

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

February 2000

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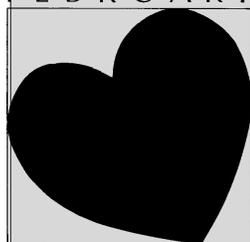
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FEBRUARY



## SLIM accreditation renewed

—by Robert Grover, Dean  
School of Library and Information  
Management

The American Library Association Committee on Accreditation (COA) has notified the Emporia State University School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) that the Master of Library Science program has been fully reaccredited.

The decision was made at COA's meeting January 17 and was based on the school's Program Presentation; the External Review Panel report; biennial and statistical reports since our last comprehensive review, and the committee's meeting on January 15 with Danny Wallace, Chair of the external Review Panel, and Bob Grover, Dean of SLIM.

The letter said, "The Committee recognizes the faculty's diversity and research productivity. In addition, COA notes that the School demonstrates a sustained commitment to involving all constituencies in the planning processes; and, the design of the distance learning component of the MLS program produces student cohorts that operate in a highly supportive and successful manner."

The next comprehensive review is scheduled in fall, 2004. In the

meantime, the school will submit annual statistical reports and biennial narrative reports to COA.

The letter from COA concludes:

"The Committee thanks all those who provided information and participated in the evaluation process. The cooperation of those associated with the program and with Emporia State University enabled us to facilitate the review of your program. We appreciate your cooperation in the on-going evaluation, assessment, and review process of accreditation, and we encourage you to continue your efforts."



## New director at Abilene Public Library

—by Kay Russell, Coordinator of System Services,  
North Central Kansas Libraries System

Please welcome Bruce Chance, the new director at Abilene PL. Bruce began his responsibilities the beginning of January. He is a 1998 graduate of ESU Emporia in the Rockies although he started his SLIM degree on the Emporia campus and then moved to Colorado because of his wife's job opportunity. He and his wife have a son who is a high school freshman and they are expecting another child. Bruce's last position was as librarian for Education America, a business school, in the Denver metro area. For fun and relaxation he picks a five-string banjo.

## **Financial boost for kids' culture at Wichita Public Library**

The Forrest C. Lattner Foundation awarded \$50,000.00 to children's services at the Wichita Public Library. The National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) will also match the gift with \$16,666.00 making the total contribution \$66,666.00.

The Lattner Foundation has been extremely generous to the Library Foundation for the past six years and support from NEH continues with strength. Both organizations enable growth and carry achievement for the Library.

Richard Rademacher, Director of Libraries for the City of Wichita, detailed how the new endowment fund will help improve Library resources for children. "Every child who visits the Library will benefit from the gift," he noted. "Connecting young children to the pleasure and discovery of reading and thus, to lifelong learning is a primary goal of the Library; these contributions help us reach this goal." Thirty-five thousand children attended library programs last year and one third of the 1.8 million books checked out that year were to children. The Wichita Public Library provides a free, learning environment for our community and the many children that reside in it.

"Endowment dollars enable the library to deliver new books and creative programming for children allowing them to reach their full potential regardless of economic circumstance," stated Mr. Rademacher. "The Forrest C. Lattner Foundation and NEH endowment significantly aids in the success of our Library and we deeply appreciate their support," he added. For more information, contact Jacque Smith, 316/261-8524.

## **Printz award winners announced**

The following is an excerpt from an ALA Chapter Relations post regarding the first Mike Printz Award:

Walter Dean Myers wins first Michael L. Printz Award  
Walter Dean Myers, author of *Monster*, was named the first winner of the Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature for young adults. *Monster*, illustrated by his son Christopher and published by HarperCollins, tells the suspenseful, emotionally charged story of a 16-year-old arrested for murder.

The announcement was made January 17 during the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio. The annual award is administered by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of ALA, and sponsored by Booklist magazine.

The new award honors the late Michael L. Printz, a Topeka, Kansas school librarian known for discovering and promoting quality books for young adults.

"The detached style of the screen play, juxtaposed with the anguished journal entries, reveals the struggle within Steve's conscience," said Frances B. Bradburn, chair of Printz Award Selection Committee.

