

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

January 2000

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## Assignment extended

—by Jeff Hixon, Director  
Library and Information Technology

The Kansas State Library is extremely pleased to announce that the Boeing Company has for a second time extended the assignment of John Howell as a Loaned Executive to the Kansas State Library's Blue Skyways through March 31, 2000.

The extension will allow John and his wife Susan to complete their work now underway with Kansas communities developing and creating their own web pages.

During the final three months of the project, the Howells will primarily be working with communities already committed to development and maintenance of a site on Blue Skyways. A proposal for an "overview and summary"

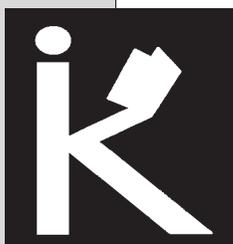
session at next April's Tri-Conference has been accepted by the planning committee.

Michael C. Germann, Director, Communications and Public Affairs from Boeing-Wichita, writes, "John's work on this project has set a new standard for success in Boeing's Loaned Executive program. It has truly been a partnership between Boeing and the Kansas State Library. I am incredibly proud of the work John has done and the way he's represented Boeing in the community."

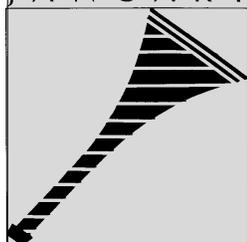
The State Library is delighted to share Mr. Germann's view of this project, and to have a role in bringing the talents, skills, and enthusiasm of two extraordinary people to the communities of Kansas.

Special thanks are due to Boeing, KSU Extension's PRIDE program, the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing, and the Kansas Library Network Board for support and encouragement of this project and of our efforts to extend it. It's a pleasure also to recall the considerable contributions made to its success by Michael Piper, former Executive Director of the KLNb.

The fine work done by John and Susan Howell in partnership with communities, libraries and organizations across Kansas can stand with pride on its own merits. The generosity of The Boeing Company, in making it part of their community relations effort, is a blessing for the communities and libraries of Kansas.



JANUARY



## Guadalajara International Book Fair

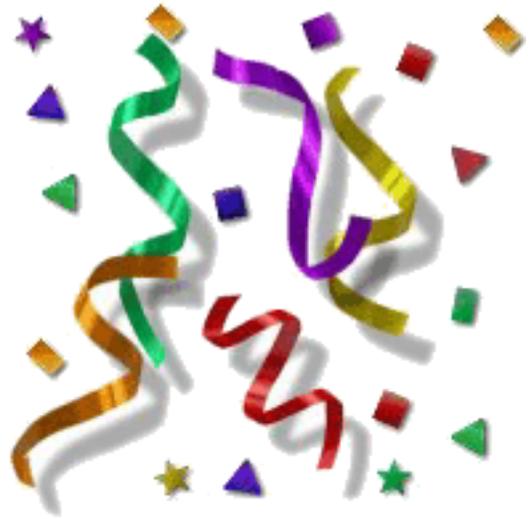
Almendra Benuelos has been the Bilingual Services Coordinator for the Dodge City Public Library for four years. She and her husband emigrated from Chihuahua, Mexico to Garden City 12 years ago. After two months he found a job in Dodge City, where they have lived ever since.

Almendra attended the Guadalajara International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico from November 27 to December 5. The fair was sponsored by the University of Guadalajara and is a premier annual event for those who are involved in Spanish-language book and media collections. Chile was the featured country at the 1999 fair. A selective sampling of publications with representative literary institutions, major and small press publishers, was prepared by that country for display at the fair.

Almendra's attendance was sponsored by the Dodge City Public Library. In a telephone interview December 16, she explained why she enjoyed the experience. "Everything was in Spanish. I enjoyed listening to everything and speaking in Spanish the whole time." Those who do not speak Spanish should not be discouraged from attending. "They have interpreters. The first day they say what [sessions] they have interpreters for. Most people over there speak a little bit of English too. I met one lady from San Francisco, and she no spoke no Spanish, and boy, she went with me everywhere!"

Almendra appreciated the vast amount of Spanish-language materials on display, and the high degree of organization of the fair. There were also opportunities to meet others active in Spanish-language materials. "Everybody's so friendly. I met a lot of people from different parts of the world." Some of her activities at the fair included a dinner sponsored by Spanish language bookseller Libros sin Fronteras, a scheduled visit to a museum, a stop at one of the two libraries in Guadalajara, and some shopping on the side.

More information about the Guadalajara International Book Fair can be found on the Web at [http://www.fil.com.mx/mexplaza\\_e.html](http://www.fil.com.mx/mexplaza_e.html) (English) and <http://www.fil.com.mx/mexplaza.html> (Español).



