

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

February 2002

This month in Kansas Libraries

<i>LSTA Special Populations Grants</i>1
<i>Beyond computers: Thinking about the Gates grant</i>2
<i>Genealogy workshop at Olathe Public Library</i>2
<i>N O T E S</i>3
<i>KAN-ED update</i>4
<i>Humanities Council prepares for black history month</i>4
<i>Gates announcement</i>5
<i>An invitation</i>5
<i>Humanities Council plans for women's history month</i>6
<i>New rare book and map dealer in Topeka</i>6
<i>Library position</i>7
<i>Kansas books</i>7
<i>Kansas libraries... 30 years ago</i>8

F E B R U A R Y



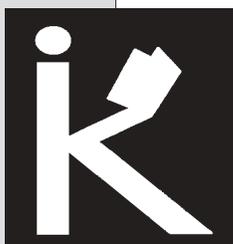
LSTA Special Populations Grants

—by Roy Bird
Library Consultant

The Kansas State Library is now accepting letters of intent to apply for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Special Populations grants. The deadline for letters of intent for FY 2002 awards is Friday, March 1, 2002. Letters of intent should be word-processed or type-written on library, agency, or institution letterhead.

LSTA Special Populations grants are open to libraries of all types. To apply, submit a letter of intent to Roy Bird, Federal Projects Coordinator,

Kansas State Library,
300 SW 10th, Room
343N, Topeka, KS 66612-
1593, fax to 785/368-
7291, or email to
royb@ink.org.



The letter of intent is the first step in the application process for a grant from the LSTA

allotment to Kansas for special populations. Libraries that submit a letter of intent will receive a copy of the application and LSTA Special Populations grant guidelines. To view the application and guidelines online or download these documents, go to www.skyways.org/KSL/admin/ksl_admin.html.

A total of \$50,000 has been budgeted for FY 2002 Special Populations grants.

If your library is interested in federal funds to support a project serving a special population during FY 2002, submit your letter of intent by March 1.

Grant awards will be determined at the April 26, 2002, joint meeting of the LSTA Advisory Council and the State Library Advisory Commission. Funds will be distributed in May 2002, and evaluations will be due November 1, 2003, for an 18-month rather than a 12-month project.

For additional information about LSTA Special Populations grants, contact your regional system consultant or Roy Bird at the State Library.

The LSTA Special Populations grants are funded by the IMLS, a federal grant-making agency located in Washington, D.C. that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries.

Beyond computers: Thinking about the Gates grant

—by Jeff Hixon

Director, Library Information Technology

As I have established a good working relationship with a few contacts at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, I have found myself “letting go” of some of my slightly cynical (yes, dear reader, this writer has been known to dabble in cynicism) attitudes and preconceptions about the Foundation’s motives and means. Recognizing at last that a part of this letting go arises from my desire to make, on behalf of Kansas, a good impression, I also came to realize that this enormous project has some potential for impact that goes far beyond mere technology.

During the next 12 months, more or less:

- About two-thirds of Kansas public libraries will be visited by representatives of the Foundation.
- Most of these representatives will probably see dozens of Kansas libraries, maybe hundreds of towns.
- They will eat at some of the restaurants we are most proud of, and some of the ones we wish were in Nebraska.
- Some of these people will have been through similar extended stays in several other states.
- Kansas will be one of the last states experienced by these amazingly well-travelled individuals.
- At some point during this period, the last great wave of installers and trainers will depart Seattle for Alaska, the last state in the US Libraries Program, and this curious experience, we’re told, will come to an end.

When will we ever again have the chance to interact this closely with a group of people so well prepared to put our state and our way of life into perspective? What kind of opportunities to chip away at stereotypes will the next year bring us? Where will they go from here, and what will they take away, remember, and share about their time with us?

