



SHORTGRASS CLIPPINGS

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Volume X, Issue I - July, August, September 2009

Message from the CEO



Greetings everyone! Autumn has arrived here in Southeastern Alberta and with the changing of the seasons there are also many changes in the works at the Shortgrass Library System this fall. On September 30th, we will be bidding a fond goodbye to long-time Redcliff Library Manager, Reita Wilson. Reita, who began working for RPL prior to the formation of SLS, has been an instrumental force in the shaping and the development of the System. Her professionalism, warmth, and passion for libraries will not be forgotten.

In fact, Reita plans to stay on part-time at the Library once retired. In conjunction with her retirement, we welcome Tracy Weinrauch to the helm. Tracy, who has been learning the ropes from Reita over this past year, will be officially taking charge on October 1st.

Another big change taking place this fall is the welcome addition of new Technology Services Librarian, Cecilia Hui, to the SLS Team! Cecilia who was raised and educated in Montreal, has been working for various libraries in the United States over the past several years. Her extensive experience with library technology and great people skills will come in handy as she makes Southeastern Alberta her new home.

Other changes occurring around SLS include: the recent move to a shared ISP through the help of the Chinook Arch Regional Library System; the installation of a new wireless network for use by SLS member library patrons; an upgrade to the newest version of Symphony and Enterprise; and a physical makeover, which is set to take place over the coming months in our Bibliographic Services area.

Submitted by Julia Reinhart, CEO

New Shortgrass Staff Member

Please join Julia and the Shortgrass staff in welcoming Cecilia Hui, our new Technology Services Librarian. Cecilia's last name is pronounced "we."

Cecilia joins Shortgrass on Thursday, October 1st.

Cecilia earned her MLIS from McGill University, in Montreal. Before taking the position with Shortgrass, she worked for The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood.



Serving Southeastern Alberta residents in partnership with member municipalities, their public libraries, and school systems' libraries:
Bassano, Bow Island, Brooks, County of Forty Mile, County of Newell, Cypress County, Foremost, Graham (Ralston), Medicine Hat, Redcliff, Rainier (Alcoma), Rolling Hills, Rosemary, Tilley, Medicine Hat School District No. 76, and Prairie Rose School Division No. 8

Shortgrass Clippings is published four times annually

Canadian Library Month - October 2009

Your Library Your World: Now More Than Ever

The Canadian Library Association website <www.cla.ca/clm09/tools.htm> provides promotional ideas and background information your library can use to celebrate Canadian Library Month.

Bookmarks and posters are available in .pdf format for downloading from the CLA website. Be advised that these files are quite large (the poster file is 44MB) and could be reproduced by a professional printer, if desired.

A limited number of posters may also be provided by CLA and will be sent out to your library when (and if) they arrive.



ALTA Trustees Workshop - October 31st

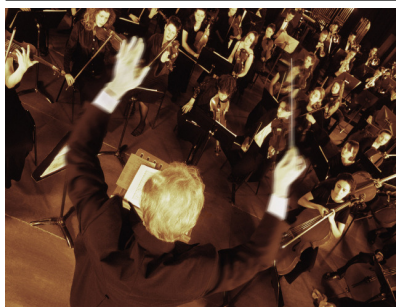
This workshop is designed for all Trustees, Library Managers and Librarians and will be held at the Medicine Hat Public Library from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, October 31st. All are welcome to attend.

Hosted by the Shortgrass Library System Board, the Alberta Library Trustees Association, in partnership with Public Library Services Branch of Alberta Municipal Affairs, is pleased to offer a workshop designed to help you understand topics including:

- ◆ The Libraries Act and Regulation and Employment Standards Code, risk assessment
- ◆ Board function - purpose and role, relationships with staff, councils, province, library systems, ALTA, and the community
- ◆ Chairpersonship: running meetings, rules of order and parliamentary procedure, committees, delegating, encouraging participation, problem solving, and conflict resolution resources, including available training

A fee of \$35.00 per person (\$45.00 per non-ALTA members) will cover the workshop, informational package and your lunch.

