

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

March 2000

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LSTA special population grants funded

—by Roy Bird, Consultant

In action by the State Library Advisory Commission and the LSTA Advisory Council in a joint meeting on Friday, February 11, 2000, a total of 29 of 52 applications for services to special populations were either fully or partially funded. A total of \$50,000 budgeted from federal funds under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) was distributed. Included in the funded applications were projects to serve children, disabled persons, foreign language speakers, older readers, institutionalized

persons and combinations of these special populations.

Contracts for the funded projects have been mailed to grant recipients. Although all the applications were worthy, those libraries submitting applications which were funded by the Commission and Council include:

Children

Frank Carlson Library, \$2,500
Derby Public Library, \$2,000
Emporia Public Library, \$1,646
Morrill Public Library, \$2,905
Northwest Kansas Library System, \$1,500
Topeka Public Schools, USD 501, \$2,250
Wakefield Public Library, \$3,506

Wichita Public Schools, \$1,560
Yates Center Public Library, \$2,000

Disabled

Bradford Memorial Library, \$1,096
USD 352, Goodland, \$1,190
Kansas City, KS Community College, \$2,440
Marysville Public Library, \$1,033
Silver Lake Library, \$400

Foreign Language

Southwest Kansas Library System, \$2,110
Stones Intermediate School, Garden City, \$3,865
Goodland Public Library, \$1,580
Central Kansas Library System, \$2,740
Leavenworth Public Library, \$2,740

Older Readers

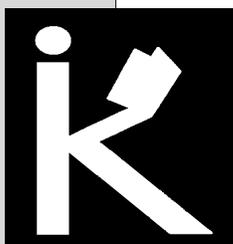
Independent Township Library, \$800
West Wyandotte Library, \$1,646
Jay Johnson Public Library, \$823
Thayer FRC City Library, \$700

Institutionalized

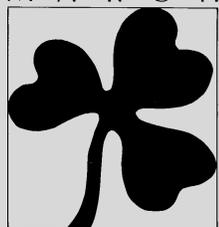
Hutchinson Correctional Facility Central, \$490
South Central Kansas Library System, \$4,659
Stockton Public Library, \$1,000

Combinations of Above

Clay Center Carnegie Library, \$1,646
Halstead Public Library, \$823
Hillsboro Public Library, \$546



M A R C H



New books available at the State Library

—by Marc Galbraith, Director of Reference Services

The following titles can be requested through Interlibrary Loan by contacting Tom Roth at 785/296-4326; 296-6650 fax; or E-mail to troth@ink.org.

Authorative Guide to Evaluating Information on the Internet, Alison Cooke, Neal-Schuman, 1999. 025.04 Coo

Bare Bones Young Adult Services: Tips for Public Library Generalists, American Library Asss., 2000. 025.04 Coo

Creating a Virtual Library, Frederick Stielow, ed., Neal-Schuman, 1999. 025.00285 Cre

Dance of Change: The Challenges to Sustaining Momentum in Learning Organizations: A Fifth Discipline Resource, Peter Senge, Currency Doubleday, 1999. 658.406 Dun

Danny Goodman's Java Script handbook, Danny Goodman, IDG Books, 1997. 005.113 Goo

Exploring the Internet Using Critical Thinking Skills: A Self-Paced Workbook Learning to Effectively Use the Internet and Evaluate Online Information, Debbie Jones, Neal-Schuman, 1998. 025.04

John Kotter on What Leaders Really Do, John Kotter, Harvard Business Review Books, 1999. 658.4092 Kot

Know Your Community: A Step-By-Step Guide to Community Needs and Resources Assessment, Bryan Samuels, Family Resource Coalition of America, 1999. 307.14 Bry

Patent Searching Made Easy, David Hitchcock, Nolo Press, 1999. 608.7 Hit 1999

Teach Yourself FrontPage 98 In 24 Hours, Andy Sharfran, Samsnet, 1998. 025.72 Sha

Newly revised preservation guide

Kansas City Area Archivists announces the publication of the new revised version of *Keeping Your Past: A Basic Guide to Preserving Your Family Papers and Photographs*

This guide was published to introduce people to the basic “dos and don’ts” of preservation of family documents. The 22-page illustrated booklet gives useful guidelines to preserving papers and photographs. Included is information on the types and causes of document damage, how this damage can be prevented and what can be done if documents have already been damaged. Also included is a list of books for further reading, and information on how to contact a preservation expert if you need more assistance than the booklet can provide.