I’m certainly not advocating that we abandon principles or self-respect in a desperate bid to win a popularity contest. (If Kansas becomes popular as a result of this, my friend and colleague Shannon Soprano will have a contract out on me.) But if you are one of those who are always on the lookout for a chance to make a good impression on people who have seen it all, and who are probably going to talk about it for the rest of their lives, this might be one of the biggest ever.

Genealogy workshop at Olathe Public Library

Olathe Public Library staff member Donna Jo Atwood will present “Genealogy, Step Two: Using Library & Court-house Resources” at the Indian Creek Branch Library, 12990 S. Black Bob Road, Olathe, on Monday, February 11, 2002, from 7:00–8:00 p.m. The class will cover how to select the correct library or office, the necessary materials to take and why the online catalog is useful.

The workshop is free and no registration is required. For more information, call 913/393-6888.

Kansas Libraries is published monthly by the Kansas State Library, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612-1593 (785/296-3296; 800/432-3919).

ISSN 0889-2709 Page layout: *Ruth Appelhanz*

Editor: *Eric Hansen*. Contributing editors: *Roy Bird, Rhonda Machlan, Shannon Roy, and Vikki Jo Stewart*.

Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.





N O T E S

—by Eric Hansen
Executive Director

The Kansas Library Network Board will accept applications for ILDP competitive grants between February 1 and March 29, 2002. Information about the program, the application form and application rubric are all available on Blue Skyways at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/ildp.html> for your convenience. If any of you are unable to access the documents on Blue Skyways, I will be happy to mail or fax them to you. Contact me at 800/432-3919 for such service.

The KLNB is sponsoring a digitization grant for fiscal year 2003. The KLNB will award one grant of up to \$15,000 to one Kansas library for the digitization of a collection or collections in its care. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 5, 2002 to be considered. Information about the grant and the application form, budget and rubric are available on Blue Skyways at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/digit.html>.

I am delighted to announce that The State of Kansas Office of the Governor has appointed three to the KLNB, two new members and one renewal. The appointees are: Sylvia Kuhlmeier, Director of Library Services at Tabor College Library, Hillsboro; Cathy Reeves, Director of the Learning Resource Center, Dodge City Community College; Robert Walter, Dean of Learning Resources, Pittsburg State University. I welcome them all to the KLNB.

The Network Board has hired Herbert Callison, Executive Director of the Kansas Non Profit Association, to act as consultant to the Board as it embarks on the process of creating a new long-range strategic plan. For purposes of stakeholder input, Herb and his associates will conduct a number of focus group sessions throughout the state in the next few months.

Numbers of Kansas Library Card holders continue to increase. As of late January, there were 14,339 registered cardholders, and there were 21,913 logins to the card's Web site since its inception. Numbers of repeat logins have increased as well, as can be seen in the chart below.

Date	Accounts	Total Logins	Logged in	Logged in 5+	Logged in 10+	Logged in 25+
Mar-01	800	756	156	34	6	2
Jun-01	1188	156	306	86	20	2
Sep-01	3327	3735	685	193	51	3
Oct-01	7221	8164	1491	432	116	25
Nov-01	10165	13316	2329	735	232	32
Dec-01	12380	17403	3024	1015	303	45
Jan-02	14339	21913	3793	1299	393	51

Reminder to attendees of the Digitization Workshop in Dodge City February 18, 2002: If you have not already done so, be sure to point your Web browser to the workshop pretest on Blue Skyways at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/KansasPre-test021802.html>, print it out, complete it, and fax it to Liz Bishoff at the fax number at the end of the form itself.

For information about the Network Board, contact Eric Hansen, KLNB Executive Director, at 785/296-3875 (eric@ink.org).

KAN-ED update

—by Jerry Niebaum

KAN-ED Planning Coordinator

The KAN-ED project continues to gain support and momentum. The Committee on Utilities introduced House Bill 2645 which includes an interesting strategy for partially funding KAN-ED. Specifically, it calls for telecomm providers, cable companies, and internet service providers to round up each bill to the nearest \$.50 unless customers opt out. Under this legislation the difference between that amount and the actual bill would be credited to the KAN-ED fund. It is not known how much revenue this might generate. The full text of that bill is available at <http://www.kslegislature.org/cgi-bin/index.cgi>. Enter 2645 as the bill number.

