

The Lamplighter



IN THE SYSTEM

Certification Credits, Anyone?

WVLS has joined several other systems in the state to provide a convenient learning opportunity that requires no driving to another location for a workshop and still provides continuing education credits for certification. This is available to all WVLS members starting November 2008.

Now you can participate in learning online or via watching a DVD recording that you can check out from the WVLS office a few weeks after the presentation.

The first session is scheduled for Friday, November 7, with the title "Reversing the Ratchet: Basic Technology Adoption Strategies for Library Workers" presented by Steven Bell. This is the first of a series of five 90-minute sessions available over the course of a year.

For a complete list of the upcoming programs, go to: <http://www.dupagepress.com:80/library-learning-network/> and look at Soaring to Excellence 2009 and Library Challenges & Opportunities 2009. These will be free for all WVLS members. Watch for more details as we join this consortium.
(Inese Christman, Wisconsin Valley Library Service)

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CONTINUING EDUCATION



WHAT TO DO WHEN...?

The Nuts & Bolts of Library Policy Development

Where: American Legion Hall

6 Boon Blvd

Neillsville, WI 54456

When: Thursday, October 9, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- Does your library have all of its policies updated?
- Do you know what policies your library should have?
- Do you know where to locate policy information?

If you answered "NO" to any or all of these questions, please join us for a workshop on how to develop and update your library's policies.

Agenda:

9:00 – 9:30	Registration, refreshments and conversation
9:30 – 10:00	Introductions
10:00 – 12:00	John DeBacher , DLTCL Public Library Administration Consultant, will provide information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• what the difference is between policy and procedure• what are the nuts and bolts of developing policy statements• how to review and update your existing policies• the roles of the Library Board, the Director and staff in policy development
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch – Build your own salad/sandwich bar & soup, cookie, & beverage for \$7.50
1:00 – 2:30	Jennifer Lord Kouraichi , Director of Emergency Management, Clark County, will review what is needed in Disaster Policies
2:30 – 2:45	Break
2:45 – 3:30	Sharing policies, ideas, and wrap up

Certified library directors will be able to receive 5.0 contact hours!

To register for the "What to Do When ...?" workshop, mail completed registration and check for \$ **7.50** (made out to the American Legion) to Jo Ann Gustavson, Director, Neillsville Public Library; 409 Hewett Street; Neillsville, WI 54456. If you need special accommodations or have questions, please contact Jo Ann at 715-743-2558 or gustav@wvls.lib.wi.us

Name: _____ Library: _____

Telephone No: _____ E-mail: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 6, 2008

The Wisconsin Valley Library Service presents



Book Clubs, *NoveList* and Children's Dreams

WHERE: Northcentral Technical College – 1000 W. Campus Drive, HSC (Health Sciences Center) Room 4011, Wausau, Wisconsin


WHEN: Thursday, November 13, 2008 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Linda Gau**, of Northcentral Technical College Library and coordinator of various book clubs and community READS, will speak about how to start, re-energize, and enjoy book clubs. She will cover topics such as: great books for discussion groups, resources for group leaders, Nancy Pearl titles, and various websites. Linda will also talk about problem solving for book discussion leaders, such as books with no questions! She will also share information about great book gift ideas for Christmas giving.

Jane Janke Johnson, co-owner of the Janke Book Store, will have a display table of all the latest and greatest books for Christmas giving and these will be available for purchase.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  **Amanda Winseck** from EBSCO Publishing will present a short training session on how to use *NoveList*, which is a fiction database that provides subject heading access, Author Read-alikes, What We're Reading, Book Discussion Guides, and much more for over 135,000 fiction titles. This is a great book club tool.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Susan Santner**, Outreach Program Manager, Continuing Education, School of Library and Information Services, University of Wisconsin, Madison, will offer training stressing the importance of storytimes in the development of early literacy and how to enhance storytime with puppets. She will share information on how to coordinate your voice and movements to make an articulated mouth puppet speak to the children in your library or day care center.



Certification contact hours for this workshop are: 3 CEUs for the A.M. and 2 CEUs for the P.M.

To register for **Book Clubs, *NoveList*, and Children's Dreams**, mail completed registration form to Inese Christman, Wisconsin Valley Library Service; 300 N. First Street, Wausau, WI 54403.

Name: _____ Library/School: _____

Telephone No: _____ Email: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: November 10, 2008

YOUTH MATTERS

Teen Tuesday and Do It Yourself Textbook Covers

Here is a great craft idea for your teens celebrating Teen Read Week - October 12-18, from Michelle Yeager of the Cherry Hill Public Library, New Jersey.

