

## e-Book Catalog Has More Titles and Copies

By Jill Owens

As many digital users of the library know, downloadable e-books are in great demand, and potential borrowers often have to wait to receive an email notification that their popular book hold is in. Both local library staff and the Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) have been working on ways to meet the demand. Columbus Public Library (CPL) and bookmobile patrons will now have access to two collections in one OverDrive catalog.

For the original statewide shared collection, the NLC now strives to have no more than six holds for a title. If holds build up, another copy will be purchased if at all possible. Yes, we do have to purchase 'copies' of the electronic books. To purchase titles by unlimited access license at this time, instead of per copy, is cost prohibitive.

Presently there are 139 libraries' patrons accessing a shared collection of downloadable audio and e-books, with more libraries continuing to join. According to the NLC, \$81,765.80 was allocated last year to add titles to the OverDrive shared collection. Approximately half of the OverDrive budget goes to e-books, and half to audio books.

Our second collection of e-books is presently being built through a relatively recent development called OverDrive Advantage. This allows individual libraries to build their own collections through the OverDrive service patrons and libraries are already accustomed to using. The library has recently purchased Advantage and are presently selecting titles that only CPL and bookmobile cardholders can access.

Your experience will be seamless; you will not have to sign in twice to view both collections, you will have the same view as always, only with more books. Patrons must sign in when going to the OverDrive page in order to see and browse CPL's private collection. If you forget to sign in until you are ready for checkout, you will only have seen the shared collection

To use OverDrive downloadable books go to <http://nebraska.lib.overdrive.com> . You can also access the books in the Quick Links section of the library's web page <http://www.columbusne.us/library>.

E-books can be returned early. Other readers appreciate a title being freed up for the next reader. It also frees up that borrower to check out another e-book. At this time, audio books are checked out for the full duration of the time period selected by the borrower from a drop-menu. Technology is not yet available in OverDrive to return audio books early.

If you have any questions regarding the use of OverDrive, check out their online help resources at <http://help.overdrive.com/> or call the library at 402-564-7116.

Recent memorials to the Library Foundation were donated as follows: Lucille Ellison and Mark Boettcher were memorialized by D'Ete Haldiman; Phyllis Wragge gave in memory of Larry Kuncl and Jerry Michaelsen. Other memorials given for Larry Kuncl were from William and Susan Klug, and Dean and

Colleen Soulliere. The Book Review Club donated for a book in memory of Catharine Nore. Jim and Jean Brock donated in memory of June Hegi.