I gave testimony for the House Committee on Utilities on Tuesday, January 22, and it seemed to go quite well. They asked some excellent questions and seemed very supportive. A copy of that testimony is on the KAN-ED Web site at <http://www.kan-ed.org>.

I testified for the Senate Commerce Committee on Friday, January 25. It will be a repeat of my testimony given earlier to the House Committee. The Electronic Commerce Committee has also expressed interest in having a presentation.

Also available at the KAN-ED Web site is the report of the User Advisory Council, which has been endorsed by the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas Board of Education.

A multimedia CD-ROM presentation about KAN-ED will be available for free distribution the first week of February at the Board of Regents Office, 1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 520. The presentation was created by the media folks at Kansas State University under the direction of Mel Chastain, a member of the KAN-ED User Advisory Council.

Humanities Council prepares for black history month

—by Julie Mulvihill

Kansas Humanities Council

In anticipation of Black History Month, the Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) announces a variety of resources available to organizations planning February celebrations.

Two History Alive! characters offer unique insights into African-American history. Zora Neale Hurston, an outspoken writer who joined Langston Hughes in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s, is portrayed by Carmaletha M. Williams, associate professor of English at Johnson County Community College. Omofolabo Ajayi, associate professor of theater, film and women's studies at the University of Kansas, portrays another History Alive! character, Phillis Wheatley. Wheatley, a poet, began her life in America as a young slave. Through Ajayi's interpretation, Wheatley's courage, daring, and deep religious faith come to life.

Several Speakers Bureau talks are also available. Aleen Ratzlaff, professor at Tabor College, presents two topics. *Forging Ties: Black Newspapers and African-American Communities in Kansas* examines how Black newspapers in Kansas were at the forefront of a westward-expanding press in the late 19th century. *Heroes in Caricature: Editorial Cartoons in the Black Press* explores how Black artists created mythical and real-life heroes to help provide a positive image during a period of pervasive discrimination. University of Kansas Professor J. Edgar Tidwell explores Kansas authors Langston Hughes, Gordon Parks, and Frank Marshall Davis and their relationship to a state full of uncertainty and contradictions for African-Americans in *Against the Odds: Writers Growing Up Black in Kansas*.

The Kansas Humanities Council is a not-for-profit organization that promotes discussions about history, traditions, and ideas. KHC sponsors community-based programs for adults statewide.

To find out more about booking a speaker or a History Alive! character, contact Deborah Pomeroy toll-free at 800/562-8057, e-mail dkpom@aol.com or online at www.ku.edu/kansas/khc.

Gates announcement

—by Jeff Hixon

Director, Library Information Technology

On Friday, January 11, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation mailed 355 application packets to Kansas public libraries, inviting them to participate in the Foundation's U.S. Library Program, State Partnership Grants.

269 libraries are eligible to apply for funds to purchase public access computers, software, printers, and in some cases to install upgraded Internet connections. The initial offer from the Foundation would add well over 400 new public access computers to Kansas public libraries.

86 libraries, whose communities exceeded the Foundation's low-income guidelines for eligibility, have been offered the opportunity to purchase computers at the Foundation's price. Software, training, and some technical support would be donated. Libraries offered these *purchase option* grants might, if they choose, appeal their eligibility and present a case for receiving the cash grant.

The application was to have been completed and returned *postmarked no later than January 29, 2002*, to the Foundation. Regional library systems are well informed about the program and offering assistance in a variety of ways to member libraries.

