

# PLAIN SPEAKING



CENTRAL PLAINS LIBRARY SYSTEM NEWSLETTER

Educate | Connect | Inspire

## Listening is a Skill

I recently spoke with some library staff members about what to do when a patron is angry and disruptive. Listening was mentioned as a way to deal with conflict in the library. Good listening skills can prevent many problems. Here are some tools to improve our ability to listen and accurately understand what others are saying.

*Choose to listen.* This may sound silly, but many people are not good listeners because they don't want to be. One of the first and simplest steps we can take to improve our listening skills is to decide to be a better listener. Make it a priority to pay attention to what the speaker is truly trying to communicate.

*Focus on the speaker.* Listening is an active skill, not a passive one. Get rid of all the distractions and pay complete attention.

*Make eye contact.* Much of any message is nonverbal, and you can't pick up those cues without looking at the speaker. A person's facial expression adds meaning and context to the words, as well.

*Take notes.* Your notes should be very brief, just a few words or phrases on the main point.

*Ask clarifying questions.* Give the speaker time to make a point, but don't let the conversation go too far before asking clarifying questions such as "Tell me what you mean by..." and "When did you first notice this..."

*Offer summarizing statements.* These statements are best used after listening for awhile and checking to see that you properly interpreted the message before taking any action. Your tone of voice is important here. Summarizing statements must be worded and expressed in a non-judgmental manner.

*Silence.* Giving the speaker even five seconds of silence offers the opportunity to gather his or her thoughts and can really help.

*Keep an open mind.* Perceptions shape the way we listen, and these perceptions can lead to receiving the wrong message. Everyone has biases. Although we think of them as regarding race, gender, national origin, and so forth, our biases can also be triggered by a person's clothing, use of language, social status, physical appearance, or age. Make only those judgments you absolutely need to in order to address the library issue at hand.

Really listening carefully to what is being said has several benefits. First, it gives you the information you need to formulate an intelligent response. Second, it makes the patron feel respected and connected. We can frequently take control of a tense situation by listening carefully from the start and letting the patron know that we are listening.

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# CPLS Annual Meeting to be held in Cozad

In July we will be exploring the town of Cozad, NE, for our Annual Meeting location this year. Cozad is known for their rich history especially in the arts! Their outdoor art has expanded to include the 50 States Barn Quilts, Cozad Creates Icons, Rhakenna's Wings, and the Sculpture Garden at Wilson Public Library. You'll enjoy art throughout town as you celebrate Cozad's art spirit. Join us for a fun-filled day, go home with a unique barn quilt you have created, or stay overnight and make a weekend of exploring all the area has to offer!

July 14th, 2023

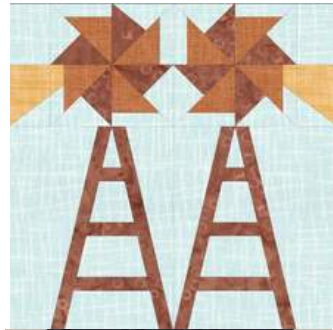
10am - 3:30pm

Wilson Public Library  
910 Meridian Ave.  
Cozad, NE 69130

\$10 registration fee payable to the System office or at the door

1 CE per participant

REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/ouYeBXntahApTcjTA>.



50 State Barn Quilts plus another 100+ in the surrounding community!



Rhakenna's Wings  
(33 different ones)



Sculpture Garden  
at Wilson Public  
Library



Cozad Creates  
Palette Icons  
(19 different ones)

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# CPLS Biennial Conference: Call For Speakers

Join the Central Plains Library System as we host our first ever biennial fall conference! The theme for this inaugural event will be "Tools of the Trade." We will host a variety of speakers at the Kearney Public Library on Thursday, October 19th. The all-day conference will include a keynote speaker, lightning rounds, and sessions packed with tricks, tips & tools to make your job easier & more rewarding! Mark this date in your calendars now so you don't miss this opportunity! Each attendee will earn up to seven (7) continuing education (CE) credits for the day. Presenters will earn an additional CE for their presentation at the conference!

Speaking of presenters....the Call for Speakers for CPLS Biennial Conference 2023 is now open!

