

# **Three Rivers Library System Annual Report**

**Fiscal Year 2018-2019**



## From the director:

The 2018-2019 year has been a great year. We conducted 4 full day continuing education activities (two in the fall, two in the spring) and several sessions with the Nebraska Library Commission (E-Rate, 2 Accreditation workshops) for the member libraries along with several routine meetings, education sessions, and gathering of library staff. Our goal was one event each month, outside of December, January, and February.

Within the office, Chelsea and I reviewed existing policy material, developed a new policy manual, and began developing a new procedure manual for office staff. We have not been able to find an affordable or appropriate office outside of Omaha, so we have not moved. However, we have changed our internet and phone provider. This gave us a new speed and communications capacity.

We reactivated the Three Rivers Library System YouTube site in January with a recording of Sam Shaw from the Nebraska Library Commission doing two sessions for directors on the Bibliostat survey. Additionally, in the winter, Coffee and Books with Sally Snyder from the Nebraska Library Commission was recorded and put on the Video channel This summer, we added a session on Chromebooks: The Pros/Cons and what they are. This was done in conjunction with the ESU7 staff. In February, we were disappointed a session with ESU 3 was snowed out.

The widespread spring flooding damage in the TRaiLS area was lighter than expected to libraries. But the homes of the library staff were not so lucky and staff of several libraries are still spending time cleaning up and bringing their homes back to order.

In October, we were saddened by the Village Board of Oakdale stopping funding to the library. However, the community gathered together and are working to keep the library operational. This summer, we learned the Brunswick Public Library building needs major repair but as in Oakdale the town and village board gathered together to continue operations. During the spring floods the library in Verdegre and its staff provided a major communication resource for the community.

Frustrated with the response from our email campaigns and contact with TRaiLS members, I began to look at why the response has been weak. From this we began to revamp and are looking to develop a new branding and marketing plan. This summer, we revamped the principal brochure used to share information about the role and function of the Three Rivers Library System. This will come out after August 1, when new officers and board members have been named.

We have begun the process to look for a Customer Relations Management software package to communicate with library directors, staff, board members, and other persons interested in public libraries.

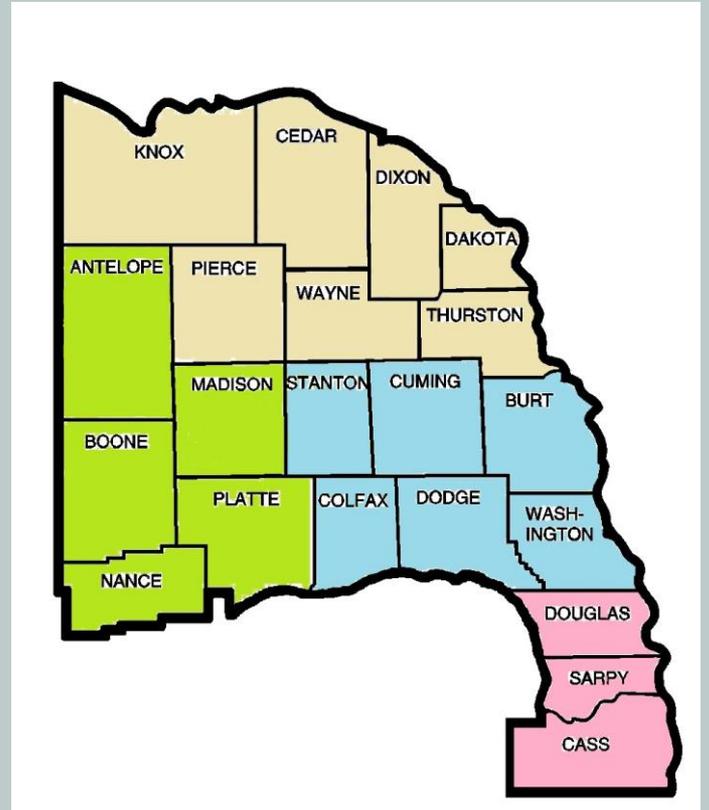
This year we tried a new approach with new directors. As they were hired, I met with them for 1 day. Then, each month, the new directors met on the zoom system to talk about projects and issues they were having.