Michelle is the coordinator of children's services for the Bridgeton Public Library, New Jersey, and each week the library features a different activity—video games, movies, or board games. Once a month they may have an artist, teacher, or performer do a workshop or performance. They've had everyone from a teen magician to a yoga instructor to a basket maker.

For one of these activities, Michelle decided to have a program where they could make their own customized textbook covers—not the same old brown paper bags or book socks. “This turned out to be one of the easiest programs I've ever done. Although I made a sample, they hardly needed it. They immediately knew what to do.”



Using a roll of white kraft paper, they made a basic book cover for each textbook. Then, with assorted art paper, sequins, old magazines, markers, crayons, and stickers, the teens turned these covers into their own unique book jackets. They had a blast going through old Shonen Jump and Game Pro magazines to find cool pictures, and **ReadyMade Magazine** (<http://www.readymade.com/>) was full of great graphics they could use. For the finishing touch, they used clear book jacket covers ('borrowed' from the cataloging department) to protect their masterpieces.

During this activity they had eight teens make ten book covers, and they will definitely do this craft again. “It was easy, the teens had a great time, and their books looked terrific.”

(Terri Carpenter -- School Library Journal, 9/17/2008)

First Lady Invites Libraries to Participate in Statewide Book Club

Read On Wisconsin, the brainchild of First Lady Jessica Doyle, is starting a statewide book club for students and book-lovers across the state. Mrs. Doyle invites libraries to get involved in *Read On* by encouraging children to read the recommended books, then discuss and blog about them. This year's top picks are recommended by students and educators across the state. Online tools and a book list for each age group are available at <http://readon.wi.gov/>.

(WLA Blog, September 24, 2008)

FROM HITHER & YON

Don't Forget to Vote on Tuesday, November 4, 2008

We live in interesting times, so before voting on November 4, 2008, here are some non-partisan links to help clear up some questions you may have about the issues, facts, or candidate positions:

http://www.snopes.com/	http://www.factcheck.org/	www.VOTE411.org
http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/	http://www.votesmart.org/	http://www.taxfoundation.org/
http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/	http://www.opensecrets.org/	

If you have more basic questions about the whole voting process, here is a website - <http://elections.state.wi.us/section.asp?linkid=270&locid=47> that includes the following information: Voter and Poll Information, Voters' Frequently Asked Questions, Resources for Voters with Disabilities, Non-English Voter Information, Becoming a Poll Worker, Filing a Complaint, Confidential Listing for Protected Voters Information, and Who Are My Legislators? (Wisconsin State Legislature).

Another program that you may have heard about and would want your children to participate in is Kids Voting USA® (KVUSA). They are “working to secure the future of democracy by preparing young people to be educated, engaged voters.”

This program is the combination of classroom instruction, family dialogue and an authentic voting experience that makes Kids Voting USA a powerful strategy for achieving long-term change in voting behavior and helps to develop strong skills and habits for living in a democracy.

For more information about the Wisconsin affiliate, Kids Voting in Wisconsin, check out this website: <http://www.kidsvotingusa.org/page9624.cfm#northeast>
(John F. Fossett, Kitsap Regional Library, Sep. 12, 2008 & Inese Christman, WVLS)

The Back Nine Stacks

Rick Bolton, the guy behind the miniature golf course library fundraiser, has taken his original idea and expanded on it to create a 501(c)(3) organization that can work with libraries across the country.

Yes, they really will turn your library into an amazing miniature golf course for a day. They will work with public, school, and academic libraries that are seeking a fundraising event that will also draw new patrons to the library and provide for a fun community event.

The Library Mini Golf nonprofit group found at <http://www.libraryminigolf.org/> will create a miniature golf course for a library, 80% of which is a standard course. The individual holes are created in such a way that they can be set up and taken down quickly, and they can be folded down for easy storage. The course might include replicas of local buildings or other items of interest to the community. (For example, a hole with kitchen utensils as obstacles in the 641.5 stacks.)

The library can then schedule an event and solicit local sponsors for each hole. On the big day, LMG will help the library set up the course around the stacks or wherever else you want it, and then people come in and play. He estimates a library can raise a minimum of \$10,000 in just one day for this type of event.

The LMG is currently working with some midwestern libraries. In the meantime, interested libraries can contact Rick at <http://www.libraryminigolf.org/contact.html> to learn more or discuss holding an event.

