

TechNet Sessions

Keynote Speaker

Barbara Galik

Executive Director, Cullom-Davis Library, Bradley University

An introduction to Second Life, what it is, and why libraries need to be there. The session will include a quick tour through parts of Second Life as well as a very basic introduction.

Techies Track:

- Security Issues

Security is a major issue today, and will be as far as anyone can look into the future. Listen in on what can make or break your security, and some excellent insight on some everyday issues. Everything from firewalls to the most important security of all - recovery - will be covered. Presented by Geoff Sams, Roanoke Public Library.

- Project Management

Project management is first and foremost about communication. This session will discuss communications that are critical to project success, starting with establishing a clear understanding of what project success will look like and ending with establishing lessons learned to add to your organization's knowledge base. Presented by Name: Diane Wahl, Planning, Assessment, and Training, University of North Texas.

- Open Forum: Discuss current trends and issues with other IT specialist.

Bring your tech concerns, ideas, and new discoveries to share with your peers in our first-ever open forum for IT staff and other techie types! Facilitated by Jesse Ephraim, Southlake Public Library.

- Open Source Software for libraries and educators.

Should you pick open source software because of its price, or because of the philosophy behind it? And - finding viable replacements for commonly used software. Presented by Mike Avery, Owner – Golden Triangle Network Consulting and Shaun Seibel, UNT Research Park Library.

Emerging Technologies Track:

- Second Life

Learn more about Second Life, who is involved, how it is built and what you can do in this virtual world. Live demo will include visits to some of my favorite places that I use to demonstrate the kinds of learning that can be done in SL. Presented by Barbara Galik – Keynote Speaker.

- Top Ten Cool Tools

It may be new, and it may be cool, but is it really useful? Join us for a look at the top ten new cool tools on Internet that libraries might really WANT to use! Presented by Jesse Ephraim, Southlake Public Library.

- Reference Beyond the Desk: Non-Traditional Ways of Doing Reference

This session will look at ways to provide reference beyond the traditional desk. Roving reference, tiered reference, virtual reference (vendor-based, IM, Twitter), Web 2.0 methods and more will be discussed. Participants will come away with ideas for non-reference desk reference and a bibliography of articles,

web pages, and library sites to provide further information. This will be an interactive and participatory session. Presented by Beth Thomsett-Scott, Coordinator of Science and Technology Reference, University of North Texas.

- **Staying Ahead of the Public:**

With hundreds of new buzzwords, technologies, and online fads popping up every week, keeping up with patron tech questions can be a real challenge. In this session we'll look at ways to keep up with the constant flood of new *stuff* and still be able to do all the other parts of our jobs. Presented by Jesse Ephraim

Searching Track:

- **Advanced Google Search**

Tired of the results you are getting when searching in Google? Come to this session and learn some helpful tips for getting better Google results by using advanced searching techniques and features. Presented by Diana Boerner, Business Reference Librarian, TCU.

- **Invisible Web: Searching the Hidden Areas**

What is the invisible web and why do I care as a researcher? Tips for finding information on the Invisible Web. Presented by Carolyn Davidson Brewer, Assistant Director, North Texas Regional Library System.

- **Google Custom Search**

Why would you want to create a search engine tailored to your needs? What value is it to libraries? Tired of your public having to look at the ad? Once we've convinced you there's reason to create a custom search engine, we'll look at how you can without hours of training or web design training. Presented by Beth Avery, Research and Instructional Services University of North Texas Libraries.

- **Tagging**

Tagging hits the library. No we're not talking about graffiti. Over one quarter of adults have "tagged." We're talking about empowering our users to help us organize the ever increasing amount of information and be able to retrieve it in ways that make sense to them. Presented by Beth Avery, Research and Instructional Services University of North Texas Libraries

Specific Tools Track:

- **Blogs & Wikis:**

You've heard about them, you've seen them, you may have even worked on them. Now what? In this session we'll look at what is new and interesting in the world of blogs and wikis, and what things might be useful to your library. Presented by Jesse Ephraim, Southlake Public Library.

- **Second Life:**

See how Second Life can be used as a key tool for immersive learning and how students can experience and see the world both now and through the ages in Second Life. The live demo will also include visits to some non-English language sims to show how SL can be used for language instruction as well. Presented by Barbara Galik, Keynote Speaker.

- **Google Earth**

Google Earth is one of the amazing things that makes having a computer worthwhile. We'll spend an hour looking down at the Earth and the places on it in lots of new and interesting ways. This free program from Google can take you all around the planet and, with the latest version, into The Heavens.

You'll be introduced to some of the unique features of the program and of Earth, itself. If you like maps and geography and travel (and the night sky), this is for you. Did you ever want to fly ANYWHERE (for FREE and without fuel surcharges)? Buckle up!" Presented by Krista Robisheaux, Technical Training and Graphics Specialist, and Richard Posey, Webmaster and Technical Training Specialist, Arlington Public Library.

- Presentations with Google Docs

What is a Google doc? How and why should you present using Google's presentation software, including Google Docs vs. Powerpoint. There will be a short demonstration of the software. Presented by Melissa Jeffrey, Arlington Public Library.

Tips and Tricks Track:

- Top Ten Excel Tips: Rev up your Microsoft Excel performance with these powerful pointers! Learn techniques from the relatively simple, such as keyboard shortcuts, to expert-level--such as writing (or "borrowing") your own functions. Attendees will be provided with library-specific Excel function scripts gathered and modified by the presenter and will see how all techniques discussed can be applied in a library setting. Presented by Chris Accardo, Assistant Director, Weatherford Public Library.

- Top 10 Word Tips: Tricks to Make Working with Word a Pleasure. There will also be time for more than 10, so bring your own Word challenges or additional tips to share. Presented by Danelle Ellis, Public Services Librarian at Tarrant County College – NW Campus.

- Working with IT: Help! What do you know about the people in your IT department? And what do they know about librarians? Join us as we share tips for successful communication & collaboration. Presented by Walter Betts, Systems Librarian, Texas Christian University.

- Open Forum for Non-Techies Come discuss your ideas and challenges concerning technology in the library world. This forum is designed for those that are not IT specialists – let's talk where we can all understand! Facilitated by Adam Wright, Executive Director, North Texas Regional Library System.