Please register on or before Friday, October 16th by visiting <www.librarytrustees.ab.ca>, the website of the Alberta Library Trustees. For more information call Julia at 780.529.0550 ext 1.



Symphony Workflows Tips – Using User Search Options

(Editor's note: with the most recent upgrade to the Shortgrass ILS, the name of the program has changed from Unicorn to Symphony.)

There are a variety of ways to search for patron information using the User Search Options in Workflows. You can perform Boolean searches or you can search for information using an index other than the Name index.

For example, one search can help you find all of the MacDonalds and McDonalds in your library patron file. Click on Display User (ALT + F10) and choose the Keyword type of search. Type McDonald in the Search box, choose Name Index from the drop down menu, choose your library from the drop down menu and then click the OR button. At the top of the screen, you will see Search for: Name: MCDONALD OR. Then type in MacDonald in the Search box and click Search. You will get a list of all the McDonalds and MacDonalds in your library. Click the Name column to re-sort these into two lists in alphabetical order with the MacDonalds first and the McDonalds second.

Another example is searching for a patron by phone number. Choose Keyword as the type of search, choose Phone as the Index to search and then type in the phone number in the search box and click Search.

LIBRARY QUOTE FOR THIS ISSUE

**I like being around books, it
makes me feel civilized.
The only way to do all the things
you'd like to do is to read.**

- Tom Clancy



The big news about RISE is that video conferencing equipment is now installed in all RISE Libraries. The bigger news is the all day celebration - The RISE Launch - Celebrating Rural Information Services on Thursday, October 8th, starting at 10:00 AM.

There will be ten video conference sessions (two per hour) starting at 10:00 AM. Each session is about 45 to 50 minutes long. A schedule of all of these and their descriptions is provided below. At noon there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at nine of the RISE locations, including the Shortgrass Headquarters Building, Medicine Hat Public Library, and Brooks Public Library. Refreshments will be served during the noon hour celebration. The Rural Alberta Development Fund (RADF) will be presenting RISE with certificates and various dignitaries will be in attendance. Please come, join the celebrations and attend a video conference session or two, while you are at it.

Here is the schedule of events for the day:

10:00 AM

Royal Botanical Gardens "Putting Your Garden to Bed" (adults) - Nancy Lee-Colibaba provides a survival plan to bring your garden through the winter, healthy and ready for spring.

Thanksgiving-Themed Story Time (ages 3 to 5 years)
- A children's story time in time for Thanksgiving!

11:00 AM

A Change in the Air (adults) - A discussion about the latest scientific information on climate change and air quality from Environment Canada.

Dinosaur Provincial Park Virtual Excursion (grades 3, 4, 5) - Take a trip deep into dinosaur country on this excursion into Dinosaur Provincial Park. Includes a breath-taking flyover of the park.

12:00 PM

Ribbon Cutting/Speeches

1:00 PM

Marty Chan (grades 4, 5, 6) - talks about the real-life inspirations behind his novels and reveals how exciting and fun writing can be.

Jim Pearson's "Vanishing Sentinels" (adults) - Photos and history about grain elevators, our distinctive prairie landmarks which are rapidly disappearing.

2:00 PM

Royal Tyrrell Museum - "Up Close and Paleo Jr." (grades 3, 4, 5) - In an interactive session,

questions about dinosaurs are answered by a Science Educator with animations and video clips.

A Change in the Air (adults) - see the 11 AM session

3:00 PM

Legends and Lore of the High Level Bridge - Galt Museum (adults) - Does a ghost truly haunt the High Level Bridge? Discover the truth and legends behind Lethbridge's landmark bridge.

Diary of a Traveler, (Eastern Turkey) - Karen Labuik (adults) - This session is a personal journal of a wanderer's second visit to Turkey.