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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



The Network Board is pleased to announce that its digitization grant for FY 2000 is now ready, and applications can be submitted. A maximum of \$10,000 will be awarded to a single library to digitize a collection or collections in its care. The digitized material must be of or about Kansas, and must be made available via the Web so that Kansans and people everywhere can access it. Collaboration between the library and local schools, organizations, and businesses is encouraged. Complete information, including guidelines, deadlines, forms, and the evaluation rubric are available on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/digit.html>. Applications must be postmarked no later April 3, 2000. The grant winner will be announced after the Board meets in May of 2000. For further information, contact me by phone at 800-432-3919 or 785-296-3875 or by E-mail at [erich@ink.org](mailto:erich@ink.org). Don't miss this opportunity to bring your Kansas information to the world.

# Catalyst

by Eric Hansen  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board

The Board is also preparing a contest to select a new logo for itself.

While it's true that the board is a government agency, we don't want our logo to look like a government document. Our present logo can be seen at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/logo.html>.

Guidelines, rules and regulations will be for the contest will be finished soon. Details will go out on KANLIB-L, on Blue Skyways, and in this newsletter soon.

The bad news around the State Library is that my assistant, Jana Bowers, resigned her position effective December 23, 1999 to accept a position in retail grocery management. I've enjoyed working with Jana very much and will miss her skills, efficiency, and sunny disposition. Because of the Governor's mandated 3-month hiring freeze, I'll be my own assistant for awhile. I'll also be the Kansas Libraries layout artist and typesetter, as well as the editor.

## Kansas libraries.... one hundred years ago

—by Bill Sowers, *Kansas Documents Librarian/  
Tech Services Librarian*

### *Gleanings from the 12th Biennial Report of the State Librarian, 1899-1900:*

- The long anticipated and most gratifying event of the moving of the State Library [into the Capitol Building] was completed during the month of September, 1900. In the new rooms, in the awesome presence of the well placed books and the gentle reminders of the "silence" mottoes on the walls, there has developed a fitting library atmosphere greatly appreciated by the patrons of the place.
- In April, 1900, the State Librarian issued invitations to a number of persons to meet in Topeka to take the preliminary steps toward a state organization [of a

Kansas state libraries association]. A permanent organization was formed in December, 1900, with Mr. James L. King of Topeka, president, and Miss L. T. Dougherty of Topeka, secretary. The next meeting of the association will be held at Topeka in October, 1901.



## Community Connections

—by Shannon Roy, Director  
Library Development

It recently occurred to me to ask how a major university like the University of Kansas, which has nine campus libraries plus the Regents' Library in Overland Park, develops a library community. I put the question to Sandy Gilliland, the Assistant to the Dean for Personnel.

"It is a large staff," Sandy responded thoughtfully. "We have 55 library faculty, 90 civil service staff and 20 unclassified staff. And, of course, we have a lot of student assistants. In the past few years, it has been a priority to make KU a better environment for library staff. But we do have quite a lot of self-governance at the different staff levels. We have a lot of working committees that make a lot of the policy decisions. We have input into decisions that affect salaries and benefits and tenure track for library faculty."

"I think some people find the university structure congenial and others are better off in a different environment. We have library faculty and staff who have been here for many years and have seen a lot of campus development. They enjoy working for better KU libraries. They also say that they enjoy the fact that KU offers so many cultural and social opportunities."

"KU Libraries have also made staff development a top priority. Dean Bill Crowe was a very strong supporter of this during his tenure and Dean Keith Russell, who came to us recently from the National Library of Agriculture, says he has every intention of continuing this priority. We are hoping to fund a staff development position the coming years and also to set up a more organized mentoring program."

"We have a staff development committee that is in charge of developing staff programs each year. They usually choose a theme for the main emphasis of the programs, such as communication or conflict resolution. This year Marilu Goodyear has started a series of programs on Stephen Covey's seven habits of highly effective people. She is a fine speaker and has taken the training to offer this program so the staff development committee was all in favor of it. About a third of our staff has completed this training."

"Of course, there is a lot of technology training that has to go on all the time. Fortunately, we have a good

partnership with KU Computing Services and we no longer have to pay for all the computer training our staff needs. And the library staff can offer training in the library programs."

"One of the problems we do have," Sandy continued, "is that it is very hard to find the funds to send people to conferences and programs out of state. If they are presenters, we can usually help them. But otherwise, they can find the out-of-pocket expenses significant. If they have young families or other major personal commitments, they may not be in a position to travel very much. We have a lot of people who have to share the available opportunities."