(The Shifted Librarian, September 15, 2008)

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center Features Wabeno Public Library

Did you know that the Wabeno Public Library is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as one of the oldest log cabin libraries in the state? Lois Radloff, Director of the Wabeno Public Library, provided information that her library was built by the Chicago Northwestern Railroad as their land office back in 1895. According to the application for the designation on the National Register, it states that “the building was turned over to the village of Wabeno in 1923 to be used as their library. Thanks to Lois for bringing this information to light. Now the Wabeno Public Library is on the Wisconsin Library Heritage Trail at this address:

<http://heritage.wisconsinlibraries.org/>

(Larry Nix, September 19, 2008)



INFO TO GO

Free OverDrive Icons and Promotional Items

OverDrive icons and logos are available for use on your library web sites at this address: www.overdrive.com/products/dlr/logos.

Generic promotional materials in PDF format are available for downloading at www.overdrive.com/products/dlr/partnerservices-promotionalmaterials.asp. Available materials include a bookmark, business card, flyer, poster, and brochure. OverDrive does not allow customizing of these materials.

(WPLC, September 23, 2008)

Hey...you...get offa' my cloud!

Computing may be heading for the clouds. The latest buzz word in tech circles is "cloud computing". In fact, you may already be doing some cloud computing without even knowing it. Do you use G-mail, Blogger, Facebook, or Google Apps? If so, you are cloud computing. In short, cloud computing is the use of software directly on the web, without anything other than a browser and operating system needed on your local machine. Ultimately, we could end up with computers in our homes that have nothing on them other than lots of RAM and communication software to connect to the web. In our library we used to call these machines "dumb terminals." Even your data would be stored remotely. Here are a few advantages and disadvantages of cloud computing:

Advantages:

1. Software is cheaper because there is no CD or DVD to produce. Users will subscribe to software on line and log-in for access.
2. Pirating is reduced because there is no CD or DVD to be copied.
3. Viruses disappear because there is limited software on the computer to become infected.
4. The servers that house your data would be backed up by the storage site, so no need to worry about it.
5. Users would have access to all their software anywhere in the world on a computer with Internet access, making for the ultimate in portability.
6. Data and software would be stored on highly secured servers, making hacking for personal information much more difficult.
7. Home computers would be cheaper and simpler because they would require less internal hardware to run software locally.

Disadvantages:

1. No more sharing software between friends.
2. If your internet connection is lost, you have absolutely no access to software or data.
3. Users are at the mercy of the software companies to buy updates to software, since the companies would be able to shut off old versions and require upgrades.
4. Users would be required to trust companies with their personal data, assuming it would not be sold, lost or given to investigators. This type of computing is not for the paranoid.
5. Users would be completely subject to all the terms of service of the software companies. How many users follow all the fine print on the installation click-through? I know I don't.

It's yet to be seen if cloud computing will bring sunshine or storms.

(Stephen Bertrand, Kankakee Public Library – She Said/He Said Blog, September 2008)

Google's New Browser – Chrome vs. Internet Explorer 8

Google has introduced a new Web browser, called Chrome (link to download)
http://www.google.com/chrome/index.html?hl=en&brand=CHMI&utm_source=en-et&utm_medium=et&utm_campaign=en

The move takes the Google-Microsoft rivalry to a whole new level. If Google succeeds, it will be a big deal, with major ramifications for the future of the Web.

Chrome is a smart, innovative browser that, in many common scenarios, will make using the Web faster, easier and less frustrating. Chrome's interface has some bold changes from the standard browser design. These new features enhance the Web experience, but they will require some adjustment on the part of users. For instance, Chrome does away with most menus and toolbar icons to give maximum screen space for the Web pages themselves. Also, Google has merged the address bar, where you type in Web addresses, with the search box, where you type in search terms. This unified feature is called the "Omnibox".

One striking difference in Chrome is how it handles tabs, which display a single Web page. In Chrome, each tab behaves as a separate browser. The bookmarks bar, Omnibox, menus and toolbar icons are located inside the tab, rather than atop the entire browser. The tabs appear at the top of the computer screen. Chrome also groups related tabs. If you open a new tab from a link in a page that's already open, that new tab appears next to the originating page, rather than at the end of the row of tabs.

Meanwhile, Microsoft hasn't been sitting still. The second beta version of IE8 is the best edition of Internet Explorer in years. It is packed with new features of its own, some of which are similar to those in Chrome, and some of which, in my view, top Chrome's features.

(All Things Digital, Walter S. Mossberg, September 2, 2008)

How to Prepare Your Community for the Transition to Digital Television (DTV)

A law passed by Congress in 2006 will dramatically impact the way your community views television, starting in 2009.

Television will change dramatically on February 17, 2009, when all full power television stations across the country complete the federally mandated transition from analog to digital television (DTV) broadcasting. And while consumers have much to gain – including more free channels and crystal-clear pictures and sound – more than 34 million households that watch television using antennas risk losing their reception unless they take the easy step to upgrade. Many of these residents visit your library for information and resources.

