

President's Message



Nebraska was represented by five individuals at National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) in Washington, D.C., on May 14. The advocacy delegation from Nebraska included Rod Wagner, Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) Director; Pat Gross, Gering Media Specialist and NEMA Board Member; Dr. Pamela Springer, Papillion LaVista Media Specialist and NEMA Past President; Jenni Puchalla, Administrative Assistant Southeast Library System and Nebraska Library Association (NLA) State Legislative Day Chairperson; and myself, Kearney Public Schools Director of Media Services and NEMA President.

The American Library Association (ALA) sponsored this event and did an excellent job of educating the participants on pending legislation pertinent to libraries. On Monday, May 12, first time participants to NLLD attended a *Lobbying 101* workshop to educate these neophytes to the procedures and etiquette of lobbying in Washington.

Tuesday, May 13, all participants were informed on the five pieces of legislation important to

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NEMA Election Results



Congratulations to the following members who were recently elected to Board positions:

President-elect:



Carrie Turner
Westside High School

Secretary:



Sara Churchill
Arbor Park Intermediate

Board Member-At-Large:



Jeanne Bergsten
Windy Hills Elementary



Kathy Terrell
Morrill Public Schools

A special thanks to our outgoing Board members and officers for their years of service and dedication to NEMA:

Judy Henning- Outgoing President
Pamela Springer- Past President
Carrie Turner- Secretary
Pat Gross- Board Member-At-Large
Lori Umstead- Board Member-At-Large

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libraries. This legislation included the SKILLS (Strengthening Kid's Interest in Learning and Libraries) Act, LSTA (Library Services and Technology) Act Funding, E-Rate/Broadband Telecom, Orphan Works, and the National Security Letters. This was followed by visits to all the offices of Nebraska Senators and Congressmen to ask for support of pending legislation affecting libraries.

The Nebraska library advocates visited the offices of Senator E. Ben Nelson, Senator Chuck Hagel, Congressman District 1 Jeff Fortenberry, Congressman District 2 Lee Terry, and Congressman District 3 Adrian Smith. Wednesday's visits were started with the Nebraska Breakfast where all the Nebraska Washington politicians, with the exception of Hagel, spoke to us and other Nebraska visitors.



Pictured above: Pamela Springer, Judy Henning, Pat Gross, Rob Wagner, and Jenny Puchalla

The SKILLS Act was my priority while on Capitol Hill, and I did my best to inform our national politicians of its importance. The SKILLS Act is part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and proposes placing a state-certified school library media specialist in every school in America. Across the nation, numerous studies have shown that students in schools with strong school libraries learn more, get better grades and score higher on standardized test scores than their peers in schools without libraries. Each office we visited was given a copy of the *Research Foundation Paper: School Libraries Work!*, which documents higher student achievement in schools with strong library/media programs. The 2008 updated third edition of this document is available at: http://librarypublishing.scholastic.com/content/stores/LibraryStore/pages/images/SLW3_2008.pdf.

Although the Nebraska Senators, Congressmen, and staff were cognizant of the library/media specialists' role in information literacy and critical thinking skills, they indicated that it was most likely no NCLB legislation would be passed until 2009 when a new administration is in place. I urged them to sign the SKILLS Act that was still in

committee. This bill was introduced by Jack Reed (D-RI) and Thad Cochran (R-MS) and Representatives Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) and Vernon Ehlers (R-MI-3). Currently no Nebraska politicians have signed this bill, which addresses the school library crisis facing the Nation.

Our delegation also lobbied for support for the LSTA funding and urged them to support the President FY 09 request of \$214,432 million in Federal Funding for America's Libraries. These funds are currently used to for NLC's online databases and other NLC state library grants.

In addition to funding issues, the group urged Nebraska politicians to facilitate the application for E-rate funding, which has a difficult application process leaving a billion dollars of non-issued revenue because many small public/school librarians do not have the time to meet the stringent application process in applying for these funds. Also, we urged our politicians to pass broadband legislation as an important tool in the planning and development of advanced telecommunications services to all communities.

We advocated for Orphan Works which is a bill that protects libraries from copyright penalties that use books, photos, or other works whose owners can't be found. As part of First Amendment Rights, we spoke to the National Security Letters (NSL) and the FISA Act which would restore the safeguards for reader privacy.

My advocacy experience of NLLD was very informative, and I hope results in positive national legislation for Nebraska libraries. I am appreciative that NEMA sent me to Washington to advocate for library issues.

