

April 1, 2015

It's not too late
to register for a
craft workshop!



Register at [http://
know.nckl.info/](http://know.nckl.info/).

Calendar

Directors' Meeting	4/9
SR Craft Workshop: Marion	4/10
SR Craft Workshop: Wamego	4/16
Book Fair	5/7
Executive Board Meeting	5/28
Directors' Meeting	6/11

Classic Values – Changing Services

At the last NCKLS Executive Board meeting, Gwen Owens noted that the Herington Public Library was celebrating 100 years of public library service! Did you know that Herington is one the 58 towns in Kansas that received a grant from Andrew Carnegie to establish a public library? Carnegie libraries provided towns & cities across the nation with a genuine sense of community & pride in civic life, with free access to a world of information & imagination through books that were available to everyone. Carnegie libraries established library values that continue today, as we discover new ways to serve residents through collections in a variety of formats, meeting places, & online connections. The seven regional library systems of cooperating libraries, including NCKLS, are mere youngsters established 50 years ago to help local libraries & expand services to all citizens of the state through existing libraries & shared services. How have regional library system services

changed? Consulting services, continuing education, rotating collections of books, opportunities for purchasing & processing books, & grants have been part of system services for many years. In more recent years, NCKLS also provides funding for online collections, support for a regional online catalog, critical support for technology troubleshooting, & consulting to help each library connect communities to the online world. Available services & the use of services have changed, but the central mission of NCKLS remains consistent with the goal of providing assistance to each library in the region to support local services & shared access for everyone in the region & to help eliminate barriers to service. Just out of curiosity, I checked to see what books were popular in 1915. Could these have been part of Herington's opening day collection? Here are a few of

the classic titles I found in GoodReads:
The Song of the Lark, by Willa Cather
The Star Rover, by Jack London
The Metamorphosis & Other Stories, by Franz Kafka
The Scarecrow of Oz, by L. Frank Baum
The Good Soldier, by Ford Madox Ford
Travels in Alaska, by John Muir
The Rainbow Trail, by Zane Grey

~ Linda Knupp



Summer Reading Workshop: Super!

This year's Summer Reading Workshop is over, but Kathy Barco's great ideas are still available for anyone who needs them. To access Kathy's resources, just visit the NCKLS website through this link: <http://goo.gl/3h3FVC>.

Getting to Know You: Shannon Reid-Wheat at Council Grove Public Library



When did you become director of the library?

I became Director in February of 2014. Every day I seem to learn something new. Not having a library background, some things have been foreign. But growing up going to the library all the time & having several family members in the library world, I feel I am adjusting fairly well.

What do you like/love about your library?

I have a great staff that I love to work with. I enjoy helping & talking with patrons every day! Talking with patrons about the books/authors they like is always fun, & I learn a lot from them. I love our new look as well! I also enjoy when we get a new bunch of books. It is like Christmas, all shiny & new!

What would you change if you could?

I would (and do) change people's perception of the library. It doesn't have to be a boring, quiet building with

mean librarians telling you to be quiet! I often say the staff is the loudest group in the library. I would

also continue to educate the community on what we have to offer; it's not just all books!

What projects are you working on?

Well, most recently I had been working on our remodel project of new carpet, flooring, & paint, which took most of my time. The staff & I did all the moving & planning throughout the project. Now I'm on to decorating & some furniture changes. Every day is different in this job but always interesting!

What programs do you offer?

We do the usual programs: weekly storytime, movies, summer reading, booktalks.

We also have attended farmer's markets & craft days. We are looking at future programs such as

reader's advisory groups, trivia nights, "how-to" classes, etc.

Name a book you've read recently that you'd



recommend & describe something you liked about it.

Wow—that's hard! I'm on a zombie genre kick right now, (I'm usually a mystery reader), so most of my recent reads aren't for everyone! Two series I've really enjoyed are the Benny Imura series by Jonathan Maberry & the Newsflesh Trilogy by Mira Grant. I enjoy the characters in both series & the struggles they go through as they attempt to right the world. I usually have a book I am reading, as well as a book on CD that I am listening to while driving to & from work. I keep track of what I've read/want to read on Goodreads.

~Shannon Reid-Wheat



Settings to Help Verso Play Better with Your Browser

Verso 4, the current iteration of Auto-Graphics' library automation system, will perform better in your browser of choice (Chrome, Firefox, or IE) if you make a few changes in the browser's settings.

Generally, these changes need only be applied when you first start using Verso 4 on your computer or when you change to a new computer. Many libraries have had a positive experience using Chrome or Firefox to run Verso; however, if setting changes are made in

Internet Explorer (IE), Chrome & Firefox will pick up those changes & apply them when running Verso 4. The basic settings that need to be changed include:

- Set Pop-ups to: Always open pop-ups in a new window
- Set Browsing history (cache) to: Every time I visit the webpage
- Add auto-graphics.com to Trusted Sites
- Set the security level for Trusted Sites to Medium-Low

• Set Pop-up blocker to not block auto-graphics.com

Specific step by step instructions are available on the NCKLS web site (<http://goo.gl/Wfu5jF>). There is also a video accessible at (<http://goo.gl/yLC77f>). If you prefer not to dig into settings of your browser, then NCKLS staff will gladly check Verso settings on your individual staff computers.