"Distinctive format creates narrative and moral suspense that will leave readers with questions that have no real answers."

Myers, of Jersey City, N.J., developed *Monster*, edited by Phoebe Yeh, out of 600 hours of interviews with prisoners in jails in New Jersey and New York. He previously received a Margaret A. Edwards Award for distinguished contribution to young adult literature. He is a five-time Coretta Scott King Award winner and a recipient of Newbery Honor Awards for *Scorpions* and *Somewhere in the Darkness*.

Three Honor Books were named: *Hard Love* by Ellen Wittlinger, edited by David Gale, published by Simon & Schuster; *Skellig* by David Almond, published by Delacorte Press, originally published in Great Britain by Hodder Children's Books; and *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson, edited by Elizabeth Mikesell, published by Farrar Straus Giroux.

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# Catalyst

—by Eric Hansen  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board

The Network Board needs a new logo, and is sponsoring a contest to give Kansas residents or and students an opportunity to design one for us. There is no entry fee, and the winning entry will receive \$100.00. See [http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/logo\\_contest.html](http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/logo_contest.html) for complete information.

During January I was pleased to present Interlibrary Loan Development grant application workshops (see pictures) in Oberlin for the Northwest Kansas Library System, Dodge City for the Southwest Kansas Library System, and Derby for the South Central Kansas Library System. I enjoy opportunities to get out and present to library and information workers throughout the state, especially when the workshop participants are as engaging as they were in Oberlin, Dodge City, and Derby.



*Interior, Oberlin Public Library*



*Dodge City participants ponder a point*

The next meeting of the Network Board will be on Thursday, February 10, in the Simerwell Conference Room at the Kansas History Center, from 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. The meeting is open, and the agenda can be found on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/meetings.html#agenda>.

*For more about Blue Skyways, the ILDP, or any other Network Board initiative, contact Eric Hansen, KLNB Executive Director, at 785/296 3875 ([erich@ink.org](mailto:erich@ink.org)).*

*Interlibrary Loan Development Program grant proposals are due by 31 March 2000. For complete information about the ILDP, point your browser to <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/ildp.html>.*

## **Library fine amnesty to continue through April at Kansas City Public Library**

The Kansas City Board of Education approved an extension of the KCK Public Library's fine amnesty program through April 30. The fine amnesty program is part of the "Just Read" initiative encouraging children and young adults to expand their learning skills by reading for pleasure every day.

During the fine amnesty program, patrons age 17 and under may have their outstanding fines forgiven and their records cleared so that they may once again check out library materials.

Only fines incurred before October 18, 1999, will be forgiven. Although fines will be forgiven, patrons must still return any overdue items. Patrons must also pay for any lost or damaged items.

In return for having their outstanding library fines forgiven, patrons will sign a pledge to become a daily reader and a responsible library patron.

Fine amnesty is available at the Argentine Library (2800 Metropolitan, 913/722-7400), the Main Library (625 Minnesota, 913/551-3280), the West Wyandotte Library (1737 N. 82nd St., 913/596-5800), and on the Bookmobile (call 913/279-2228 for schedule of stops).

## **Kansas children's librarians are gathering materials for new publicity campaign**

—by Shannon Roy, *Library Development*

Did you know that 90% of a child's brain growth occurs between birth and four years of age? It is never too early to introduce children to the joys, wonders and pleasures of reading. Children and youth librarians throughout the state of Kansas are joining together to promote the importance of reading in a campaign entitled "I Love to Read: Kansas Libraries Help Families Raise Readers." This promotion, planned by the Kansas Children's Forum, a group of librarians from across Kansas that meets regularly to discuss library services for children, is intended to emphasize the importance of reading in the child's overall development, and to

provide resources for parents and librarians to help Kansas children become avid readers.

"I Love to Read" brochures, which point out facts about the benefits of reading to children, offer tips for reading aloud, and list source books for parents who are looking for good reading material for children, will be available in many public and school libraries. The brochure was written and designed by the Johnson County Library staff for statewide distribution. "I Love to Read" Activity Guides have also been prepared which share the collective wisdom of practicing librarians across the state of Kansas.