Alberta's Libraries

Books and beyond

TAL Campaign - Books and Beyond

The 2009 Books and Beyond campaign launches October 7th, as television ads begin to air on Global channels across Alberta. These television ads will also air as public service announcements (PSAs) through Shaw Cable (on various U.S. cable networks).

Once again, the target audience of the campaign is 18 to 35 year olds. Last year's TV and radio commercials are being reused for the campaign.

Radio ads will run in rural markets from October 14th to November 3rd. TAL is hoping the stations will run ads as PSAs right through December. In the Shortgrass region, these radio commercials will air on CJCJ (The Lounge 102.1 FM), CHAT (94.5 FM), Country 95.5 FM (CHLB) and Rock 106 FM (CJRX).

There will be new interactive online ads this year. The online campaign begins October 21st.

Printed posters, in sets of three different images, will be distributed early in October. The posters reflect the new direction of the online ads.

The Books and Beyond website is currently being redesigned <www.booksandbeyond.ca>, with the new version set to launch during October.

This year, you can have a customized version of the Books and Beyond logo, replacing "Alberta Libraries" with the name of your library. If you're interested, contact Jim Dunbar at Shortgrass <jim@shortgrass.ca>.

Retirement - Reita Wilson

After twenty-five years of service with Redcliff Public Library, Reita Wilson has retired as the Library Manager. Her last day was Wednesday, September 30th, 2009.

On Sunday, September 27th, the Redcliff Library Board held a Retirement Tea for Reita at the Library. At this Tea, the Board Chair, Edith "Edie" Pinder presented Reita with a new watch.

Even in retirement, Reita's dedication to the Redcliff Public Library is evident, as she has accepted a part-time position with the library. Still, Reita will take some time to get her flower beds ready for winter and to do some traveling.



Redcliff Library Board Chair, Edie Pinder presents Reita Wilson with a gift to mark her retirement from the Redcliff Public Library.

Reita was instrumental in the creation of the Shortgrass Library System (SLS), as Redcliff was part of the first group of libraries that made up the original SLS. Reita and the Redcliff Public Library have been active and enthusiastic participants in shaping the goals and services of SLS.

We wish Reita all the best as she embarks on this new phase in her life.

Taking over the management of Redcliff Public Library is Tracy Weinrauch who has been working alongside Reita for the past year. Welcome, Tracy!



Here is Reita with her new watch



Don't forget the following dates!

- Oct 8 **RISE Launch - Celebrating Rural Information Services** For more information see Page 3
- Oct 21 **Program & Services Committee Meeting (via Video Conference)** Shortgrass Headquarters' Boardroom - 1:00 PM
- Oct 21 **Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting (via Video Conference)** Shortgrass Headquarters' Boardroom - 3:00 PM
- Oct 21-23 **NetSpeed Conference**
Carriage House Inn - Calgary, AB
- Oct 26 **SLS Professional Development Day**
Medicine Hat Public Library - 8:45 AM to 4:00 PM
- Oct 30 **Foremost Pumpkin Festival**
Foremost Community Hall - 5:00 PM
- Oct 31 **ALTA Trustees Workshop** (see Page 2)
MHPL Honor Currie Room - 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
- Nov 18 **SLS Board Meeting**
Shortgrass Headquarters' Boardroom - 12:30 PM
- Nov 23 **Library Managers' Meeting**
Shortgrass Headquarters' Boardroom - 10:00 AM
- Dec 9 **SLS Christmas Dinner and Social**
Medicine Hat Golf and Country Club - 6:00 PM

Read-alikes for fans of Karen Kingsbury

Terri Blackstock is a good match for readers who enjoy romance with religious content. Like Kingsbury, Blackstock deals with contemporary social problems. Start with *Never Again Good-bye*, the first title in the Second Chances series.

Readers who enjoy heart warming drama may find much to enjoy in the fiction of Nicholas Sparks. Known for his somewhat bittersweet tales, family, friends, and faith all play important roles in his stories. Start with *The Notebook*.

Want more? The **NoveList** database provides author read-alikes for more than 280 well known authors.