~ Richard Miller

Community Heroes Story Time Kits

NCKLS is adding four storytime mini-kits to our programming resources, thanks to the suggestion of Kathleen Caster at Riley City Library. The four kits each focus on a different community hero: police officers, firefighters, doctors, and service animals. Like the larger kits, each mini-kit contains books, toys, and storytime resources, like puppets and flannel stories. The kits will circulate for 3 weeks because we are hoping for high demand. We can send them via courier or deliver them on the rotating book van. After the superhero summer theme ends, the mini

-kits will be combined into a full-sized Community Heroes Storytime Kit which will circulate for a two-month period as do all our other programming kits.

In addition to the new mini-kits, NCKLS has the following kits that could be used with this year's summer reading theme: On the Go #2; Friendly Monsters #10; Feelings #12; Moving House #16; Pirates #17; Active Play #20; Robot #1; Circuits #2; Mini Weapons #3; Builder #4; Book Repurposing #5; Photo Booth #6; Break It reMake It #7; LEGO #8-11.

~ Melendra Sutliff Sanders

Rotating Book Van News

Ben Zilkie left as the rotating book van assistant at the end of February to take a full time job in Topeka with the KDHE. NCKLS hired Jacob Baldree who began work on March 3rd & will be with us through the end of June. He will work on Tuesday & Thursday from 8 to 5 & do the rotating book van deliveries with me. Jacob will be a wonderful addition to our staff, & I'm so happy to welcome him as the rotating book van assistant.

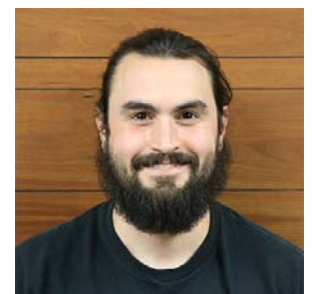
~ Denise Coon

April Directors' Meeting: Lawrence Public Library

Don't forget that we're heading to Lawrence for the April Directors' Meeting.

NCKLS is happy to provide transport from Manhattan. All you have to do is get here by 8:15, Thursday, April 9th!

To register, visit know.nckl.info/.





North Central Kansas Libraries System

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New Resource for Patrons with Disabilities

The Regional Youth Services Consultants have created an online resource for librarians serving patrons with disabilities. The resource is located on the Kansas Regional Library Systems' website at <http://goo.gl/iuXfeA>. There are a number of pages that focus on different types of resources, such as books, webinars, informational websites, websites that sell manipulative toys, programming advice, & apps. While these resources contain materials related to a variety of disabilities, from Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to vision impairment, the main focus is on ASD. In addition to this electronic resource, the Kansas Regional Library Systems are in the process of creating *Disability Resource Kits*. These kits will circulate around the state allowing libraries wanting to create sensory storytimes or other programs geared toward patrons with disabilities to try out different manipulatives & sensory items.

~ Melendra Sutliff Sanders

The Homesteading Experience

Generations of children have grown up reading the classics *Little House in the Big Woods*, *Farmer Boy*, & *The Long Winter*. In fact, the mere mention of author Laura Ingalls Wilder probably brings to mind a few other beloved tales of the childhood pioneering experience. For those who still cherish these wonderful novels, there's now an even more detailed account of Wilder's real experiences.

Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography covers Wilder's life from the period of 1869-1887. The story, based on Wilder's memories of her childhood, was written over a period of years much later than the actual events. The book opens when she was a small child, & it details her family's experiences as they homesteaded in Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, & other locations up until the time she reached the age of about eighteen. Much of the book conveys the charm of her wonderful novels, like Christmases of the

past, interactions with her sisters, & her father's lessons about life & music. Much, too, deals with the hardships & heartbreaks that the family shared in an often hostile environment. She recounts, for example, the sudden death of her baby brother, the loss of the family's crops due to a grasshopper invasion, & the day-to-day drudgery of living in a dugout.

What makes this book special? For one thing, it's filled with period photographs: portraits of Wilder's parents & other relatives, illustrations from those early novels, & shots of Wilder's home & towns near which she lived highlight the text. Annotations that further explain events appear alongside the text, & the book itself is written in first person, immediately drawing the reader into the story.

This, then, is a book to savor. It's a classic tale of a young girl growing up in the wilderness at a time when self-sufficiency & the unexpected were daily experiences. I'm sure that you, too, will be drawn into the story as I was & feel a sense of great admiration for this pioneering family.

~ Marcy Allen

