, and rose slightly in the states that gained or maintained school librarians. For the first time, we can see the correlation between the presence of a school librarian and reading scores. Those of us in the trenches have long suspected

cont. pg. 7

## Meritorious Service Award



The McCool Junction Learning Center was honored with NEMA's Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes service and contributions to the school library profession. The Learning Center, built with donated money and time, houses most of the high school and a school library that is shared with the public. An annual fundraiser, "Evening with the Stars" has generated up to \$60,000 in a single year for

the Learning Center which opened in 2007.

Marcia Clark, McCool Junction librarian, accepted the plaque during NEMA's annual meeting. Curtis Cogswell, superintendent at McCool Junction, wrote that "the need for additional classroom space led us to also dream of a new School Library to share with the community. This was a big dream for our small community but the people of

McCool Junction made sure it became a reality."

The McCool Junction Learning Center is a testament to the vision of its superintendent and to the efforts of its community. Ron Clark and Paul Underwood volunteered to be the project managers, organizing fundraising efforts and overseeing construction. "In-kind work" including donations of materials and labor, was estimated at helping keep at least \$100,000 from being added to the final cost of nearly \$600,000. Volunteers included faculty, students, and community members with and without children in the school.

Librarian Marcia Clark helped design and set up the new library. A number of community members donated books and educational videos/DVDs to the collection. The book

collection stands at over 8,000 books. Community members still donate books on a monthly basis.

"It is especially exciting to see our students donate books for others to read," Superintendent Cogswell further wrote. "The McCool Junction School library has truly been a labor of love given to us by the community. The thing I am most proud of is that our library will impact future generations.

"I cannot even begin to share what an asset this has been to our school district and children. No place in a school better exemplifies the importance of learning than a library. We are blessed that our children and community members are reminded of that through this wonderful project."

## Sally Snyder Receives 2011 Mad Hatter Award

Sally Snyder received the 2011 Mad Hatter Award on Oct. 7, 2011, at the School, Children's, and Young People's (SCYP) luncheon, which was part of the Nebraska Library Association and Nebraska Educational Media Association State Conference in Lincoln.

The Mad Hatter Youth Service Award is given annually by SCYP to a Nebraska librarian who has made outstanding contributions to the field of library service to youth.

Snyder is the Coordinator of Children's and Youth Adult Library Service for the Nebraska Library Commission.

Snyder is the 29<sup>th</sup> Nebraska Mad Hatter. Previous children's librarians to receive this award include: Judy Henning, 2010; Shawna Linder, 2009; Mary Reiman, 2008; Marci Retzlaff, 2007; Patty Birch, 2006; Kathy Schultz, 2005; Judy Andrews, 2004; Nancy Larimer, 2003; Joan Chesley, 2002; Glenda Willnerd, 2001; Pat Leach, 2000; Karla Wendelin, 1999;

Verne Haselwood, 1998; Becky Pasco, 1997; Karen Drevo, 1996; Beth Trupp, 1995; Delores Feeken, 1994; Barbara Fawl, 1993; Glee Nelson, 1992; Deb Carlson, 1991; Carolyn Baker, 1990; Ardys Hansum, 1989; Kay Paulsen, 1988; Betty Keefe, 1987; Donna Peterson Ewoldt, 1986; Honey Lou Bonar, 1985; Virginia



## Kudos

Fourth grade students at South School in Falls City enjoyed a Skype visit on September 28 with author Sarah Prineas. Gail Froeschl, Media Specialist, arranged the author visit. Fourth grade teachers read her book *The Magic Thief*, the first book in a fantasy trilogy, aloud to their classes prior to the

event. This book is a Golden Sower Award nominee, for 2011-2012. Students then wrote questions to ask Ms. Prineas during the virtual visit. The author discussed the process she went through to research, write, and publish her books. Students were engaged and attentive during the presentation,

which connected the young readers to books and an author. Each classroom then drew a name to receive a copy of *The Magic Thief*. Fourth grade teachers are Kris Ogle, Danitra Crofford, and Denise Kurpgewit. For more information on the author, her books, or pictures of the visit you may go to

[www.fctigers.org](http://www.fctigers.org) and select South School, then staff. Under Other Certified Staff select Gail Froeschl, Media Specialist and choose the link *The Magic Thief* on the left.

Submitted by Gail Froeschl

At St. Mary's School in O'Neill, NE, October 17-21 was "Celebrity Reader Week". Student athletes from St. Mary's High School visited the elementary library classes to answer questions, read stories, and help students choose books. Here are some pictures from our fun week.

Submitted by Jennie Schneider, School Librarian  
St. Mary's School, O'Neill,  
NE



At the entrance of the UNK Learning Commons are Judy Henning, Kearney Public Schools Director of School Media Services; Janet Stoeger Wilke, UNK Dean of the Library; and Sherry Crow, UNK Assistant Professor, School Library Media Program.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the new University of Nebraska at Kearney Learning Commons was Nov. 4 at the Calvin T. Ryan Library. Sherry Crow and Judy Henning represented NEMA at this event.