The bright side of our situation is that we can draw on a tremendous variety of talent and knowledge without leaving the campus. There is no shortage of opportunities for anyone who wants to pursue training and continuing education. And we encourage our staff to take courses as well. We try to keep their work schedules flexible enough for classwork."

"Is there a social side to the KU library community?" I asked. "That's important, too," Sandy agreed. "Many people wouldn't be happy in a workforce that never enjoyed itself. We have KULSA - Kansas University Library Staff Association. They recognize birthdays and bereavements. They also arrange staff parties and seasonal celebrations and TGIF parties. We have one librarian that works hard to keep KULSA events successful."

*Currents*, the libraries' newsletter, makes it obvious that KU librarians are coping with a lot of change. Library staff are working to implement KUILS - KU Interactive Library Systems. There are plans for expanded roles for the three largest libraries. Anschutz will become a high traffic, high-tech, multi-use library for the sciences and the social sciences. There are plans to restore Watson to its 1920s grandeur while incorporating modern technology to support teaching and study. The Spencer Research Library will continue to house rare collections, archives and exhibits but it will also use technology to develop a KU digital library. Other campus libraries will also be upgraded and expanded.

"KU is an exciting place to work," was Sandy Gilliland's conclusion. "To us, it's worth all the effort it takes to support a fine university."

## Kansas books

—by Roy Bird, Consultant

### *The Days of June: Recollections of a County Sheriff*

by June Jost as told to Tracy Mayes. Leathers Publishing, 60 pp. softcover, 1999. \$8.00. Order from: Tracy Mayes, 8921 E. 63rd South, Derby, KS 67037.

In 1968 June Jost, a farmer from Marion County, Kansas, was hired as a city policeman in the city of Marion. That was the start of a notable career for a law enforcement officer over two decades. This book is a folksy collection of stories he has been wont to tell over coffee in the local cafe, gathered and edited by his granddaughter, Tracy Mayes. In some ways it is the story of one man's experiences as a policeman, under-sheriff and sheriff; in other ways it is a microcosm of law enforcement in small town and rural Kansas. From traffic violators to drunks to serious and dangerous criminals, Sheriff Jost dealt with the variety of law enforcement activities typical for many officers across the state. A weighty subject addressed with humor and warmth, this book is a good addition to the heritage of small town and rural Kansas life. Recommended for criminal justice, Kansas and adult collections in public, academic and secondary school libraries.

## LEEPING Stars receive high awards

—by Shannon Roy, Director  
Library Development

Two librarians in southwest Kansas have received Level Six Leep Certificates for 600 hours of continuing education.

"Continuing education helps me do my job better," says **Virginia Johnson** of Morton County Library. "Of course, CE adds up. I've been with the library since 1980 and director since 1991."

Virginia stays busy running her three-branch county library. She lives with her husband of 35 years and stays in touch with her two grown sons. She also collects porcelain dolls.

**Frances Roberts** has been director of the Grant County Library since 1980 and is known as a leader in

library technology development. "I hope that soon we can realize my long dream of a building program for this library."

Frances has little time to spare but she enjoys decorating for Christmas and collecting antiques. She is also active in her church. Frances has two sons, one daughter and seven grandchildren. "I would never make it without them."

**Kathleen McCorkle** has recently become the director of the Sedan Public Library in the Southeast System. She has already earned her Level Six Certificate, thanks to her enthusiastic pursuit of college courses. "I always loved to read, thanks to Mom."

Kathleen was raised in Oklahoma but loves the beauty of southeast Kansas. She has six children, sixteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. She enjoys her job as a small town librarian, "except for filling out forms."

**Neola Breckridge** of Central Kansas has received her Level Five Leep Certification in 1999. Neola has been director of the Stockton Library since December of 1984. She worked for the library for a number of years before that, starting in the old Carnegie library and later moving to the new one.

Neola has a husband, a son, two daughters and seven grandchildren. Her hobby is making crafts and jewelry. "Give her a hot glue gun," says one of her staff members, "and she can do anything. And it will be beautiful."

## Your Electronic State Library

—by Marc Galbraith,  
Director of Reference

This past year, the Kansas State Library has been busy automating its catalog and circulation process. The automated catalog means anyone can access the State Library's collection of books and research materials online—from their desktop. Actually, the State Library's catalog is now a combined catalog that incorporates the holdings of several Topeka libraries, including: the Supreme Court Library, the Kansas State Historical Society Library, Washburn University Libraries, the Menninger Foundation Library and the Stormont-Vail Medical Library. The combined catalog is named ATLAS (Associated Topeka Libraries Automated System). The URL for ATLAS is <http://lib.wuacc.edu/search>.