Last President's Message

It doesn't seem possible that this is my last NEMA News President's Message. On July 1, I will take the role of NEMA Past President and support Robin Schrack as the new NEMA President. Robin will be an outstanding leader of our professional association and will direct a new NEMA Board (NEMA Board p.1) that has the vision necessary for empowering Nebraska library/media specialists.

I'd like to thank those retiring NEMA Board members who have been very supportive in my leadership of this association. Dr. Pamela Springer, Pat Gross, and Lori Umstead are going off the board, but have been visionary leaders to our association and their leadership will be missed.

Yours in NEMA,
Judy A. Henning
2007-08 NEMA President

**Introducing Sherry R. Crow,
Assistant Professor (to be)
at the University of Nebraska Kearney**



HELLO, NEBRASKA! I'm very glad to be here, though I'm not exactly "here" yet! Right now I am teaching online for the University of Nebraska Kearney, but living in Colorado Springs. I've been teaching for UNK as a lecturer for two years and have really enjoyed it. However, this arrangement will change this

upcoming year (the place, not the enjoyment ☺). Starting in the fall, 2008 I will be the Assistant Professor of School Library Science/ Educational Media at UNK and will be moving to the Kearney area sometime in December or January.

I am not new to the library scene; in fact, I tell my students I've been a librarian since before dirt (but NOT before dinosaurs)! I've worked in public libraries in children's, adult reference, young adult, and media services, as well as in several school library media centers. In 2004 I began teaching a class or two here and there for the University of Colorado Denver and Emporia State University. In 2006 I began teaching for UNK.

I have a B.S. in Elementary Education, and a Master's Degree in Library Science. I am currently working on a Ph.D. in Library and Information Management from Emporia State University and have finished all but the dissertation. Believe me; I'm working like mad on it! My topic is "Exploring the Experiences of Upper Elementary School Children who are Intrinsically Motivated to Seek Information." I feel strongly that we as librarians (and all educators, for that matter) should foster intrinsic motivation and lifelong learning in our children.

In 2002 I won the Harold Hill Award for Leadership in Colorado, and in 2004 I was the Colorado Librarian of the Year. I love to write, and I've had the privilege to author the book, *Information Literacy: A Guide for the Library Media Specialist* (2005). A current article you might find interesting is "[Information Literacy: What's Motivation Got to do with it?](#)" (yes, you are supposed to think of Tina Turner; *Knowledge Quest*, 2007). Right now I am the Colorado Liaison to AASL and am serving on the editorial board of *School Library Media Research*.

I'm looking forward to beginning my new assignment at UNK! I'm excited to roll up my sleeves and begin working with you all in providing the best education and library services possible for Nebraska's students—both the little ones and the big ones!

**Introducing Susan Hubbard,
Student Liaison for NEMA**

My name is Susan Hubbard and I am pleased to be your first student liaison on the NEMA Board. I look forward to working with many fine media specialists and students across the state.



I am married to a very supportive person. His name is Ken and he is a UNL professor. We have two grown sons (Carter and Benjamin) and have three beautiful grandsons with another grandchild expected in May. They bring us great joy!

I am a librarian at Cathedral of the Risen Christ School in Lincoln, NE. I am presently working on my Library Media Specialist Endorsement at UNO. My B.S. degree is from Utah State University in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. I taught for seventeen years in Catholic Schools and also subbed for a time before making this switch to the library. Little did I know how much I would enjoy this profession and where it would lead me. I am delighted to be facing new challenges in my library with plans to automate and renovate this summer!!

My favorite genre to read is historical fiction!



**Beginning July 1, NEMA's contact
information will change. Please make
note:**

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Emerging Leaders Program

Submitted by: Carrie Turner



ALA's Emerging Leaders Program will be looking for a few good librarians this year. I am quite certain that more will be coming from Nebraska again this year. How can I say that? In 2008, 3 of the 120 people chosen for this program are from the state of Nebraska! So, I know your training and dedication to our line of work, will assure that several Nebraskans are chosen for the Class of 2009!

The Emerging Leaders program was developed by ALA to bring 120 librarians representing all types of libraries across the country, together. This group is then divided into smaller groups of 4-5. Each grouping is presented with a task developed to benefit one of the sections of ALA. Our group is creating a project for AASL. The groups meet twice in person, and virtually between meetings to complete their project.

As an Emerging Leader, you will attend two ALA conferences, the Midwinter Conference, and the Annual Conference. Next year is a great year to participate, as both of these conferences will be closer to Nebraska. The Midwinter Conference will be held in Denver in January, and the Annual Conference will be in Chicago in July. If you have never attended one of these conferences, it will be an experience you won't soon forget!