This one-day conference is aimed at librarians from around our System. Libraries of all types - public, academic, school, museum, special, etc. - are encouraged to submit a proposal. We're looking for fifteen 50-minute presentations and three 15-minute "lightning round" presentations.

Do you offer a service or program at your small library that other librarians might like to hear about? Have you implemented a new (or old) technology, hosted an event, partnered with others in your community, or just done something really cool? Have you creatively solved a management issue? This conference gives you the opportunity to share what you've done, while learning what your colleagues around the System are doing. Here are some possible topics to get you thinking:

- Unique Programming
- Logos, Branding & Marketing for Your Library
- Fundraising
- Improved Workflows
- Staff Development
- Advocacy Efforts
- Community Partnerships
- That great thing you're doing at your library!

The CPLS Biennial 2023 Conference will be held on Thursday, October 19th, 2023 between 10 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CT) at the Kearney Public Library.

**Submit your proposal by Thursday, June 15th, 2023 at**  
**<https://forms.gle/XisUMwxPyHRAfjH98>**

# 29th Annual Joint Youth Services Retreat



**August 31st & September 1st  
Save the Dates!**

- Hosted by the Regional Library Systems
- A Chance to Network with Your Colleagues
- Learn from Experienced Presenters and each other

**Registration opens  
mid-June!**



**Enjoy the Retreat at the Swanson Center at  
Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland, NE**

**This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.**

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# CPLS Board Nominations

Do you know someone who would be interested in serving on your Library System Board? For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, the Central Plains Library System is accepting nominations for one new member on the Board. CPLS board members are elected at the Annual Meeting and serve for a 3-year term.

## What is the Role of the System Board?

The System Board is the governing body of the Central Plains Library System; its function is similar to that of a public library board of trustees or any non-profit corporation. Board member tasks include:

- Being an advocate for the System and System services
- Budget preparation
- Evaluation of System services and programs
- Design of specification for provision of System services

## How Often Does the System Board Meet?

The System Board meets four times per year, at designated places around the System or by telephone conference call Meetings usually last less than two hours.

## Are Members of the Board Reimbursed for Expenses?

Members are not permitted to receive a salary, wage or fee for their services. However, they are reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in carrying out their duties. The cost of travel to and from Board and committee meetings is reimbursed at the current Federal allowable rate; examples of other reimbursed expenses are telephone charges and postage.

Nominees for the positions may be library employees, library board members, or library customers. Nominees representing any of the System counties are welcome. Deadline for nominations is **June 26, 2023**. If you have any questions concerning participation on the Central Plains Library System Board, please contact Denise. Nominee information:

NAME\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: HOME\_\_\_\_\_ WORK\_\_\_\_\_

LIBRARY CONNECTION\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

Please submit nominations by **June 26, 2023** to:

**Central Plains Library System, 2727 West 2nd Street, Suite #233, Hastings, NE 68901**

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# CPLS Will Provide This Speaker for Your Library's Summer Reading Program!

Would you like to have a live performance at your library this summer?

Humanities Nebraska has many fine speakers, and David Marsh has a wonderful program that coordinates beautifully with this year's Summer Reading theme. That program is titled "*Music From Around the World.*" David Marsh is an experienced musician and presenter who has delighted Nebraska audiences for many years. This is a program for all ages. The Central Plains Library System will provide the \$50 administrative fee for every library in our System that books David Marsh for a program between May 1 and August 15. That means you can have a terrific live performance, without cost for your library.

First, contact the performer: Email: [marshnmusic@aol.com](mailto:marshnmusic@aol.com)

Phone: (402) 499-3262



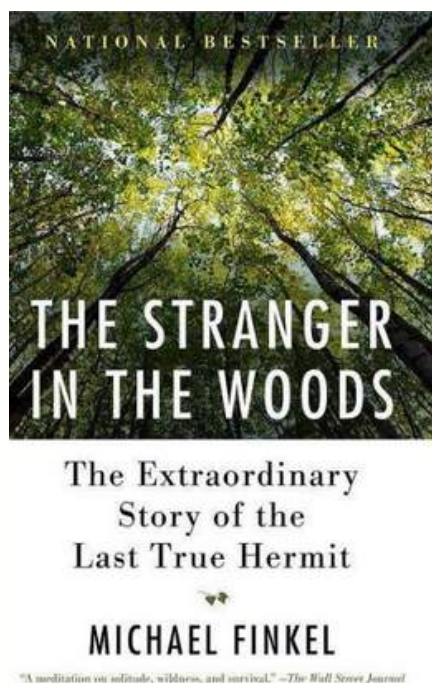
After your program details are finalized, fill out the form on the Humanities Nebraska website: <https://humanitiesnebraska.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Catagory-I-new.pdf>, print it out, and mail it to the address on the bottom of page 2.