## Who We Serve:

*Serving the libraries of the Platte, Elkhorn, and Missouri River Valleys.*

- 97 public libraries and branches with over 480,000 registered borrowers in 85 communities
- 25 academic libraries from more than 20 postsecondary institutions
- 419 private and public-school libraries
- 48+ special and institutional libraries





## What We Do:

### *Promoting collaboration and exceptional library services.*

- Continuing Education
- Book Kits Program
- Consulting on Human Resource and operational topic
- Technology
- Communications

*The system is a 501(c)3 organization governed by a board of directors with representatives from around the system. The board meets quarterly in February, May, August, and November.*



# Member Financials and Materials Statistics

## TRaiLS Members Revenue

Total local government revenue	\$	29,122,053.00
Total state government revenue	\$	380,323.00
Total federal government revenue	\$	9,239.00
Total other revenue	\$	1,352,983.00

## TRaiLS Members Expenditures

Print materials expenditures	\$	2,086,679.00
Electronic materials expenditures	\$	798,077.00
Other materials expenditures	\$	770,258.00
Sum of Salaries and wages	\$	
14,372,866.00		

## TRaiLS Members Material

Number books held at end of current year	2,097,754.00
Number audio materials held at end of current year	100,758.00
Number videos held at end of current year	148,914.00
Number print subscriptions held at end of current year	4,244.00
Number of other items held at end of current year	541,875.00

\* REPORTED FOR THE 2018 REPORTING YEAR FROM THE NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION



## 2018-2019 TRAILS Board of Directors

- ★ Karen Drevo
  - Norfolk Public Library
    - President
- ★ Jennifer Norton
  - Neligh Public Library
    - Vice President
- ★ Tina Walker
  - Keene Memorial Library
    - Secretary
- ★ Rebecca Sims
  - Sump Memorial Library
    - Treasurer

- ★ Megan Tomasiewicz
  - Lied Tekamah Public Library
- ★ Gretchen Long
  - Omaha Nation Public Schools
- ★ Dave Graber
  - Wayne State College
- ★ Crys Bauermeister
  - Pierce High School



## TRaiLS Staff

### G. Eric Jones, Ed. D.

- Executive Director
- [Eric.Jones.trls@outlook.com](mailto:Eric.Jones.trls@outlook.com)

### Chelsea Morlan

- Library Services Assistant
- [trls.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:trls.assistant@gmail.com)

## *Director's Activity*

Eric Jones visited approximately 90% of the accredited and unaccredited public libraries in the TRaiLS area. Traveled over 20,000 miles in the TRaiLS area.



# TRAILS System Peer Coordinators (SPCs)

SPCs host DiSPEL meetings, meet with local libraries, host periodic video sessions for idea sharing and problem solving.

## Tammi Thiem

- Director at Genoa Public Library
- Counties Include: Antelope, Madison, Boone, Platte, and Nance

## Rosa Schmidt

- Director at Oakland Public Library
- Counties Include: Stanton, Cuming, Burt, Colfax, Dodge, and Washington

## Lisa Macke

- Director at Creighton Public Library
- Counties Include: Knox, Cedar, Dixon, Dakota, Thurston, Wayne, Pierce



# Continuing Education Events

## Summer Reading Programs

2 face-to-face sessions; combined 45 attendees.

## Fall Library Education Day

2 face-to-face sessions; combined 45 attendees.

## Via Zoom (Online Sessions)

- Bibliostat Workshop
- Overdrive Workshop
- Coffee and Books with Sally
- Chromebooks Workshop

## *With the Nebraska Library Commission*

- E-Rate Workshop
- Accreditation Workshops
- Trev Peterson on Legal and Gaming Issues



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libraries were reaccredited in the 2018  
cycle with 2 returning to accredited  
status.

## Scholarships

*The TRaiLS Continuing Education Scholarship Fund promotes attendance of librarians, library staff, and trustees at local, state, regional, and national continuing education and networking events.*

**\$5,129**

Awarded in continuing education scholarships

**Scholarship awardees used funds to assist with attendance at:**

- ❑ NLA/NSLA Annual Conference
- ❑ COSUGI
- ❑ Harwood Public Innovators Lab for Libraries
- ❑ PLA Social Justice and Public Libraries Symposium
- ❑ Youth Services Retreat