Becoming a part of Emerging Leaders affords you the opportunity to work closely with people in your line of work, from around the country. Many of our schools have a written mission of educating students to be global learners. What better way to model that, than to become one yourself?

So, what are the requirements for an Emerging Leader? First of all, you will need to have been in the field 5 years or less, or, be under 35 years old. You will also need two references. Finally, you will need to fill out the online application and submit it by July 31.

<http://cs.ala.org/hrdr/emergingleaders/>

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"The magic of the library is that Christopher Paul Curtis or Jerry Spinelli or Ms. Johnson or little Ashley from Room C can go in, check out a book, and go home and commune with any number of the greatest writers in history."

Excerpt from: *Reflections on Reading* by Christopher Paul Curtis

## Mark Your Calendars

Be sure to have these important events marked down on your 2008-09 calendars:

- |                  |                                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| June 26- July 2  | ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA      |
| July 10-11       | NEMA Retreat and Board Meeting in Lincoln |
| August 15        | NEMA Scholarship application deadline     |
| October 17-19    | AASL Fall Forum in Oak Brook, IL          |
| October 15-17    | NLA/NEMA Conference in Lincoln            |
| Jan. 23-28, 2009 | ALA Midwinter meeting in Denver, CO       |



NEMA 2008 Scholarship Winner:  
Beth Foulks

I am so pleased to be the recipient of NEMA's 2008 Scholarship. It allows me to continue the fantastic journey that began for me in 2001. The summer before our oldest daughter went off to college, I was looking for a summer job to provide additional income. My search led me to Ponca Carnegie Library. Not only did I get a job there, but I also was asked to be the director. The library board agreed to work with me to make the position work along with my Second Grade Teaching position.

I grew very fond of the library. I enjoyed the Basic Skills Classes offered by The Nebraska Library Commission and the contact with library professionals. The thought occurred to me that perhaps I could also be a school media specialist. After meeting with Dr. Pasco, she had me sold on the idea and I immediately applied to UNO for the library endorsement program. It wasn't long before our school was in need of a library media specialist, and with the help of Dr. Pasco, I was offered the job on a provisional certificate requiring six hours of library classes per year.

I am now in my last year of classes at UNO. By the summer of 2009, I should have my endorsement. Thank you for providing help in reaching my goal. I love the Nebraska Library Community!

### Scholarship Deadline Almost Here!



August 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline  
for the following Scholarships:

- Continuing Education Scholarship (\$800)
- Workshop/Conf. Scholarship (up to \$150)
- Presenter Scholarship (\$200)

Check the NEMA web site for forms and details  
[http://myweb.unomaha.edu/~lgilbert/NEMASite/mem.dir/award\\_scholar.html](http://myweb.unomaha.edu/~lgilbert/NEMASite/mem.dir/award_scholar.html)

## One Book for Nebraska Teens

Submitted by Kelly Melson,  
Youth Advisory Board  
(YAB) Liaison



Many of you are familiar with the One Book, One Nebraska program that encourages all Nebraskans to read and discuss one particular title each year. This program has been an amazing success for the libraries that have chosen to participate.

We decided titles should be aimed at middle school or high school ages, and agreed to look at titles for the high school age. That decision eliminated some of the recommended titles for 2008. The YAB read the suggested titles, and then we held an email vote to determine the choice. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak was selected and has been a great success.

This last year, The Library Commission bought fourteen paperback copies and one CD version of *The Book Thief*. They were provided to each library system, again with an additional set housed at the Library Commission, all for checkout. *The Book Thief* book sets were booked so far in advance it was necessary to purchase more copies, and ten more paperback copies were purchased for each system, a sign of the program's popularity.

The YAB is currently considering suggestions for the 2009 One Book for Nebraska Kids. If you would like to make a recommendation, please contact [Kelly.melson@kearneypublic.org](mailto:Kelly.melson@kearneypublic.org) or [ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us). We will consider titles recommended by librarians and others. You are invited to send any book suggestions you have, and we will add them to the list.

Thanks to the Youth Advisory Board for bringing forward this idea and for your willingness to make it happen each year. Many Nebraska children and teens are now reading and discussing these books. It's great to know this will continue!