The first in the state, the UNK Learning Commons is located on the second floor of the library and houses Academic Peer Tutoring and the Writing Center, which provide UNK students with support as they develop their academic potential.

## NEMA ListServ

The NEMA ListServ sends announcements and reminders from NEMA to your mailbox. It is another way to collaborate and share with our colleagues. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the NEMA ListServ, go to <<http://lists.k12.ne.us/mailman/listsinfo.nema>> and follow the instructions found at this site.

To post messages to the ListServ, email your message to [nema@lists.k12.ne.us](mailto:nema@lists.k12.ne.us)

Please follow these guidelines when posting messages:

\*\*Posts should be relevant to librarianship/library issues.

\*\* Please do not send or forward to the list advertisements or other commercial messages, virus warnings, recipes, chain letters, etc.

\*\* Please respect copyright, trademarks, logos, etc.

\*\*Political activity, such as campaigning or endorsing a candidate, is not permitted.

## Glenda Willnerd cont.

locally for years," wrote Melody Kenney. "Not only is Glenda a warm and engaging person, but she has demonstrated throughout her years of service a standard of excellence in library services exceeded by few to none."

"As a first year librarian last year, and being new to the district, I was SO fortunate to have Glenda's help. Not only was she knowledgeable and efficient, but she was ALWAYS pleasant and willing to help. From an author visit, to Golden Sower information, to questions on the phone or e-mail concerning copyright issues,

she was a tremendous support and mentor," wrote Jill Moore.

"As long as I have known and worked with Glenda, she has worked tirelessly to promote media literacy," Sheila Schumacher wrote.

"She was always willing and more than able to answer any of the countless questions that I asked of her, and always with a smile and encouragement. And most of the time she didn't laugh!"

The Distinguished Media Service Award "is based upon longevity, service to the profession and contributions to the profession."

## Meet UNK student Mary Roesler



This quarter, I'd like to introduce you to Mary Roesler. She is a library media student in the UNK online program. When we visited via email, Mary shared these remarks about herself, her love of reading, and her hopes for the future. I'm sure that you will enjoy getting to know her, just as I did.

*I am a Kearney native. During the school year, I work as a media associate at Kearney High School. My husband is a park supervisor for the City of Kearney. We have a nineteen-year-old son, two dogs, and two cats that keep us entertained. I am relatively new to UNK's library program. I started the program this summer by taking two classes, and I am currently enrolled in two classes this fall. UNK's program is well-designed and challenging. Many of the graduate students are currently working as school*

*librarians and many are currently teaching. The knowledge base of these students and instructors is phenomenal. One of my online classmates is the elementary school librarian at the American Embassy School in New Delhi, India. Several hail from Chicago. Of course, many are from right here in Nebraska. So many of the students' experiences and comments are valuable, and because of them we have great online discussions. My love for books has always drawn me to libraries. I have fond memories of the bookmobile coming to our two-room country school. Libraries are the cornerstone of intellectual freedom, and they offer us a look into the past, present, and future. After teaching high school English and speech for five years, I am finally pursuing my dream of becoming a school librarian. My passion lies in watching*

*students learn and discover. I take great joy in guiding them through the learning and discovery process, and I especially take pride in watching them develop the skills that will ensure their success as independent learners. I have great admiration for school librarians and educators. Reading truly opens the doors to discovery and exploration. It is the basic foundation for lifelong learners. Classroom teachers and school librarians have the distinct pleasure of sharing their love for literature and books with students every day. Developing lifelong learners is a goal for me. I believe 21<sup>st</sup> century skills truly focus on students' personal growth, individual learning success, and making real world connections that will help prepare them for a successful future.*

Submitted by Sharon Axthelm, Student Liaison

## NEMA Awards Luncheon



Karen Buckley presents Lynne Wragge a plaque in recognition of service as NEMA treasurer, 2007-2011



Karen Buckley presents Jean Hellwege a plaque in recognition of service as NEMA Executive Secretary, 2008-2011



Karen Buckley presents Betty Meyer the Past President's Plaque.



Karen Buckley presents Sara Churchill a plaque in recognition of service as Secretary, 2008-2010

## NEMA Board Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2011, Eiseley Branch, Lincoln City Libraries

President Buckley called the meeting to order with six members present online and seven members present on site.

The agenda was approved. The minutes from July 15, 2010 were shared by a link and approved. Treasurer's Report was filed for audit. There was no Executive Secretary Report. Communications were shared and a Finance Report was given. No reports from AFCON, NDE, Nebraska Youth Advisory, Talking Books & Braille, and NEMA Webmaster.