When completing the form, include the following on the bottom of the first page:  
"Please bill to CPLS."

**Book early to confirm your preferred date!**

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# NEW BOOK CLUB KITS AT CPLS



The Book Club Set, which includes 6 copies of the title, *The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit*, by Michael Finkel, was donated to CPLS by the Grand Island Campus Library of Central Community College.

Here is Amazon's description of this book:

In 1986, a shy and intelligent twenty-year-old named Christopher Knight left his home in Massachusetts, drove to Maine, and disappeared into the forest. He would not have a conversation with another human being until nearly three decades later, when he was arrested for stealing food. Living in a tent even through brutal winters, he had survived by his wits and courage, developing ingenious ways to store edibles and water, and to avoid freezing to death. He broke into nearby cottages for food, clothing, reading material, and other provisions, taking only what he needed but terrifying a community never able to solve the mysterious burglaries. Based on extensive interviews with Knight himself, this is a vividly detailed account of his secluded life—why did he leave? what did he learn?—as well as the challenges he has faced since returning to the world. It is a gripping story of survival that asks fundamental questions about solitude, community, and what makes a good life, and a deeply moving portrait of a man who was determined to live his own way...and succeeded.

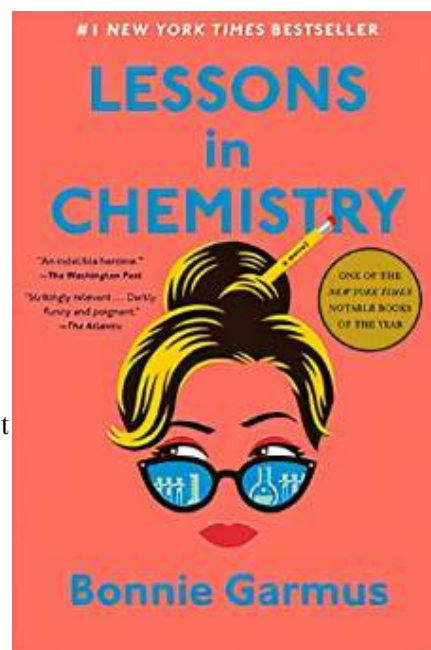
This *New York Times* Bestseller is a GMA Book Club Pick. The System has 10 copies of *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus. It was named a Best Book of the Year by the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *Oprah Daily*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Newsweek*.

Here is the synopsis by Amazon:

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

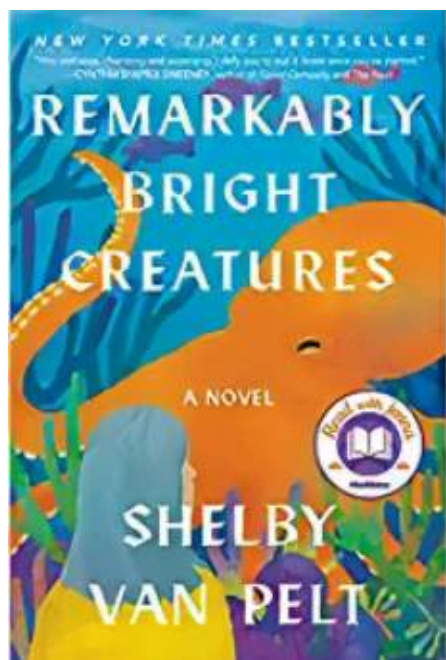
But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.