# 2008 NLA/NEMA Conference Preview

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The 2008 NLA/NEMA is scheduled for Oct. 16 & 17 at the Cornhusker Marriott in Lincoln. The theme for this year's conference is:

*Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age.*

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:**



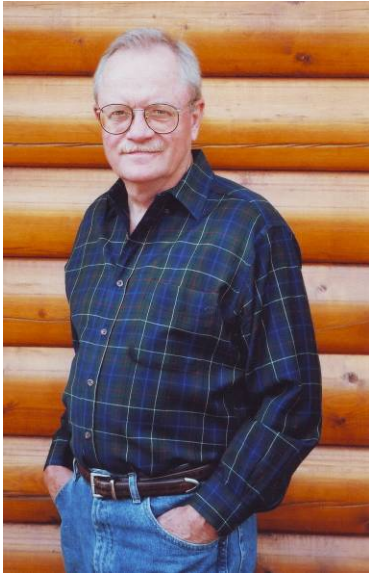
Thursday's Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Annette Lamb. She has been a school library media specialist, computer teacher, and professor of education and library science. She is currently teaching online graduate courses for librarians and educators as a professor at Indiana University - Indianapolis (IUPUI).

In addition to online teaching, she writes, speaks, and conducts professional development workshops, presentations, and keynotes throughout North America and is well-known for her realistic approaches to technology integration and information inquiry. In addition to working on state and national-level grant projects, she enjoys spending time with administrators, teachers, and individual school districts, universities, and museums focusing on practical, technology-rich approaches to teaching and learning.

Annette received her Ph.D. in Educational Technology from Iowa State University. Her roots in library, media, and technology are reflected in her passion for interdisciplinary approaches, reading and writing across the curriculum, and using a variety of resources from books to the Internet.

Annette's numerous articles and over a dozen books are valuable resources for educators. Her popular website, [Eduscapes.com](http://eduscapes.com), includes a wide range of award-winning, free resources for educators. She is currently completing work on a graphic novel-style textbook titled *Graphic Inquiry*.

She loves to share her ideas with others. All of her sessions and workshops are available at <http://eduscapes.com>



Friday's Keynote Speaker will be Kent Haruf. Kent was born in Pueblo, Colorado in 1943. He received a B.A. degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University and an M.F.A. from the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop. He served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Turkey and has taught high school English in Wisconsin and Colorado and fiction writing at Nebraska Wesleyan and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Mr. Haruf's most recent book about the high plains, *West of Last Chance* (Norton 2008), is a prose/photo collaboration with award-winning photographer Peter Brown. It won the Dorothea Lange-Paul Taylor Prize for the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University.

Haruf is best known for his novels. *Eventide* (2004) was a national best-seller and has been widely celebrated. It won the Colorado Book Award, was a finalist for the Book Sense Award, and was selected as a Notable Book of the Year by various newspapers. His three earlier novels all received critical acclaim, also. *The Tie That Binds* received the Whiting Foundation Writers' Award while *Where You Once Belonged* received the

Maria Thomas Award for Fiction.

*Plainsong* (1999) was a finalist for the National Book Award, the *New Yorker* Book Award, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award and the Book Sense Award. It won the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association Award, the Salon.com Book Award, the Midlands Authors Award, the Alex Award from the American Library Associations, and the Evil Companions Award from the Colorado Quarterly. *Plainsong* was also selected as a Notable Book by The New York Times and the Los Angeles Times, was a national best-seller and has been translated into eight languages.

Kent Haruf is the father of three daughters, and has three stepdaughters and two stepsons. He and his wife Cathy live in Colorado.

### To DO:

- Retiring? Be sure to contact NEMA with your new e-mail or mailing address AND keep in mind that the membership rate for retired library media specialists is a bargain at \$10!
- Changing schools or moving into a new home? Be sure to contact NEMA with your new information.
- Are you going to have new colleagues for the new school year? Please tell them about NEMA and encourage them to join right away so they start getting information that should help them with their new job.
- NEMA memberships run from October 1 through September 30 of each school year. Be sure to renew your membership!

**NLA/NEMA 2008 Fall Conference**  
**Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age**  
**October 15-17, 2008**  
**Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, Nebraska**

Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

2008 Member (select one): NLA (member) \_\_\_\_\_ NEMA (member) \_\_\_\_\_ Nonmember \_\_\_\_\_

(Check if appropriate) First-time attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Registration**

Payment must accompany registration. Mail correspondence must be postmarked by stated deadlines.

| Full Conference   | Early (Before Aug 31.) | Late (Sept. 1-30) | Onsite (after Oct. 1) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| NLA/NEMA member   | \$60                   | \$70              | \$90                  |
| Nonmember         | \$75                   | \$90              | \$110                 |
| Full-time Student | \$25                   | \$35              | \$45                  |
| Exhibitor/Spouse  | \$15                   | \$15              | \$15                  |