Grants to Kansas Include Six Training Labs

In addition to the offering of public access computers to eligible public libraries, the Foundation also asked the State Library to identify six eligible public libraries to receive an invitation to apply for a 10-workstation computer-training lab. In addition to a commitment to establish and sustain these labs, the libraries will agree to use, or allow use of, these labs for:

staff training

- patron-focused classes
- additional patron internet access (*when not in use for training*)
- cooperative training projects with area libraries and the state library

Kansas public libraries that met the specifications and that have been invited to apply for a training lab are:

Dodge City Public Library
 Finney County Public Library, Garden City
 Great Bend Public Library
 Hutchinson Public Library
 Kansas City, KS Public Library
 Pittsburg Public Library

Wichita Public Library (WPL), recipient of a training lab through the Foundation's earlier Accelerated Grants program, has graciously invited these libraries to meet with WPL and State Library representatives on February 15 for a tour of the lab, and a chance to hear about the experience of setting up and operating it.

Announcement of grant awards will be mailed on March 29, 2002. Installation of granted equipment will take place August 2002 - January 2003 (approximately).

If you have questions about the grants program, contact Jeff Hixon (jeffh@ink.org) or your regional library system.

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*.

Humanities Council plans for women's history month

—by Julie Mulvihill

Kansas Humanities Council

In anticipation of celebrations held across the state in March to commemorate Women's History Month, the Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) announces a variety of speakers available to organizations.

Sandra Calvin Hastings, professor of English at Johnson County Community College, brings American poet Emily Dickinson to life in a first-person characterization. Through Hastings's portrayal, the talented and shy Dickinson reveals her inner world in a series of intimate confidences to the audience.

Several Speakers Bureau talks also provide interesting insight into women's roles throughout history. According to Julie Mulvihill, Director of Programs for the Humanities Council, "The Speakers Bureau is a wonderful way to introduce new and fascinating topics into a community."

Patricia A. Michaelis, Kansas State Historical Society's Library and Archives division director, discusses women's clubs in Kansas. *From Serving to Suffrage: Women's Clubs in Kansas* examines how literary clubs, sewing societies, good government clubs, and temperance unions affected the women members and their communities. The experience of Great Plains women during the Depression years is the topic Sara Jane Richter, English professor at Oklahoma Panhandle University, explores. Find out how women of the Plains kept their families together when even the simplest tasks were difficult with *Down & Dirty, But Not Out: Great Plains Women During the Depression Years*. Cheryl L. Golden, assistant professor at Newman University, presents two topics. *Cleopatra's Charm* is an exploration of the life and times of the great Queen of Egypt while *Murder Most Fair* looks at the relationship between women and poison. Bethany College literature professor Linda M. Lewis explores the "woman question" in *Hyenas in Petticoats*. Mary Wollstonecraft, the first writer to raise this "woman question" was derisively labeled a hyena in *petticoats*. Discover the story of her successors who braved ridicule to continue to argue for women's rights.

The Kansas Humanities Council is a not-for-profit organization that promotes discussions about history, tradi-

tions, and ideas. KHC sponsors community-based programs for adults statewide.

To find out more about booking a speaker or a History Alive! character, contact Deborah Pomeroy toll-free at 800/562-8057, e-mail dkpom@aol.com or online at www.ku.edu/kansas/khc.

New rare book and map dealer in Topeka

—by Duane Johnson

State Librarian

Lloyd Zimmer, Books and Maps, has opened a book shop at 117 SW 6th Street, Topeka 66603; 785/354-8899; ksbiblio@kscable.com; www.abebooks.com/home/KSBIBLIO/. The shop offers out-of-print, collectible, and rare books and maps, and specializes in Kansas and regional history, Americana, psychology/psychoanalysis, and quality scholarly books of all genre.

Additional services available to libraries are appraisals, collection development, and OP searches.

This is an unpaid announcement. Is there a specialist book shop in your area of Kansas? Please let *Kansas Libraries* know.

Library position

Kansas State Historical Society seeks Reference Archivist (Archivist I). Position provides assistance to researchers by explaining card catalogs and other finding aids; discussing library, manuscript, map, photograph, and State's archives holdings in a centralized reading room setting.

