

Today in EYE-OPENER June 1 2015

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**1) Iowa Library Services Welcomes Betty McAllister:** Please join us in welcoming Betty McAllister as our new secretary at the Des Moines office. With the retirement of Fran Fessler and Carol Simmons earlier this year, those 2 secretarial positions were realigned. Betty was hired in the revamped position and began work on May 22.

She grew up between Key West (FL) and the Bronx (NY) After graduating from Key West, she joined the U.S. Army and served in Colorado, Korea, and the Pentagon. She and her husband, also former military, moved to Colo, Iowa in 2009 when her husband's company transferred him there. They recently moved to Des Moines and Betty loves it! They have 3 children: Dre who works in the health care field;

Devin, soon to be a freshman at U-of-I this fall; and Didi, a recent high school grad who will be attending U of Iowa in the Fall) and Didi, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader this fall.

She is an avid reader, with too many favorite books to list. She just finished Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood and The Handsome Man's De Luxe Café by Alexander McCall Smith. Betty adds party planning to her resume and also reveals that she is an ordained minister.

Now at Iowa Library Services, she says that what she looks forward to is *"...working with a great group of people in the most beautiful building on the Capitol Complex...and I'm anxious to get to know and assist staff at public libraries across the state..."* She will be the friendly voice on the other end of the phone when you call in and reach the Des Moines office.

Thanks to Kim Mashek for this article and again...welcome, Betty!

**2) Library 101 June 12<sup>th</sup>:** New directors, staff, or trustees—take note ☺ The next **Library101** is scheduled for **June 12<sup>th</sup> (9:30-11:30AM)** Sponsored by Iowa Library Services, **LIBRARY 101** is typically offered four times each year. This 2-hour online program introduces newly hired directors to library support systems and services in Iowa. It's a friendly, helpful orientation: you'll meet the staff at Iowa Library Services—at least virtually—helping you match names with faces. We'll discuss public library service standards and provide explanations of popular statewide programs, with plenty of time to answer your questions.



People new to support staff positions, as well as trustees, are encouraged to attend. Look to the c.e. catalog to register for **Library101**—<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/> Doing so ensures that you will receive follow-up email with the link to the Adobe Classroom.

**3) EBSCOhost Buying Groups FY2016:** This news release comes from Jay Peterson. Iowa Library Services is again offering buying groups for public libraries featuring great products from EBSCOhost. This is your time to take advantage of the great deals that EBSCOhost is offering for products like **Auto Repair Reference Center** database (you can replace those Chilton manuals on your shelves!) and our new offering **Library Aware** that will help with library program marketing. This offer extends July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.



Note for current buying group members, we will contact you regarding your current order to confirm what you have. June 10th is the last day we can make any changes to existing orders. EBSCOhost staff and/or Jay will be contacting you about your order.

Iowa Library Services will be offering 8 database packages and products to libraries. All of these databases require that the library have a basic EBSCOhost account through Iowa Library Services. Here's a look at the 8 products:

- Auto Repair Reference Center  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/public/auto-repair-reference-center>
- Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/public/hobbies-crafts-reference-center>
- Home Improvement Reference Center  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/public/home-improvement-reference-center>
- NoveList Plus  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/novelist/our-products/novelist-plus>
- NoveList Select ( Note: This product requires to also buy the Novelist product)  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/novelist/our-products/novelist-select>

- Small Engine Repair Reference Center  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/public/small-engine-repair-reference-center>
- Consumer Health Complete  
[http://support.epnet.com/knowledge\\_base/detail.php?id=2473](http://support.epnet.com/knowledge_base/detail.php?id=2473)
- Library Aware  
<https://www.ebscohost.com/novelist/our-products/libraryaware-features>

We are also offering a **free trial access** to these databases if you wish to take a look at them before signing up. To pursue a **free trial period**, go to <http://trial.ebscohost.com>. For the **USER ID**, type **iowa3**; for the **PASSWORD**, type **buyinggroup**

We need to hear from all libraries that intend to purchase any of these additional databases; again Jay will be contacting current members directly. This is the only opportunity to make any changes to your subscription due to the billing agreement we have with EBSCO.

For any library **NEW** to the buying groups: **by June 10th, 2015** please respond to Iowa Library Services and/or EBSCOhost representatives if you wish to participate. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you do not plan to purchase any of these additional databases. Find the Participation Interest Form here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/databases/ebsco/ebscobuyinggroup/form> And find more detailed information about the various databases here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/databases/ebsco/ebscobuyinggroup> Jay is standing by for your questions, just give him a call ☺



#### 4) Summer PLOW Class—Advanced Customization:

Another round of PLOW classes will be offered across the state this summer. This will be the Advanced Customization class, important this year because we're introducing 6 new themes available for PLOW library websites by May 29.

Description: *"...select a theme, how to apply the theme to your web site, and then how you can customize the theme to your liking, including adding a background image and changing font colors. This class will also teach you how to use Cover, a new Content Type that allows you to create custom layouts. Portlets and Widgets will also be covered in this class..."*

Marie Harms is the instructor and she adds *"...there is a lot to learn, so plan to spend the day! However, if you can only attend part of the day, that's okay, just try to take advantage of this in-person training. I realize this is during a very busy time for your libraries and I will try to offer this class again this fall..."*

Attendees should bring digital pictures or other content to this class so that you can add new content to your website. Bring the items to class on a flash drive, a CD, a camera (with connecting cable), or in a Web-based e-mail. You may bring your own laptop, if you can connect it to the wireless access point without assistance.

This class is hands-on with participants working on laptop computers. **All classes run 10:00AM-4:00PM. Northwest Iowa locations** are **Storm Lake** (Prairie Lakes AEA) on **July 8** and **Sheldon** (NWICC Campus) on **July 9**. Register in the c.e. catalog and call with questions... <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/>

**5) Meetings / Events This Week:** It's vacation week for me; don't hesitate to call Amanda with any questions!

A new month of national webinars; descriptions and registration info here  
<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

**June 2.** 11:00AM-12:00PM. *Graphic Novels* sponsored by Washington State Library  
<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/libraries/firsttuesdays/default.aspx>

**June 2.** 1:00-2:00PM. *Hooray for Books!: Reading Initiatives and Celebrations* sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

**June 3.** 10:00-11:00AM. *Strengthening Your Library's Profile in the Community* sponsored by Texas State Library and Archives  
<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/workshops/webinars/index.html>

**June 4.** 2:00-3:00PM. *Fresh Titles for Book Clubs* sponsored by Library Journal  
<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/category/webcasts/>

**June 5.** 1:00-2:00PM. *Three Steps to Thriving in Chaos* sponsored by Effectiveness Institute  
[http://www.effectivenessinstitute.com/index.php?option=com\\_dtregister&Itemid=54](http://www.effectivenessinstitute.com/index.php?option=com_dtregister&Itemid=54)



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