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## NEW BOOK CLUB KITS AT CPLS ... CONTINUED



### *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt

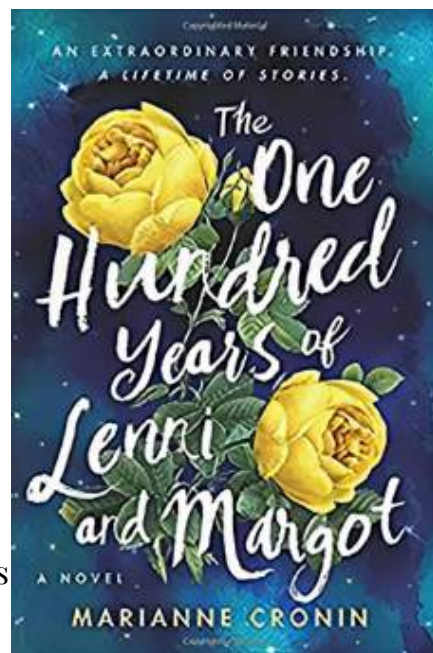
This instant *New York Times* Bestseller is a Read with Jenna *Today Show* Book Club Pick. It was also named a Best Book of Summer by the *Chicago Tribune*. CPLS has 10 copies ready to loan to your Book Club.

After Tova Sullivan’s husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she’s been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn’t dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova’s son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it’s too late.

### *The One Hundred Years of Lennie and Margot*, by Marianne Cronin

This Book Club Set was purchased because of a request from a CPLS library. It is a debut novel labeled “charming, fiercely alive and disarmingly funny.” The System has 10 copies.

Seventeen-year-old Lenni Pettersson lives on the Terminal Ward at the Glasgow Princess Royal Hospital. Though the teenager has been told she’s dying, she still has plenty of living to do. Joining the hospital’s arts and crafts class, she meets the magnificent Margot, an 83-year-old, purple-pajama-wearing, fruitcake-eating rebel, who transforms Lenni in ways she never imagined. As their friendship blooms, a world of stories opens for these unlikely companions who, between them, have been alive for one hundred years. Though their days are dwindling, both are determined to leave their mark on the world. With the help of Lenni’s dotting palliative care nurse and Father Arthur, the hospital’s patient chaplain, Lenni and Margot devise a plan to create one hundred paintings showcasing the stories of the century they have lived—stories of love and loss, of courage and kindness, of unexpected tenderness and pure joy.



Though the end is near, life isn’t quite done with these unforgettable women just yet.



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# BOOK CLUB KITS AT NLC

CONTRIBUTED BY MACKENZIE MARROW



Libraries are community centers and technology hubs and contain many other resources available for everyone and anyone. And *The Reading List*, by debut author Sara Nisha Adams, is all about how libraries are much more than what they carry on the shelves.

We follow two reluctant readers: Widower Mukesh, who, upon reading an old library book left by his late wife, finds comfort and solace in the characters who help the memory of his wife live on. Energized by the experience, Mukesh decides to make an effort to connect with his shy granddaughter through her love of books—leading him to a small Wembley library. In the library, we meet Aleisha, a disillusioned but whip-smart teen working in the slowly dying library over the summer to support her sick mother. Aleisha has no particular love for libraries or books until she is handed a mysterious list of books titled “Just in case you need it.” Inexplicably drawn to reading the first on the list, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Aleisha encourages Mukesh to read it as well. Soon they are both making their way down the list and are surprised to find how much they want to talk with someone about the books or maybe just to talk with someone at all.

Much like the *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, the titular “list” in *The Reading List* serendipitously makes its way across London, finding people who could use a break or a breakthrough. When tragedy strikes, the group’s bond and the lessons they learned from the mysterious reading list and each other become more important than ever.

New to our collection, *The Reading List* is the perfect book club pick because it centers around characters who inexplicably find themselves in a far-reaching book club. In the beginning, Aleisha and Mukesh are nervous about discussing the books themselves, feeling like they need to be some sort of expert or have an earth-shattering revelation to be worth sharing. Still, as time goes on, they gain confidence in sharing their ideas. While each book might not be the ideal fit, they still find something to discuss and enjoy. The idea of the modern-day book club started as an avenue to encourage open discussion, and they still play an essential role in expressing that inherent want to connect (but I may be biased). People are always looking for connection and community; reading and hearing others’ stories and struggles makes us more open, compassionate, and self-confident. Unlike other “books about books,” there is no magic library or all-powerful novel in *The Reading List*. Instead, there is simply the magic and importance of people. And at the end of the day, the people and their community are the most critical asset to libraries.