# Lending Services

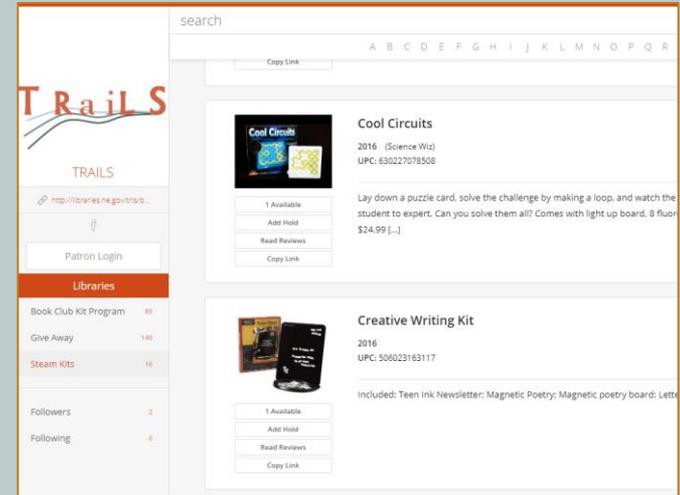
The Three Rivers Library System has continued to use  as our lending system.

## Book Kit Program

- 89 titles available to borrow.

## STEAM Kit Program

- 16 items available to borrow



The screenshot shows the libib website interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with the 'TRAILS' logo and a list of categories: 'Libraries', 'Book Club Kit Program' (89), 'Give Away' (140), 'Steam Kits' (16), 'Followers' (2), and 'Following' (6). The main content area displays search results for 'Cool Circuits' and 'Creative Writing Kit'. Each result includes a cover image, title, year, and a 'Copy Link' button. The 'Cool Circuits' result also shows '1 Available', 'Add Hold', and 'Read Reviews' options. The 'Creative Writing Kit' result shows 'Included: Teen Ink Newsletter: Magnetic Poetry: Magnetic poetry board: Lett...

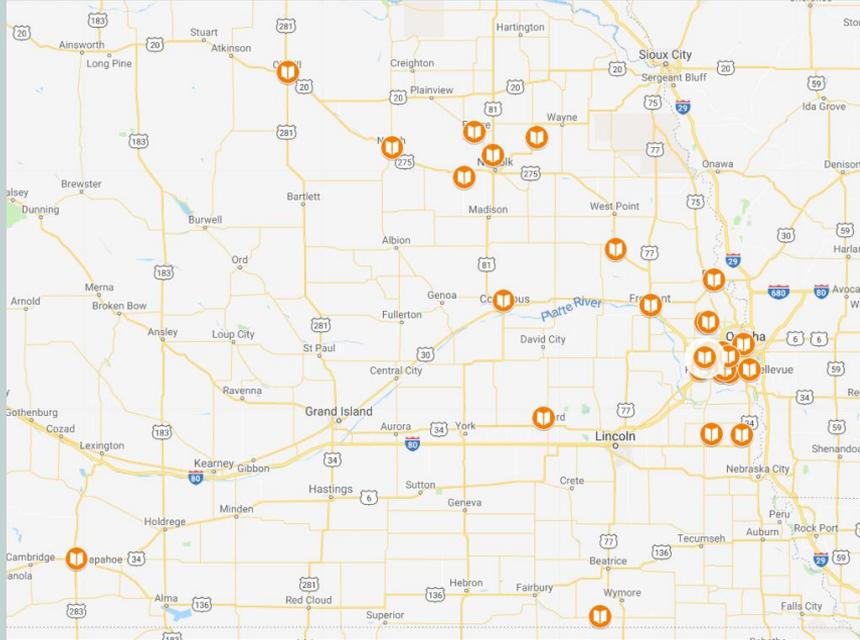
Visit [trails.libib.com](https://trails.libib.com) to view our selection.

# Lending Distribution

27 system members were served in the last year spanning across the system.

1143 copies from our Book Kit Program were lent out to the system members.

3 items from our STEAM Kit Program were lent out to system members.



This map shows the libraries and schools that have borrowed book kits during the fiscal year.



## Communication Presence

The newsletter, *TRaiLS*, is issued **six times a year**.

The current issues is always featured on our website at <http://libraries.ne.gov/trls/services/trls-newsletter/> and averages about **169 views per issue**.

The website is updated with information regarding upcoming events and relevant library news. In the 2018-2019 fiscal year is was **viewed 7,575 times**.

TRaiLS routes 4 professional magazines. In the 2018-2019 fiscal year an estimated **119 articles** were sent to system members.

Although, due to lack of interest, we are closing this magazine routing program.



The system is funded by the State of Nebraska and by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.