Your library has a unique platform to inform and educate consumers about the DTV transition. To help you, the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) has developed multiple resources that explain the different facets of the transition and its impact on the residents you

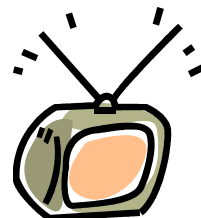
serve.

Here is a link to the Librarian Toolkit at the American Libraries website:

<http://staging.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/techinttele/dtv/DTVToolkit/DTVToolkit.cfm>

This toolkit includes the following information:

- How to Prepare Your Community for DTV
- DTV Q&A “Cheat Sheet”
- DTV Consumer Awareness Brochures
- Federal Government Assistance
- DTV Speakers Bureau
- DTV Road Show
- Questions About Antennas
- Recycling Analog TVs



We hope that you find these resources useful in spreading the word among consumers, so that no viewer risks losing television reception when the switch occurs. If you have further questions or need additional resources, please visit <http://DTVAnswers.com>

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Be FireSmart for Children – <http://www.befiresmart.com/children/>

October is Fire Prevention Month. Please take some time out to remind kids how to be “fire smart.” This super Web site is just the thing to help you teach elementary-age kids the basics of fire safety and prevention.

(School Library Journal's Extra Helping, September 18, 2008)

Beloit College Mindset List – <http://www.beloit.edu/mindset/2012.php>

As 2 million first-year students head off to college campuses around the country, most of them will be about 18 years old, born in 1990 when the headlines sounded oddly familiar to those of today: rising fuel costs, declining sales for the big 3 auto companies, and staff cuts. This is a list illustrating their mindset.

(Beloit College, August 2008)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

October is: National Book Month, find more information at:

<http://www.nationalbook.org/nbm.html>

Oct 2 **V-Cat Council Meeting**, 9:30 a.m., Abbotsford Public Library

Oct 2-3 Northwest Wisconsin Children's Book Conference at the Telemark Resort and Conference Center, details can be found at:

http://www.telemarkeducation.com/book_conference.html

Oct 9 **WVLS Workshop** on What to Do When...? See flyer in this issue.

Oct 11 **Northwoods Conference for Library Friends, Supporters, and Volunteers** at the Rothschild Village Hall, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Oct 12-18 Teen Read Week 2008 - "Books with Bite", details at:
<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/trw/trw2008/index.cfm>
- Oct 18 **WVLS Executive Committee Meeting** at the Marathon County Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Oct 19–25 National Friends of Libraries Week – for more information go to:
<http://www.folusa.org/sharing/national-friends-week.php>
- Oct 20 Gifts of Hope with Chrissy Nelson – **WVLS Special Needs Grant Sponsored Workshop** – Rhinelander District Library, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- Oct 31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

NOVEMBER

- November is: American Diabetes Month, find more information at:
<https://www.diabetes.org/home.jsp>
- Nov 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 4 Election Day – Don't forget to VOTE!
- Nov 4 – 7 Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference, Madison Marriott West, Middleton, details at:
<http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/conferences/2008/index.htm>
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day
- Nov 13 **WVLS Workshop** on "Book Clubs, *NoveList* and Children's Dreams". See flyer in this issue.
- Nov 15 **WVLS Board of Trustees Meeting** at the Marathon County Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Nov 27 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 28 WVLS Office closed

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Everyone who knows how to read has it in their power to magnify themselves, multiply the ways in which they exist, to make their life full, significant, and interesting." - Aldous Huxley



The **LAMPLIGHTER** is a monthly newsletter of the Wisconsin Valley Library Service. 300 N. First Street, Wausau, WI 54403. Back issues are available at:
<http://wvls.lib.wi.us/Newsletter/newsindex.htm>
 (Note: Web links in past issues are not checked for currency and may no longer work.)

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Contributions are welcome! News items should be submitted by the fifteenth of the month. WVLS serves Clark, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, and Taylor counties. When the most recent issue becomes available, readers are alerted by a notice posted to WISPUBLIB, or sent an email. To subscribe to WISPUBLIB, send an email message to wispublib@badger.state.wi.us. In the body of the message (subject line is ignored) type: subscribe WISPUBLIB. Then send your email. To have The Lamplighter emailed to you without subscribing to WISPUBLIB, contact Barbara Freimund at 715/261-7252, or email freimund@wvls.lib.wi.us. You may copy, reprint or forward all or part of this newsletter to friends, colleagues or customers, so long as the use is not for resale or profit and the information/article is attributed to this issue of the WVLS newsletter, *The Lamplighter*.