Request *The Reading List* for your Book Club [here](#). There are 5 copies available

## AUDIOBOOK COLLECTION

CPLS owns over 1,300 circulating audiobook titles. System member libraries may borrow audiobooks (CD and MP3 formats) for a loan period of 90 days.

Here are some new additions:

*A Likely Story* by Abramson, Leigh McMullan

*Heart Bones* by Hoover, Colleen

*Maybe Next Time* by Major, Cesca

*The Kind Worth Saving* by Swanson, Peter

# CPLS Month of Weeding is a Big Success!

The Central Plains Library System's Month of Weeding is done for this year. It was successful for all that participated. We had 2 school libraries and 8 public libraries turn in their weeding reports and several more that indicated they would be weeding. Based on what we heard, nearly 2,100 items were taken off the shelves to make room for newer and better resources.

Together, our libraries weeded pretty evenly across all types of materials. Some of the funniest titles came from the nonfiction area:

- Science Experiments You Can Eat, c1972
- America Was Like This (not checked out since 1969)
- Microwave Food Fun, c1987 (for children)
- Customs and Rituals of Alcohol, c1988
- Think Metric! c1972
- Creative Film-Making, c1958
- New Adventures of Alice, c1917

Here are a few quotations:

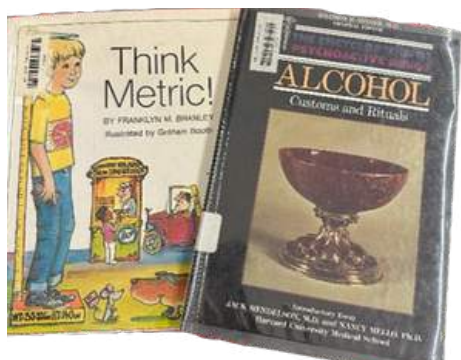
- The Nancy Drew paperbacks' pages were yellow and brittle. They needed to go a while ago!
- I hated to weed Jason Reynolds' All American Boys, but it hadn't been checked out in over 5 years. ☹️
- There weren't a lot of food safety concerns in 1987!
- I took out 5 shelves of reference books today...so outdated.
- We aren't finished in the audio section but making a good dent!
- Looks better!

We held a random drawing for a \$100 Amazon Gift Card from all the libraries that notified the System Office that they were participating.

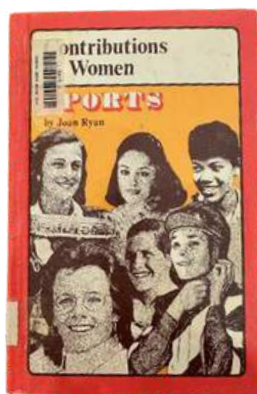
...And the Winner is Indianola Public Library. Congratulations, Katie!



Ainsworth Public Library - After



Some  
of the  
Weeded  
Items



Sargent Public Library - After

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**Central Plains Library System  
Hybrid Board Meeting  
April 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

**Call to order and roll call:** President Terri Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Secretary Terri Eberly took roll call.

**Present:** Sharon Bohlin, Jody Crocker, Jamie Dennis, Sherri Dux-Ideus, Terri Eberly, Janene Hill, Terri Johnson, Kina Stefka, James Tidei. **Absent:** Doris Brandon, Stephanie Branham, Lisa Mount. **Others in attendance:** Denise Harders, Autumn Carlson, Christa Porter, Tim Johnson.

**Approval of the minutes:** Spelling corrections to the minutes, rae/Rate, Krista/Christa. It was moved by Jamie Dennis and seconded by James Tidei to approve the minutes with the spelling corrections. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Financial Report:** Denise reviewed the financial report and clarified spending in some of the categories. It was recommended to change the title of other expenses to reimbursable expenses for clarification. It was moved by Jamie Dennis and seconded by Sherri Dux-Ideus to approve the financial report. The financial report was approved as circulated.

