

December 1, 2014

Save the Date
March 12th
 is the



**2015 Summer
 Reading
 Workshop!**

Calendar

Executive Committee Meeting	12/4
Directors' Meeting	12/11
Executive Committee Meeting	1/29
NCKLS Closed for All Staff Training	2/16
Pinterest Training	2/25
Summer Reading Workshop	3/12
Craft Workshops	March & April

NeCessary KnowLedge

Planning and Statistics

At the close of the year, there are many library tasks to wrap up, holiday events and programs, winter weather preparation, closing the year's budget, and beginning to review the past year's statistics for reporting in the new year. Statistics may not be exciting, but libraries take them seriously. Statistics are one important way of measuring what matters to library customers so that librarians and library boards can prioritize services and allocate resources.

I am putting together statistics on the use of services provided by the North Central Kansas Library System and the Manhattan Public Library to use for planning and budgeting in 2015. Next spring, Manhattan Public Library will undergo a formal planning process with select members of the community to determine library service roles and thus the focus of library activities for the coming years. Each committee member will bring a unique perspective to the process about what areas of service are most important.

In addition, we will utilize objective information about the region and library services, including: demographics, the availability of other local services and amenities, the availability and use of technology, and the quality of life and goals that are important to residents. Community analysis helps determine how the library fits in.

The data libraries collect and report annually is also important to record what services are used and important to constituents. Additionally, libraries may keep statistics to track changes in use to see what people are using more or less frequently. For example, changing use of various formats; when DVD circulation increases and VHS circulation decreases, it is time to reallocate funds from one format to the other.

The planning committee for Manhattan will review community information and library statistics, learn about

the possible service roles for the library, listen to staff feedback, and finally recommend three to five service roles for the library. Recommendations will be presented to the library board for approval. Excellent library service is a moving target, defined locally, and it is possible for libraries of any size. We know from the many fine libraries in the NCKLS region that the quality of service is related more to the commitment of the community than any other factor.

I am looking forward to the new year and the opportunities ahead. I hope you are too.

~ Linda Knupp

**Tuesday Trainings. . .
 Coming Soon**
**Starting in January 2015,
 NCKLS will have weekly
 technology webinars!**
**We'll be talking about every-
 thing from web safety to
 Apps to LibGuides.**
**So, mark your calendars for
 Tuesdays at
 10:00 a.m.**



Got a Professional Question? We've Got Answers!

NCKLS has been adding to our professional collection. Here's a peek at some of the new titles you can check out:

- Emergency Preparedness for Libraries* by Julie Todaro
- How to Thrive as a Solo Librarian* edited by Carol Smallwood & Melissa J. Clapp
- Including Families of Children with Special Needs: a How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians* revised by Carrie Scott Banks, Barbara Jordan, Kathleen Deerrr, & Michelle Langa
- Managing Children's Services in Libraries* by Adele M. Fasick & Leslie Edmonds Holt

- Making the Library Accessible for All: a Practical Guide for Librarians* by Jane Vincent
- Makerspaces: a Practical Guide for Librarians* by John J. Burke
- Successful Library Fundraising* edited by M. Sandra Wood
- The Small Library Manager's Handbook* edited by Alice Graves
- Transforming Libraries, Building Communities: The Community-Centered Library* by Julie Biando Edwards, Melissa S. Robinson, & Kelley Rae Unger
- Using Social Media in*

Libraries: Best Practices edited by Charles Harmon & Michael Messina

What Every Library Director Should Know by Susan Carol Curzon

Young Adult Resources Today: Connecting Teens with Books, Music, Games, Movies, and More by Dan Latham & Melissa Gross

All of these books and many more are in NORCAT. We are happy to check them out to any NCKLS library staff member, board member, or trustee.

~ Melendra Sutliff Sanders



FoKL Board at Abilene Public Library



Farewell to Sue Blechl

It's getting colder, and winter weather is already upon us. Sue Blechl has other plans for this winter. After nineteen years as director of the Emporia Public Library, Sue will be retiring and joining her mother in the much warmer climate of Sun City, Arizona. Sue began her library career in her native Wisconsin and came to Emporia in 1995 from the Dickinson County Library in Iron Mountain, Michigan. Sue refers to strong community partnerships, local grants,

some building remodeling, and a vital children's program as the highlights of her time at Emporia Public Library. She has been an active member of the Kansas Library Association and a number of state-wide committees. Sue has done terrific work with her local Friends of the Library. She shared her enthusiasm for Friends by being a very active member of Friends of Kansas Libraries (FOKL), including a term or two as president of the organization.

Though we understand the lure of that nice weather in Arizona and the need to spend time with her elderly mother, we will miss Sue's energy and enthusiasm for libraries in Kansas.

~ Carol Barta



Rotating Book Van News

NCKLS is making some changes to the rotating book van routine and schedule for 2015. We have hired Ben Zilkie as the rotating book van assistant.

Ben spent fourteen years in the U.S. Navy as an Electronics Technician. During that time, he was lucky enough to be stationed in Hawaii and San Diego. He recently completed a bachelor's degree in legal studies at

Washburn University. Ben will work on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and do the rotating book van deliveries with me when I am able.