While ATLAS is a multi-library catalog it is possible to limit a search to just those materials in the State Library collection. After entering your search, select "limit" from the menu on the results screen and then click on "State Library." Press "Enter" and the results list will include only materials from the State Library collection.

The newly automated catalog also makes it possible to automate the Library's circulation function. Automated circulation will greatly reduce the time required to circulate books and other materials. The new circulation system also necessitates the initiation of a State Library borrower's card. Watch for the new cards over the next month or so.

Speaking of electronic services, your State Library also makes available some specialized electronic research databases such as the following:

- **American Business Directory** by Business Information Services - this is a fully online file that provides access to over 10 million business, government and non-profit entities. The search software allows for multifaceted browsing by company name, SIC/NAICS codes, yellow page classification, geography, and company officer(s). This is a great source for assembling all the providers of a particular product or service, or for identifying how many companies do business in a particular SIC/NAICS Code.
- **Dun & Bradstreet Million Dollar Directory** - this is the Web based version of the standard business

resource, but with much-enhanced searching capabilities, including searches by company employment size, sales ranges, business SIC/NAICS, industry type and much more.

- **Dow Jones** - access to the leading U.S. newspapers, trade journals, news wires and market data.
- **Claritas** - access to a variety of socioeconomic data and projections, including those concerning household expenditures and business establishments.
- **NEXIS** - the news side of Lexis-Nexis with full-text access to all the major U.S. newspapers in one combined database. Includes extensive archival collection.
- **AccessKansas** - online indexing to thousands of abstracted and full-text periodicals including both popular and scholarly titles.



Check out the Topeka libraries online  
"ATLAS" catalog at:  
<http://lib.wuacc.edu/>

## Library positions

### **Branch Manager Johnson County Library**

The Johnson County Library has an opening for its Lackman Branch Manager position effective December 29. The Lackman Branch Manager is responsible for operating one of the library system's Type IV libraries. It is responsible for delivering services and managing approx. 20 full and part-time staff with a seven-day week service schedule. Current materials holdings at this branch are 80,000 items in a facility of 18,000 square feet. Monthly circulation varies, but is usually in the range of 30,000 items. The salary range for this position is \$34,070 - \$51,084 annually. JCL offers a full range of employee benefits including health insurance. The JCL Job Order for this position is attached, or may be obtained by calling or e-mailing: Mary Hart, (913) 495 2462, hartma@jcl.lib.ks.us

### **Web Applications Coordinator Kansas City, Kansas Public Library**

Coordinate all aspects of the Intranet services for the public library system. Identify, develop, implement and help manage database and other software projects which enhances the library's web services. Assist in the development and management of web based online catalog services and statistical report development. ALA/MLS required. Experience with Internet and Intranet technologies including but not limited to HTML, Javascript, CGI, graphic design software and web browsers. Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Access, Excel and Windows NT. Ability to work within a team environment essential. Salary range: \$24,966.00-\$39,635.00. Expected hiring range: \$33,000.00-\$37,000.00 d.o.q. Attractive benefits program. Interested and qualified persons should send cover letter, resume and 3 professional references to: Tammie Sharp, Personnel Coordinator, Kansas City, KS Public Library, 625 Minnesota Avenue., KCK 66101. EOE. www.kckpl.lib.ks.us

### **Reference Librarian Lawrence Public Library**

The Lawrence Public Library is accepting applications for a full-time Reference Librarian, 40 hours/week, including evenings and weekends as well as weekday hours. Provides reference service to patrons as part of a

team, and instructs patrons in the use of print and electronic reference sources and online catalog. Participates in collection development, maintains reference collection, and provides readers' advisory services.

ALA-accredited MLS required, as is an ability to relate in person and on the phone to a wide variety of personalities and situations. Prefer library experience in a public library and/or reference service. Information about the Lawrence Public Library may be found at: [www.lawrence.lib.ks.us](http://www.lawrence.lib.ks.us). Information about Lawrence, KS may be found at: [www.ci.lawrence.ks.us](http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us) Starting salary \$20,000, plus extensive benefits. Position to begin Monday, January 17, 2000 or as soon thereafter as possible. Preference will be given to applications received by 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 20, 1999. Completion of employment application form required. To apply, send a resume and three references to: Cecilia May, Reference Service Coordinator, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044 (843-3833) ext. 113, fax: 843-3368, email: [cjmay@lawrence.lib.ks.us](mailto:cjmay@lawrence.lib.ks.us). EOE