**Correspondence:** Denise read correspondence

- Tim Schirmer, Edward Jones, Thank you for the business,
- McCook High School: Thank you for participating in Bison Days
- Stephanie Malcolm and Board, Palisade Public Library: Thank you for sending SRP materials when she was unable to attend the workshop.
- Cathy Rupe, Eustis Public Library: Thank you for SRP workshop.
- Terri Shearer, Atkinson Public Library: Thank you for the scholarship to attend the SRP workshop.
- Jodi Storer, Paxton Consolidated Schools

**Director's Report:** Denise reported on the activities of the CPLS office.

- Busy with the SRP distributed 445 Craft kits/380 die cut shapes.
- Several workshops were held, along with the Thursday morning meetings with 13-22 attending each session, visits to libraries within the system.
- Denise informed the board of censorship in Fremont, NE. City Council passed an amendment allowing parents or legal guardians to relocate any book from the children's section of the library to the adult section, if their child is eleven years old or younger and they feel the content is not age appropriate. This comes on the heels of one Fremont citizen's continued attempts to ban sex education and LGBTQ+ books from the public library. The NLA firmly stands in opposition to this amendment. Be aware of the attempts to censor books in our communities, keep your library boards aware of issues as they arise.

**Old Business:**

- CPLS invested funds in a CD with Edward Jones as directed at the January meeting. 4.75 annual rate.
- CPLS Biennial Conference- "Tools of the Trade", will be held October 19, 2023, at the Kearney Public Library. The system has put out a call for presenter proposals. Commission presentations to consider include ILL program/Tech Kits/Intellectual Freedom.
- Three areas of programming: 1. Director oriented 2. Library Programs 3. Areas of interest for school librarians. Lightening rounds will be held during lunch and Keynote speaker. There is a lot of excitement surrounding the conference.
- 2023-24 Nonprofit Corporation Biennial Report was completed.

Summer Reading Performer, David Marsh, is being made available to the libraries in the system. The \$50.00 fee will be paid for the program. Libraries request the performer through Humanities Nebraska. So far 17 libraries have booked the performance.

(continued on page 12)

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**Central Plains Library System  
Hybrid Board Meeting  
April 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

(continued from page 11)

CPLS put out a System Services Survey asking for input from any worker in the library. Includes services used, program recommendations and rate service provided by the CPLS staff.

**New Business:**

- CD at Lincoln Federal is coming due in August. The current rate is very low. Board discussed whether to cash before maturity and take penalty and invest the funds at the higher rate at Edward Jones. A motion was made by Terri Eberly and seconded by James Tidei to cash CD 03 216706 07 in the principle amount of \$10,462.87 before the maturity date of 8/21/23, knowing there is a penalty for early withdrawal, putting the proceeds in a Cashier's Check or Money Order payable to CPLS and reinvesting \$10,000.00 of the funds with Edward Jones. Motion carried. Another motion was made by Kina Stefka and seconded by Jamie Dennis that if the penalty for early withdrawal is greater than explained or the penalty would decrease the principle balance that Denise Harders would contact board members before acting. Motion carried.
- Doris Brandon resignation. Denise received a letter from Doris on 2/2 stating that for personal reasons she was submitting her letter of resignation from the CPLS board. The resignation was accepted. The by-laws indicate that we can operate as normal with the number of board members remaining. The position will be put on the ballot at the annual meeting.
- April is the CPLS Month of Weeding: To enter, the week of weeding participation form must be completed and submitted to the office by May 5th. Those submitting forms will be entered into a drawing for a \$100.00 Amazon gift card. The winner will be selected in a random drawing on Friday, May 12, 2023. Denise is available to assist with the process in person or by phone. It was also noted this would be a good time to weed patron cards (moved/deceased/etc.)
- Book Club Kit Shelving: The staff are reorganizing the office. New shelving was purchased for the book club kits, and shelving changed out for the audiobooks.
- Mental Health Mondays will take place in May. The mental health tips and suggestions will be sent out by email.
- CPLS Annual Meeting will be held in Cozad, NE on July 14, 2023. 1 CE will be available to participants. The theme is Barn Quilts. Registration forms will be available online.
- Board Retirements. There are no retirements this year. The vacancy on the board will be put on the ballot.

Other Business: Christa Porter gave the Library Commission Report.