Kansas kids will also proclaim their love of reading by proudly displaying heart-shaped stickers which state "Kansas Kids Read!"

These materials will be distributed in February. They will be used during the winter story hour season and then through the statewide summer reading program. Materials will be distributed and publicized by the regional and urban library systems.

### **An invitation**

Do you have news items of interest to other librarians? An especially successful program or grant project, for instance? Let us know so that we can tell your colleagues in *Kansas Libraries*.

## Kansas books

—by Roy Bird, Consultant

*Miss Little Britches*, by Bonny Stahlman Speer. Norman, OK, 1999. 5X8 paperback 141 pp. Order from Reliance Press, 1400 Melrose Drive, Suite B, Norman OK 73069, 405/321-7302, \$11.95. Also available through B&T, Ingram.

Last summer a book which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in the children's/young adult category was published by a writer who says we "might consider her a Kansas author...I lived in Haysville for nine years before I moved to Colorado, where I became interested in the Little Britches Rodeo." Bonny Speer wrote a heart-warming story about a young girl trying to become a champion in the Little Britches Rodeo just as her three sisters had been.

Bonny Speer, now an adjunct journalism professor at the University of Oklahoma, also lived not far from Littleton, Colorado, then the headquarters of the Little Britches Rodeo. She says she read Ralph Moody's book, *Little Britches*, about his life and how the junior rodeo got its name from his own nickname—Speer felt there should "be a book telling the girls' side in the rodeo." She interviewed young girl contestants and weaved their stories together into this tale. Speer is the author of thirteen other books, mostly regional history, including *Hillback to Boggy*, coauthored with her husband, which won the Oklahoma Book Award in 1997.

This book will be enjoyed by young adult girls, people who like horses, Little Britches or other rodeoing, or just good family stories. Great for 4-Hers! Recommended for children's young adult, middle and high school collections.

*Township 9 South 3 East: Memories of Clay County's Union Township*, by Doris Salter. Order from Ginny Beck, 2302 E. Dartmouth Avenue, Englewood, CO 80110, 303/781-3495, beckjas@jimo.com. Also available from Clay Center Dispatch, PO Box 519, Clay Center, KS 67432. 5X8 paperback, 180 pp. \$9.50.

In a day and age when youngsters do not remember a president beyond George Bush, to whom the stock market crash was in the 1980s, and to whom depression is something their parents are being treated for, this book of reminiscences is another look at the

Great Depression, the "dirty thirties," and Kansas rural life in the first half of the twentieth century. But it's not just another recollection by a senior citizen—it is a unique collection of newspaper columns published in the *Clay Center Dispatch* by a truly unique woman.

In the first place, a township history such as *Township 9 South 3 East* is rare. But Doris Salter's book is not just a history. It's a sociological examination of the day-to-day life of a group of people in one place in Kansas, but it could be discussing ANY place in Kansas from 1900 to the 1940s. "Her book does not make the mistake of emphasizing the hardship and disappointments..." wrote the former governor, Bill Avery. "Instead, she describes in easy reading a picture of a farm family of the period, family reunions, attending a one-room school and when a trip to town was a special event."

Avery continued: "Of interest...is that Doris has become a quadraplegic for more than thirty years as a result of severe multiple sclerosis. Not to be daunted, she writes her column with a special head piece, typing one letter with one nod!" Recommended for adult and secondary school Kansas collections.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



## FoKL seeks nominees

—by Vikki Jo Stewart, Literacy Program Director

FoKL is again searching for outstanding volunteers who have provided major contributions and service to Kansas libraries in 1999. Winners of *Friends* awards in three separate categories will be recognized at the organization's annual meeting April 13th, in Wichita.

Marjo Scott, FoKL Award Committee Chair, states, "Winners will be selected on the basis of 1) benefit to the library and community, 2) creativeness and originality of projects, and 3) commitment to the library as an individual or group.