NLA Liaison report. The NLA/NEMA 2014 site will be Marina Inn Conference Center in South Sioux City on October 8-10, 2014. MPLA 2012 conference theme: Back

to the Basics: Building the Future. Fall 2011 Conference report. NLA elections announcements. NLC Liaison report. Young readers invited to write a personal letter to an author for Letters About Literature (LAL), a national reading and writing promotion. Database Road show will be held in Mid October.

State Advisory Council on Libraries report. The Library Commission will be reduced in funding. State cuts have resulted in the Commission now falling below the Library Services and Technology Act maintenance of effort requirements. Council discussed what the "new normal" meant in each of their settings and how that is impacting their library programs. Awards and Scholarships report. Michaela Braun was awarded NEMA Continuing Education Scholarship.

AASL Liaison report. AASL flyers and membership forms will be distributed at conference. The Job Description will be discussed at January meeting.

Read Aloud Nebraska report. Preparing for a book distribution in October. Governor will sign a proclamation. John Scieszka has agreed to a pre-conference presentation for 2012 MPLA Tri-Conference. Student Liaison has an interview for student NEMA news. Learning 4 Life report. Team is presenting at NLA/NEMA Conference. Committee is scheduling an L4L N-Compass Live presentation.

Old Business items. NEMA Constitutional changes. Will vote during the election of officer's ballot. If name change is approved will begin to switch on July 1, 2012. Board meetings were

discussed. AASL Bus has 35 registrations.

New Business. NEMA News Assignments. Discussed Fall Newsletter. NEMA Web presence was reviewed. Facebook site: 21st Century Nebraska School Librarians, Twitter: 21cnesl. Web page policy needs board approval or approval by president. NEMA booth at Conference. Annual Meeting agenda concerns about awards were discussed. Introduce constitutional change. NEMA Luncheon table decorations.

Announcements- Future Board Meetings: January 14, 2012 10:00 Teleconference, Lincoln, Omaha, Scottsbluff, Kearney; April 14 10:00 – LaVista Public Library.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Kabes, NEMA Secretary



## New NEMA Executive Secretary

Prior to the NLA/NEMA Conference, Kim Gangwish took over duties as Executive Secretary for NEMA.

Kim is the School Librarian at Bellevue West High School in Bellevue, NE. She taught English and Speech for 13 years before transitioning to the library world, where she has served for the last 10 years.

Kim is also a Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources trainer and is actively involved in the local and state level with AdvancED accreditation.

She is married with three children. She loves all things library – books, technology, and research. Kim looks forward to serving NEMA as Executive Secretary.

## Contact Information

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## Conference Thank you's

My very special thanks to my conference co-chair, Jan Boyer, to NLA executive director, Michael Straatmann and to the local arrangement chairs and their committees for all their contributions to the NLA/NEMA 2011 fall conference.

Local arrangement chairs from NLA and NEMA:

Local Liaisons: Michael Sauers and Kari Bulgrin

Registration Committee: Emily Nimsakont and Dr. Sherry Crow

A/V Committee: Christa Burns and Mary Reiman

Exhibits Committee: Beth Goble and Stacy Lickteig

Hospitality Committee: Pam Gannon, Deb Pearson

Publicity Committee: Judith Wolfe and Alyx Knight

Partners and Donors Committee: Richard Miller.

Centerpieces at the NEMA luncheon were designed and made by Kathy Terrill, assisted by Ruth Walker, Laurie Bauer and Pat Gross.

Thanks also to the many volunteers who assisted in so many ways to make the conference such a success. We were able to offer a wide range of breakout sessions. I am grateful to everyone who served on committees, staffed the NEMA booth and were room hosts. Thank you to all NEMA members who participated in the conference, too.

Karen Buckley,  
Conference co-chair

## Something to Shout About cont.

the connection and now we have a study to back our suspicions.

In the article, a California school librarian said, "The districts say that the public libraries can fill the void, but the public libraries don't have immediate access nor do they have the collection development priorities that we do." We are uniquely positioned to meet the needs of our student populations, in collection development, time, and lessons.

As teachers and librarians, we need to advocate not only

for our own jobs but also for the needs of our unique student patrons. The students at my high school have distinctive needs that I can meet because I understand them. I would not want any student's education to suffer because our school was unable to meet their reading, researching and information needs.

I was so impressed by the study's results I shared it with my school board members. While I am not currently concerned about my job, I think that

remaining proactive is imperative in this economic climate. Handing them a study by a nationally recognized researcher is one way to do that. Test scores appear to drive so many district decisions these days. Why not assure that the powers that be take a look at the current research regarding school librarians and test scores?

- Carrie Turner

UNO's Dr. Becky Pasco has an article published in the new issue (Nov/Dec 2011) of AASL's publication Knowledge Quest, titled "Solo But Not Separate: Preparing 21st-Century Library Professionals Who Can "Go It Alone".

If you are not a current member of AASL, their publication is available on Proquest's Professional Collection.