**Highlights:**

- Biennium Budget Request: NLC requested a 5% budget increase, the Governor's budget recommendation was for a 3% budget increase.
- Legislative Bills: Bills of special interest related to libraries and other advocacy resources: [https://nebraskalibraries.org/Advocacy\\_\\_Engage\\_\\_page](https://nebraskalibraries.org/Advocacy__Engage__page). LB635 and LB441 will likely carry over to the 2024 session.
- NLC Grants for 2023-CE Training Grants Second Round: Second round of CE and Training grants opened earlier this month. The application deadline is May 28. NLC is offering a special \$500.00 grant to attend ARSL in Wichita, KS
- Public Library Accreditation 2023: Accreditation process will open on July 1. Online workshops have been scheduled. See NLC for more information.
- Big Talk From Small Libraries 2023: Big Talk from Small Libraries was held on February 24 and was a huge success. 482 pre-registrations from 41 states, with 12 registrations from 5 Canadian provinces. Next conference is scheduled for 2/23/24 see website for details.

Next board meeting: July 14, 2023, at Wilson Public Library, Cozad, NE

Adjourn: There being no further business, it was moved by James Tidei to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri C Eberly, Secretary



## CPLS HAS SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AVAILABLE!

Many of you may be looking forward to a new year and new opportunities to attend events such as the ALA Annual Conference, the Joint Youth Services Retreat, the ARSL Conference, or other training opportunities that come up during the next year. The System can help! We have money available for you!

CPLS can award up to \$200.00 per event in Nebraska and \$300 for out-of-state events. These funds are available to help cover expenses such as registration, mileage, meals, etc. Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year (July - June). Each Library Agency shall be limited to two scholarships per year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date of event \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship requested for \_\_\_\_\_ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

Who should the check be made out to \_\_\_\_\_

Other information: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your request to: Central Plains Library System

2727 W. 2nd Street #233

Hastings, NE 68901



## Disc Cleaning and Repair

**If you haven't used your 10 free disc cleanings yet, you still have until June 30th!**

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 **July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023**, each CPLS member library has **10 free disc cleanings available** to them.



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 plus return postage. If you come to the CPLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is .50 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!



# Nominate Books Now for the 2023 Nebraska Book Awards

The 2023 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB) and Nebraska Library Commission, will recognize and honor books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relate to Nebraska.

Books published in 2022, as indicated by the copyright date, are eligible for nomination. They must be professionally published, have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and be bound. Books may be entered in one or more of the following categories: Nonfiction, Fiction, Children/Young Adult, Cover/Design/Illustration, and Poetry. Winners in each category will be honored at the Fall 2023 Celebration of Nebraska Books and Annual Meeting in Lincoln.

The entry fee is \$40 per book and per category entered. Deadline for entries is **June 30, 2023**.

For more information, including entry forms, see <http://www.centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/awards/nebookawards.html>.

## BULK LOAN OF LARGE PRINT BOOKS & AUDIOS

Would you like a nice selection of large print books and/or audio books to loan to your library users? McCook Public Library and Hastings Public Library route large print books to libraries four times a year. A library will receive a maximum of 200 books/audios during the year (50 each quarter). Postage is free. The cost to your library is just \$50.00 annually!

It is a very nice way to expand your library collection at minimal cost to your library. If you are interested, please contact Autumn at [autumnc.cpls@gmail.com](mailto:autumnc.cpls@gmail.com) and she will send you out a contract. Please do so as soon as possible as payment is due July 1st.

## BASIC SKILLS CLASSES

CLASS DATES	CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	REGISTRATION DATES
6/5 - 6/16	<u>Readers' Advisory</u>	Tammi Thiem	5/2 - 5/30
7/3 - 7/14	<u>Reference</u>	Christa Porter	5/30 - 6/24
7/24 - 8/4	<u>Library Policy</u>	Holli Duggan	6/20 - 7/15
8/14 - 8/25	<u>Collection Management*</u>	Denise Harders	7/11 - 8/5
8/28 - 9/8	<u>Programming &amp; Outreach</u>	Christa Porter	7/25 - 8/19
9/18 - 9/29	<u>Community &amp; Library*</u>	Sam Shaw	8/15 - 9/9
10/16 - 10/27	<u>Management/Supervision</u>	Cindy Osborne	9/12 - 10/7
11/6 - 11/17	<u>Leadership</u>	Tammi Thiem	9/26 - 10/21
11/27 - 12/8	<u>Library Services to Children &amp; Teens</u>	Sally Snyder	10/24 - 11/18

