

## **KPLACE IV Will Be part of KPLACE 2007**

by Diana Weaver, ILL Director, Northeast Kansas System

Since 1989, spring has been a time for a select group of librarians to gather at Emporia State University to study librarianship, to study leadership, to meet their peers in Kansas libraries, and to make new friends. Kansas Progressive Librarians Acquiring Continuing Education (KPLACE) has been one of the best experiences many of us have had in our profession. This spring, KPLACE alumni are all invited back to ESU for a grand finale. The 2007 KPLACE IV is called "Re-Plant the Seeds."

The program will be May 17 in the ESU Student Union beginning at 9 a.m. and concluding just before the graduation ceremony for the KPLACE Class of 2007. While we will spend some time during the day sharing the stories of how "we have bloomed where planted," we will also focus on future opportunities for learning and networking.

Jan Moltzen, Project Coordinator for the TALL Texans Leadership Institute, will share with us how the Texas Library Association helps develop library leaders in Texas. The TALL Texans (Texas Accelerated Library Leaders) is a weeklong leadership retreat for degreed and non-degreed library practitioners who have at least five years of experience in a professional level position in library and/or information science. Participants must apply to the program, and must demonstrate in their application that they are ready to grow as leaders and as people.

Jan has been the coordinator, as well as a mentor, for the program. She describes herself as also being "the house mom" for participants. Jan is a passionate library supporter who has experience as a branch manager, associate director, and director of public libraries. She taught library science at the University of North Texas, and was the Executive Director of the Texas Center for the Book. Her professional volunteer activities include being founding vice-president of the Friends of Libraries and Archives of Texas, board member of the Literacy Volunteers of America – Dallas and board member of the Northeast Texas Library System. She has chaired numerous committees for the Texas Library Association, the Public Library Association, and the American Library Association.

Following Jan's presentation, Shannon Roy, Continuing Education Coordinator for the State Library of Kansas, will share with us the new Continuing Education programs soon to be offered by the State Library. Many hours of hard work and discussion have gone into this project, which focuses on teaching library skills and core competencies. The afternoon breakouts will be short, informative sessions that will highlight networking opportunities already available across the state. The afternoon will conclude with a panel discussion including: Christie Brandau, State Librarian of Kansas; Carla Kaiser, President-elect of the Kansas Library Association (and KPLACE graduate); Jan Moltzen; and Rosanne Siemens, Executive Director of KLA, and MPLA Ghost Ranch Mentor.

In addition to Thursday's activities, KPLACERs who arrive in Emporia on Wednesday are invited to an evening reception hosted by the South Central Kansas Library System. The reception will be held at

Carlos O'Kelleys, 2144 W Highway 50, from 8 to 10 p.m. See you in Emporia to re-plant the seeds of KPLACE!