When I am not available, someone from NCKLS or MPL will assist Ben. The deliveries will only be done on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and we will not leave Manhattan until 8:00 a.m., so the day and time you had in the past will change. The

calendar for 2015 will be posted to the NCKLS website very soon, so please check it out. I'm happy to welcome Ben to the NCKLS family.

~ Denise Coon



E-Rate Changes

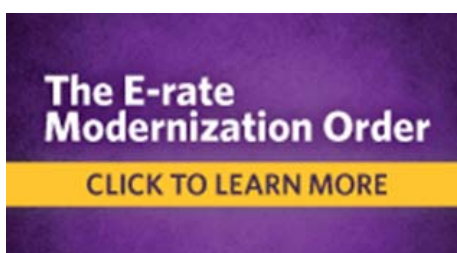
The E-rate program began eighteen years ago and has subsidized the cost of Internet connections and telephone services for K-12 schools and public libraries ever since. For most NCKLS libraries, this program has reimbursed 60 to 80 percent of the cost for those services. With the recent passing of the "E-rate Modernization Order," beginning July of 2015, the Schools and Libraries Division (E-rate) of the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) will begin phasing out support for telephone services including local, long distance, and cell phone

service. Over the next five years, telephone E-rate support will be reduced 20 percent per year. This phased reduction, in effect, will end E-rate reimbursements for telephone services for all NCKLS libraries within three to four years. Please note that the "E-rate Modernization Order" does not change E-rate subsidies for Internet connections. Those will continue just as they have for the past eighteen years.

General information about the E-rate program is available on their website at (<http://www.sl.universalservice.org/menu.asp>).

For specific information about the "E-rate Modernization Order" follow this link: (<http://www.usac.org/sl/tools/modernization-order/default.aspx>).

~ Richard Miller



Do you have a Pinterest account at your library?

Pinterest is a social network that allows ideas to be shared in areas of interest. For example, you can create a board for your library focused on snacks, crafts, summer reading, storytime, teens, displays. . .really the possibilities are endless.

Pinterest is popular because it provides a space for sharing interests and relies on users to produce the content. It also provides a great place for planning and storing ideas!

Personalize your Pinterest page by creating boards, pinning items, and following other users with similar interests.

To learn more, register for our February 25th Pinterest Class at know.nckl.info!



North Central Kansas Libraries System

NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS LIBRARIES SYSTEM

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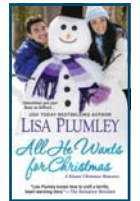
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NCKLS Kit Circulation Extended!

NCKLS is extending the circulation period for all our Storytime and Maker Kits. Now kits will be available for two months instead of one! This will allow libraries to have a kit delivered by Denise and Ben at the same time as the rotating books and to have it picked up at the next rotating book rotation.

~ Melendra Sutliff Sanders



Seasonal Reading at Bargain Prices

We all have adult readers who are searching for holiday titles throughout the month of December. These new inexpensive paperback titles will appeal to a variety of patron interests:

Death of a Christmas Caterer by Lee Hollis is the latest mystery in the Hayley Powell (food columnist) series. Hayley has hired caterer Garth Rawlings for her party, but things go awry when he skips over budget concerns. More trouble follows when the caterer is found murdered on his own kitchen floor. Who had a grudge against Garth? Hayley will find out, even if investigating cuts into her holiday planning.

A Frontier Christmas by William W. Johnstone (with help from J. A. Johnstone) is not your typical western. When the mayor and his family of Chugwater territory are murdered, frontier justice must be served. But when the evil Cave brothers are captured, they manage to escape. This mistake is soon worsened by a diphtheria outbreak that

cripples the little town. Fans of this series know that Duff MacCallister will have to come to the rescue regardless of his own safety, even if it is Christmas.

A Country Christmas by Debbie Macomber is really two holiday romances in one. In the first tale, "Buffalo Valley," veteran Vaughn Kyle chances upon the town of Buffalo Valley while awaiting his fiancée's word about the future. He's forced to rethink his commitment when he meets Carrie Hendrickson who just might be his best choice for a spouse. In the second tale, "Return to Promise," a rancher and his wife are apart because of a family crisis. Will their relationship improve, or is theirs a permanent rift?

An Amish Christmas Quilt by Charlotte Hubbard, Kelly Long, and Jennifer Beckstrand is a collection of three heart-warming Amish holiday tales. In the first, Seth Brenneman is surprised by his feelings toward widowed Mary Kauffman. In a second story, young

Matthew Beider and Laurel Lapp would love to wed, but both families wish to thwart the young lovers. In the third story, matchmaker Anna Helmuth has picked the perfect woman for her grandson, but the intended is not that pleased. All three stories promise new emotional attachments amid much Christmas joy.

All He Wants for Christmas by Lisa Plumley is contemporary romantic comedy. Store owner Danielle Sharp, divorced and the mother of a son, forgets her dedication to her business when man-of-the-world Jason Hamilton comes to inspect her store. But does he feel a mutual attraction? This business connection just might hold promise.

What do all these holiday titles have in common? Love and supportive family relationships. What better way to celebrate the joy of the season!

~ Marcy Allen