**One Day (Circle One) Thursday Friday**

|                   |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| NLA/NEMA member   | \$35 | \$50 | \$65 |
| Nonmember         | \$60 | \$75 | \$95 |
| Full-time Student | \$20 | \$30 | \$35 |
| Exhibitor/Spouse  | \$15 | \$15 | \$15 |

**Wednesday Evening Program** – International Quilt Study Center & Museum Gala \$10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MEALS (no meal tickets will be sold onsite at the conference)**

**Thursday:** Chicken Oscar; Vegetarian Option - Tortellini Rosa \$20.00  
 NLA Business Meeting Luncheon \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 NEMA Business Meeting Luncheon \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NLA/NEMA Banquet: Arbor Buffet \$35.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday:** Winsor Pork Loin; Vegetarian Option – Champagne Pasta \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**LUNCHEON (Check One)**

- \_\_\_\_ SCYP/Mad Hatter
- \_\_\_\_ College & University
- \_\_\_\_ Paraprofessional Section
- \_\_\_\_ Public Library Trustees Section
- \_\_\_\_ Special & Institutional

**SUBTOTAL MEALS** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**SUBTOTAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to NLA/NEMA 2008 Conference. No PO's or credit cards accepted.

**Mail check and completed registration form to:**

**Kathy Thomsen, 1402 North Jackson, Lexington, NE 68850**

Requests for refunds must be made in writing and received by Oct 1. Refunds made after Nov. 1st.

**Membership:** To renew memberships download application forms from association websites.

NLA - [www.nebraskalibraries.org](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org) NEMA - <http://myweb.unomaha.edu/~lgilbert/NEMAsite/index.html>

The AASL Fall Forum is a multi-day national institute held during non-AASL National Conference years. The next AASL Fall Forum will be in 2010.

## **AASL Fall Forum**

*The AASL Fall Forum is a multi-day national institute held during non-AASL National Conference years.*



### **Assessment, Part II: Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center** **October 17-19, 2008 ♦ Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort, Oak Brook, Illinois (Chicago area)**

Join AASL for a special one-and-a-half day workshop investigating assessment from three perspectives: program assessment, providing a base for continuing dialogue with administrators; student assessment, reviewing collaborative models of information literacy within curriculum applications; and item analysis, identifying, gathering, and interpreting data.

AASL 2008 Fall Forum attendees will:

- compare and contrast various components of authentic assessment with an emphasis on identifying those best suited for assessment of information literacy standards.
- practice interpreting and applying authentic assessment data to curriculum development and cross curricular collaboration.
- apply authentic assessment data to various curricular areas at a variety of educational levels.
- use authentic assessment data to develop rigorous and relevant library programs and enhance library literacy curricula on various educational levels.

Find out more information about the 2008 AASL Fall Forum:

- ♦ [Sessions and Presenters](#)
- ♦ [Schedule](#)
- ♦ [Registration](#) (**Registration now open!**)
- ♦ [Hotel Information](#)
- ♦ [News Releases](#)
- ♦ [Sponsors](#)

### **Credit Hours**

Participants will receive credit for 12 contact hours.

Contact the AASL office at [aasl@ala.org](mailto:aasl@ala.org) or 800-545-2433 ext. 4382 for more information.

# NEMA News

The *NEMA News* is the official newsletter of the Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA). *NEMA News* is published four times a year: August, January, March, and June, with news and advertising deadlines of July 21, December 15, February 15, and May 15.

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# NEMA



Nebraska Educational Media Association  
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Lincoln, NE 68516

## NEMA Membership Application

New  Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ESU, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address:  Business  Home

Sign me up for the NEMA listserv  Yes  No

Already on listserv

My contact information can be released in

NEMA's Membership Directory  Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Dues: All memberships run October 1 to September 30.

Make checks payable to:

Nebraska Educational Media Association.

Send to: **Jean Hellman, Executive Secretary,**

**2925 Drawbridge Ct., Lincoln, NE 68516**

### I would be interested in serving NEMA:

Scholarship and Awards

Election

Finance

Membership

Program/Conference

Publications

Board Member/Officer

Liaison

### Other organizations in which I am a member:

AASL

AECT

ALA

MPLA

NETA

NLA

SCYP

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Structure:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$60.00 3-Year Individual/Institutional

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 1-Year Commercial

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 1-Year Individual/Institutional

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 1-Year Retired Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 1-Year Student

### Accounting Use Only

Date Rec: \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. \_\_\_\_\_