



KEYNOTE

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Winter/Spring 2011

Paraprofessionals are the key @ your library®

Message from the Paraprofessional Chair

Welcome to any new members and welcome back to our “old friends”. The Punxsutawney groundhog has seen his shadow that predicts an early spring, a relief from this recent arctic blast. And speaking of spring, have we got a fabulous Spring Meeting coming up on March 24, 2011! The theme for this year’s meeting is “Collaboration Across Libraries”, and we are collaborating with the Special and Institutional (S&I) Section as co-sponsors. I am very excited to hear our guest speakers Devra Dragos, Maureen O’Riordan, Mary Stultz, and Nancy Chmiel talk about their collaborative experiences with other libraries.

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/2011springmeeting/2011Paraspgconfwebsite.html>

The Paraprofessionals are already planning our sessions for the Fall Conference. We have four suggestions so far which cover a wide spectrum of library related interests. The NLA Fall Conference is always a great opportunity to learn more about the library world and to meet or rekindle friendships with other library aficionados.

If you haven’t made your New Year’s resolution yet, there is still plenty of time. Make a resolution to become more involved in the library world and enhance your involvement in the profession. Get up close and personal and volunteer to become part of the Paraprofessionals. We are looking for a By-Laws Committee Chair, which is a one-year commitment. The NLA needs a representative from the Para Section for the Citations Committee and the Membership Committee, which are both 2-year commitments. The work is minimal but the advantages of expanding your knowledge of library-related issues and working with very talented people are great. Before committing, you are always welcome to ask any of the Para Board members any questions to find out if the position is right for you.

Visit our blog for news and updates: <http://nla-paraprofessionals.blogspot.com/>. Or you can friend us at Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/NLA-Paraprofessional-Section/321084295994>.

Let's collaborate with each other to make this the best year ever as Paraprofessionals!

Marguerite Miller
Paraprofessional Chair

2011 Paraprofessional Spring Meeting

Save the Date for the Paraprofessional Section and Special & Institutional Section Spring Meeting!

Get ready to learn new tricks and earn Continuing Education credits enjoyably at this year's jointly sponsored Paraprofessional and S&I Spring Meeting, which will be held at the Nebraska Library Commission in Lincoln on **Thursday, March 24, 2011**, from 9:55 am to 1 pm, Central Time, followed by the Paraprofessional Section's annual General Meeting.

This year we are again using an online live webinar format designed to allow participants to "attend" the meeting conveniently from their own desks; all you need is an internet connection! Get together with colleagues or watch on your own. Group viewings will be held in Lincoln at the Nebraska Library Commission (1200 N St.), in Omaha at the Eastern Library System offices (11929 Elm Street, Suite 18, just off 120th and West Center Road), and in Norfolk at Northeast Community College (801 E. Benjamin St.); other get-togethers can be arranged upon request.

Our theme this year is *Collaboration Across Libraries*. On the program:

- **Check-in/Log-in:** 9:30–9:55 a.m.
- **Welcome from Para Chair, Marguerite Miller, and S&I Chair, Carolyn Dow:** 9:55–10:05 a.m.
- **Session I: "Let's Work Together"** 10:05–10:55 a.m.
Presented by Devra Dragos, Nebraska Library Commission
One library can only do so much but what can two, three, or hundreds accomplish together? Devra Dragos will talk about the many opportunities the Nebraska Library Commission provides for libraries to share resources, programming, and ideas.

- **Session II: “The Law Firm Librarian”** 11:00–11:50 a.m.
Presented by Maureen O’Riordan, Koley Jessen Attorneys; and Mary Stultz, Baird Holm LLP
An overview of a law firm library, including the staff, the work, the resources, and the need to play well with others.
- **Session III: “The Doublemint of Libraries ”** 12:00–12:50 p.m.
Presented by Nancy Chmiel, Omaha Public Library, and Deb Vinopal, School Librarian Omaha Public Library – Saddlebrook Branch *is both a public and a school library. This collaboration gives library users in the neighborhood 2 – 2 – 2 libraries in one. Our building also houses a Community Center – the first triple threat in the country. Learn about how these entities work together, program together, and create exciting cooperative ventures to serve the public and the school. We’ll also be talking about ways to “get your foot in the door” at your local schools.*
- **Paraprofessionals Spring General Meeting** 1:00-1:45 p.m.
Marguerite Miller, Paraprofessional Chair, will guide us through our annual spring meeting. Those who have paid for lunch at the Omaha or Lincoln site will have lunch at this time. If you prefer, you may bring your own lunch.

Enjoy this opportunity to learn new things, network with other library people, and earn CE credits (3 hours for the day), without driving miles! Scholarships are available.

For more information and a registration form, see <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/2011springmeeting/2011Paraspgconfwebsite.html> or contact Martha Grenzeback, Spring Meeting Chair, at graymatters@windstream.net or 402-250-7230.

Other 2011 NLA Spring Meetings

NLA Yart Spring Meeting

More details on the PDF: <http://members.cox.net/bplya/YART%20spring.pdf>

Date: April 2, 2011

Location: La Vista Public Library

Time: 10am - 1pm

Contact: Lindsey Tomsu, LaVista Public Library

NLA PLTS Spring Meetings

PLTS will be partnering with Read Aloud Nebraska to bring Michael Sullivan to Nebraska! Sullivan is an author, librarian and public speaker. You can learn more about him on his website: www.talestoldtall.com.

His presentation topics will be on Connecting Boys With Books and Breaking All the Rules.

April 12 -- Alliance

April 13 -- Lexington

April 15 -- Norfolk

April 21 -- Seward

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PLTS/meetings.html>

Paras on Facebook

Let 2010 be known as the year that the Paraprofessional Section joined the mainstream and got its own Facebook page! Check it out at

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/NLA-Paraprofessional-Section/321084295994>.

This is one more place, in addition to our [webpage](#), [blog](#), and [Flickr](#) account, where you can see what the Paras are up to and join in. Come by and comment!

Para Executive Board

2010 NLA/NEMA Para Fall Conference Report

Assorted Announcements, Congratulations,
and Thanks in the Wake of the Conference

<http://nla-paraprofessionals.blogspot.com/2010/10/assorted-announcements-congratulations.html>

***Para Scholarship Winner for the
Paraprofessional 2010 Spring General Meeting***

Janice Olberding, Fairbury PL

You too can win a Para Scholarship. Watch the NLA Memberclicks Mailing List for e mails on these Para Benefits!

Past Para Scholarship Winners:

[http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/parahistory.html#Past Para Scholarships Recipients](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/parahistory.html#Past_Para_Scholarships_Recipients)

***Para Scholarship Winner for the
2010 NLA/NEMA Fall Conference***

NLA Fall Conference - \$50

Chrystal Dawson, Bellevue University

Past Para Scholarship Winners:

[http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/parahistory.html#Past Para Scholarships Recipients](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/parahistory.html#Past_Para_Scholarships_Recipients)

***Minutes from the Paraprofessional
2010 Fall General Meeting***

Editorial Note: We put the minutes up on the Para Website so I decided to just link to them.

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/minutes/minutesfall2010.pdf>

2011 NLA/NEMA Fall Conference

The 2011 Conference will be held October 5-7 in Lincoln.

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/annualconference/>

Future Conferences:

2012 - Oct. 17-19

2013 - Oct. 8-11

KEYNOTE FOR PARAPROFESSIONALS

Semiannual newsletter of the Nebraska Library Association Paraprofessional Section.
Free to current Section members, published in mid-spring and early fall.

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Paraprofessional Web Site: <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/>

Paraprofessionals - Call on us @ your library®