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- Jun 13 - ARSL Conference in Wichita Early Bird Registration Opens  
Jun 19 - Juneteenth Holiday - CPLS Office Closed  
Jun 22-27 - ALA Conference (Chicago)  
Jun 30 - Entry Deadline for Nebraska Book Awards
- Jul 4 - 4th of July Holiday - CPLS Office Closed  
Jul 14 - **CPLS Annual Meeting - 10am - 3pm (Wilson Public Library in Cozad)**
- Aug 31/Sep 1 - Jt. Youth Services Retreat - Camp Carol Joy Holling (Ashland)
- Sept 4 - Labor Day Holiday - CPLS Office Closed  
Sep 20-23 - Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference, Wichita, KS
- Oct 9 - US Indigenous People's Day Holiday - CPLS Office Closed  
Oct 13 - CPLS Board Meeting - TBA  
Oct 19 - **CPLS Biennial Conference "Tools of the Trade" - 10am - 5pm (Kearney)**

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## NCompass LIVE PRESENTATIONS

NCompass Live is the Nebraska Library Commission's weekly webinar series, covering a variety of library activities and topics. The show is free and open to anyone to watch. These one-hour sessions are hosted by Christa Porter, the NLC's Library Development Director, and include a mixture of presentations, interviews, book reviews, Web tours, mini training sessions, and Q & A sessions presented by NLC staff and guest speakers. Attendees ask questions and participate in the show via VoIP, using their own microphone, or in the live text chat.

Every Wednesday 10am - 11am (CST)  
To view past presentations, [CLICK HERE](#).

- Jun 7 - In Search of the Obscure - Using Library & Online Sources to Find Resources that are Out of the Ordinary [REGISTER](#)
- Jun 14 - Transforming Library Staff Learning Through Technology Skills Assessments [REGISTER](#)
- Jun 21 - Nebraska Public Library Laws: Chapter 51 & Beyond [REGISTER](#)
- Jun 28 - Pretty Sweet Tech [REGISTER](#)
- Jul 5 - One Book for Nebraska Kids & Teens 2023 [REGISTER](#)
- Jul 12 - A Library Centennial Celebration in Photos and Memories [REGISTER](#)
- Jul 19 - Nebraska Open Meetings Act: 2023 Overview and Update [REGISTER](#)

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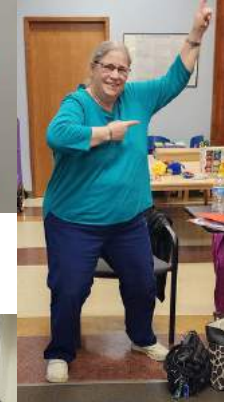
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We were "All Together Now!" at Grand Island & Lexington Public Libraries for our summer reading workshops! We had great presenters & a whole lot of fun!



April Showers Bring May  
Flowers Workshop at  
Kearney Public Library

What Would You  
Do with \$1,000?  
Workshop at North  
Platte Public Library



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## BOARD MEMBERS:

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Terri Johnson

Lisa Mount

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James Tidei

The Atkinson Public Library kicked off National Library Week with a wonderful Humanities Nebraska program! David Marsh, who is from the Lincoln area, presented "Music Around the World" to an audience of fifty-nine children, and thirty-five adults. Marsh, who has been playing musical instruments since he was about seven years old, brought along over a dozen instruments to entertain the crowd with. Before playing them, he talked about the origin of each instrument, and the basics of how they made their sound. This free performance was made possible through funding from Humanities Nebraska and the Central Plains Library System.



Denise Harders, director of the Central Plains Library System, and her assistant Autumn Carlson, held a Beginning Cricut Class at the Atkinson Public Library. There were twelve ladies that came to learn about the basics of the Cricut machine and hear about the wide variety of crafting materials that it can cut, and many types of projects that are possible to create. The ladies were shown how to cut felt pieces and put together to form 3D flowers to attach to canvas bags, make cutout layered greeting cards, and paper succulent plants in terra cotta pots. Everyone had a great time learning about this fun crafting machine!