One award will be given to an individual Friend, one award each to Friends of the Library organizations representing a) small Kansas libraries (populations under 1,000), b) medium sized communities (population 1,001-10,000), and c) larger libraries (populations 10,001 and above).

Individual nominees must hold membership in a local Friends of the Library group that is affiliated with FoKL or hold an individual membership in the state organization to qualify. Local Friends' Chapters must be a member of FoKL for the current year to qualify. Awards will be based on activities and accomplishments occurring from December 1998 through December 1999.

FoKL officials urge local libraries to nominate their Friends groups where outstanding support has been provided, and particularly to nominate those individuals in the community who have given above and beyond normal expectations to further enrich their local libraries. NOTE: All nominees will receive a certificate! Applications must be received no later than March 1, 2000. An official nomination form follows below.

### 1999 Kansas Friends Award NOMINATION FORM

Date \_\_\_\_\_

check one:

Individual  Sm Chapter  Med Chapter

Lg Chapter

Name of Friends, Chapter or Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

President of Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: FoKL AWARDS Committee, c/o Topeka and Shawnee Co. Public Library, 1515 SW 10th, Topeka, KS 66604-1374

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2000. Questions about the FoKL award can be addressed to:

Vikki Jo Stewart, Literacy Program Director, Kansas State Library, PO Box 188, 105 Ave. A. East, Kingman, KS 67068, 316/532-1075, Fax 316/532-1076, E-mail [vikkijo@ink.org](mailto:vikkijo@ink.org).



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

## **Library positions**

### *Library Services Coordinator (Adult Services)*

The Wichita Public Library has an opening for a self-motivated, energetic and resourceful librarian to serve as Coordinator of Adult Services.

The position oversees the Central Library's adult reference service areas (Art, Music & Video, Business & Technology, Genealogy & Local History and General Collections). Responsibilities include planning, coordinating and analyzing service delivery with particular emphasis on the provision of system-wide reference services and increasing centralization of collection development, service as a Librarian-in-Charge and as a member of the Administrative Council. Participation in system projects and teams is expected. The position reports to the Director of Libraries.

Requires MLS from an ALA-accredited institution plus five years professional experience including three years experience in library administration or supervision of professional library staff or any equivalent combination of experience and training. Also requires a comprehensive knowledge of popular adult materials, reference materials and electronic resources, excellent communication and interpersonal skills, experience in strategic planning, a strong customer service orientation and skill in team leadership.

Salary range: \$40,865 - \$57,208. Offers of employment may be made contingent upon passing a pre-employment drug screening and will be made contingent upon satisfactory evaluation of a police records check.

Send resume and letter of application to: Cynthia Berner Harris, Coordinator of Administrative Services, 223 South Main, Wichita KS, 67202. Application deadline: February 11, 2000.

The Wichita Public Library is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer which actively seeks and encourages applications from minority candidates.

### *Community Technology Center Coordinator*

To provide leadership and vision in developing community access and education on behalf of Manhattan Public Library and the Community Online Resource Exchange (CORE). Has oversight of physical facilities and staff of the Center at the Library; actively networks to bring about community collaboration on technology projects.

Seeking candidates with successful experience and/or education in planning and directing applications of current technologies in organizational and/or community settings. Management of a computer lab is particularly relevant. Experience with community development projects and interagency collaboration highly desirable.

Minimum qualifications: Advanced degree or comparable training in a field such as information technology, education, management, or library science. Management or teaching experience.

Salary range: \$32,026 - \$44,800. Excellent benefits. Manhattan Public Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Full job description at is available at <[www.manhattan.lib.ks.us/ctcjd.html](http://www.manhattan.lib.ks.us/ctcjd.html)>

Send letter of interest, resume, and names of three references to Judith Edelstein, Manhattan Public Library, 629 Poyntz, Manhattan KS 66502. Applications will also be accepted by Fax (785/776-1545) or e-mail ([jedel@manhattan.lib.ks.us](mailto:jedel@manhattan.lib.ks.us)). Closing date February 10.

