

## ***“Librarian’s Shelf” by Jill Owens***

Book signing and book sale coinciding with Columbus Days

Columbus Public Library has many ways to add to your downtown enjoyment during Columbus Days. In addition to our usual materials and services, we’ll be hosting a book signing and a book sale.

Don Schaufelberger will be at the library Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 20th – 22nd with his book, “The Only State: A History of Public Power in Nebraska.” This is a beautiful and informative book full of local and Nebraska history. Mr. Schaufelberger, former Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) CEO and president, is an authoritative source on this topic, having been in the industry for 40 years.

The book was a long time in planning. He started gathering material in the mid-1980s with a book in mind. He began writing in the early 2000s. A previous history, Robert Firth’s “Public Power in Nebraska,” was published in 1961, and Mr. Schaufelberger saw the need for a new and expanded history as there have been so many notable developments since then.

During his research Mr. Schaufelberger interviewed rural utilities as well as Omaha Public Power District, Lincoln Electric System, and NPPD. He also made use of the Nebraska Historical Society, county historical societies, libraries, and NPPD archives.

Though he is affiliated with NPPD, Mr. Schaufelberger worked hard to write a comprehensive account not weighted toward NPPD’s view. He wanted to convey the message that though “...there have been many conflicts, adversities, and challenges ... they were overcome and Nebraskans have a great system of public power entities working well together to provide reliable and some of the most economical rates in the nation for the electric customers of Nebraska.”

Stop by to chat with him about this book, and to purchase your signed copy before heading downstairs to the used book sale. Mr. Schaufelberger will be available on Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., and on Sunday from 1:30 – 4:45, the 20th – 22nd. Mr. Schaufelberger will not be compensated for his work or any book sales; he wrote the book for posterity.

The Friends of the Columbus Public Library thank everyone who has donated books and other items to the upcoming sale. Donations have been coming in very steadily and there will be a great selection. If you’ve been meaning to donate but just haven’t gotten it done yet, donations are accepted any time the library is open. We could particularly use VHS tapes and DVDs. The sale also needs shoppers, so mark your calendars for the Columbus Days Sale, August 19th-22nd.

Thursday, August 19th will be the preview sale from 6:00-8:45 p.m. and there will be a \$5.00 non-refundable charge for the privilege of having first pick. Friday and Saturday, August 20th and 21st, the sale hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Sunday, August 22nd we’ll open at 1:30 and close at 4:45 p.m.; all day on Sunday we’ll be selling all items for \$1 per bag.

Recent donations to the Columbus Library Foundation include the following memorials: For Sharon Brakenhoff from Ray and Virginia Staroscik; for Frances Jacobsen from the Book Review Club; and for Frances Sohl from Lisa Salmon. Rita Frischholz was memorialized by Patricia Bianchini, Mr. and Mrs. John Burton, Mary Norton, and Patricia Vojtech. Julian Meyer was memorialized by D’Ete Kluck, Shirley Thompson and daughter, and Fern Rohde. The Dorothy Cole family donated in memory of Christopher Robin Cole. Bud and Rita Fleischer memorialized Sharon Beard’s mother, and Bill and Barbara Ferguson donated in memory of Gloria Rich.