Requires BA in history, American Studies or a related field. Prefer MS in library/information science or archival administration. Demonstrated knowledge of research tools and methodology relating to history or genealogy and knowledge of archival principles and best practices. Application review begins March 3, 2002.

Position open until filled. For application information contact the Human Resources Office, KSHS, 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas, 66615; 785/272-8681, ext. 222.EOE.

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird
Library Consultant

Tales From Comanche County: The Peculiar Education of Max Freeman, by Max Yoho. Order from: Dancing Goat Press, 3013 Quail Creek Drive, Topeka, KS 66614. Softcover, 5" x 8", 228pp., 2000. \$12.95.

Some new stars have been added to the literary luminaries of Kansas fiction, characters we might all have known in the past and who may live on into the future of storytelling. Uncle Jack and Aunt Tildy share their version of southwest Kansas in a folksy way that will appeal to many Kansas readers. Uncle Jack relates his version of Comanche County and Kansas history in a fractured yet appealing measure of cultural illiteracy; Aunt Tildy contributes a modicum of common sense mixed with a modest amount of cynicism. Together from their front porch, because they had no back porch although Uncle Jack always intended to build one, these two oldtimers imparted their take on history to their young nephew. Written from the point of view of Max as an old man, remembering his aunt and uncle many years later, this new book is a delightful romp through the faulty memories of people who were proud to be Kansans. Replete with rattlesnakes and cockleburs, according to Max the principal crops of his family, the Battle of the Wilderness, Oklahomans which Uncle Jack seems to consider one of the major problems of creation, all in a rich, earthy, sometimes even salty language, this story is sure to delight Kansas readers of adult fiction.

Only last year Max Yoho's first book, *The Revival*, was reviewed in this newsletter. This second novel demonstrates the author's versatility. Famous cowboy poet Baxter Black described the first novel as "my kind of lunacy," but this one is not nearly as zany. Nevertheless, it reflects an incredibly rich sense of humor, an appealing, down-to-earth writing style, and deep appreciation of Kansas. Like his earlier novel, this one is highly recommended for adult fiction and Kansas collections in libraries of all types.



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

Kansas libraries.... 30 years ago

—by Bill Sowers

Kansas Documents Library/Tech Support Librarian

Excerpts from the February 1972 issue of *Kansas Libraries Newsletter*.

- Dean C. Gross, State Librarian, has announced a reorganization of the State Library staff. The number of divisions in the State Library has been increased from four to six. The divisions and their heads are as follows: Library Development Division (formerly Extension Division), Freda Dobbins, director; Legislative Reference Division, Malcolm Wilson, director; Law Division, Roger Brooks, director; Library Services to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Ellen Zabel, director; Reference and Reader Services Division (formerly Reference Department), Fred Knecht, director; Administrative and Financial Division (formerly Business Office), Mary Tucker, director.
- “Interlibrary Loan KICKs off... again.” Federal funds are again being used to finance a statewide interlibrary loan

network. The funds, this time under Title III of LSCA, will be used to reimburse an expanded list of libraries for searching and filling interlibrary loan requests.

- Mrs. Janet Carpenter has been appointed head librarian of the Oswego Public Library, succeeding Mrs. Irene Potter who has been librarian for the past 15 years.
- James Rhodes has joined the staff of the Topeka Public Library as a consultant in Adult Services. Rhodes was formerly a librarian at the University of Illinois.
- The Salina Public Library has a new children’s librarian, Susan D. Schmidt, formerly with the Central Kansas Library System. Ms. Schmidt succeeds Mrs. Janice Evans, who has retired after 21 years of service to the library.
- Myrtle Haughn has retired as librarian of the Paola Free Library. Ms Haughn had been librarian since September 1968. Mrs. Virginia O’Dell is acting librarian.



434-10

Please route to

Librery Director

Kansas Libraries
 Kansas State Library
 300 SW 10th Street, Room 343
 Topeka, KS 66612-1593
 785/296-3296
 Toll Free 800/432-3919