Cost of the booklet is \$8.00 for members of KCAA and \$12.00 for nonmembers. To order a copy of this booklet, send your request along with a check or money order made out to KCAA to: Kansas City Area Archivists, Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499. Booklets can also be ordered by email by contacting: swiontekb@umkc.edu or burlingamem@umkc.edu

For further information, contact: Pamela Kontowicz, Publications Chair, Kansas City Area Archivists, Combined Arms Research Library, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027, phone: 913/758-3155, email:kontowip@leavenworth.army.mil.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



Catalyst

—by Eric Hansen
Executive Director
Kansas Library Network Board

The Network Board met on Thursday, February 10 at the Kansas History Center. As a result of that meeting, I will be investigating possible ways to increase the utility and visibility of the Kansas Library Card. The minutes of that meeting are available on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/KLNB0200.html>.

The Kansas Library Association hosted a successful Legislative Day on February 17 at the State House. Librarians from most parts of the state were on hand to meet with their legislators to discuss issues of concern. As the editor of this newsletter, I took digital pictures of the event (see photo below) and incorporated some of the better ones into a Web page snapshot album on Blue Skyways. To view the album, point your browser to http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/Leg_Day_021700/legislative_day_2000.html.



Jane Hatch greets Sen. Harry Stephens

I was very pleased to have presented a session to the annual conference of the Kansas Music Educators Association in Wichita on Friday, February 25. The session was an overview of the current state of Web-based Internet search engines and effective ways of using them. The session "handout" is Web-based and is available on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/presentations/KMEA/start.html>.

Several programs have been approved for the 2000 Tri-Conference in Wichita April 12-14, 2000 that are sponsored by the Network Board. These include:

"Can Electronic Books Improve Libraries?: Preparing Kansas Libraries for E-Books" (Martha Hale, Chris Rippel, Eric Hansen), "The Kansas Digital Library: Creating Online Literacy About Kansas" (Eric Hansen), "The Road Ahead: Kansas Libraries' Participation in Local Economic Development" (Robert Glass, Eric Hansen), "Kansas Communities on the Web — the Blue Skyways Project" (John and Susan Howell), and the Blue Skyways Internet Room. The entire Tri-Conference program is available on Blue Skyways in PDF format at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/tricon/2000/brochure.pdf>. The registration form is also on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/tricon/2000/regform.pdf>.

Also, the Network Board is having the keynote address and 2-3 selected sessions videotaped for ILL access to libraries in Kansas. The U. of Kansas Medical Center computing staff has very graciously agreed to transfer the keynote address to media streaming format for viewing after the fact using Realplayer.

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

Interlibrary Loan Development Program grant proposals are due by 31 March 2000. For complete information about the ILDP, go the Network Board pages in the State Library section on Blue Skyways.

Spinning the (New) Hits — DVDs at Lawrence Public Library

—by Bruce Flanders, Lawrence Public Library
Director

Mass media news reports have been replete with articles on the surprisingly rapid adoption of the DVD format. A quick perusal of the local Blockbusters, and online resources such as amazon.com and reel.com, underscore that DVD is quickly entering the mainstream. We have been watching this new format slowly, then much more rapidly, gain acceptance for over a year. Given the rapidly-expanding popularity of this new medium, we have decided to add DVDs to our circulating collections.

On February 2, the Lawrence Public Library inaugurated our newest circulating collection: DVDs. We started with an admittedly small collection of approximately 50 DVDs, a collection which will grow in the next several months to several hundred. The collection is currently housed on a single-unit face-out display rack and is located adjacent to our movie video and music CD collection. (On a related note, we have also recently moved all of our foreign and silent films from adult non-fiction to our movie video collection so they will gain greater exposure.) We have chosen to introduce the new DVD collection as a “soft opening” without any local media fanfare.

Our DVDs are categorized using the same scheme we have implemented for movie videos (comedy, drama, musicals, mystery/suspense, westerns, childrens, etc.) and are labeled as such. Since the collection is so small at present, we treat it as a browsing collection with all categories intermingled on the display rack.

We use the 3M security system, and have found that for single-sided DVDs the same tattle tape ring that is used on music CDs and CD-ROMs works fine, and doesn't harm the “play-ability” of the DVDs. We are waiting (impatiently) for new tattle tape strips to come out for double sided DVDs (we have 20 + double-sided DVDs in a holding pattern in Technical Services waiting for these to come on to the market (we hear it should be soon).

We are processing the DVDs in the cases they came in. We think that the clamshell style cases especially should hold up pretty well. Anticipating that some cases may wear out before the DVD disc, we have identified DVD storage cases that we can order from

library suppliers.

I am doing the DVD selection (at least for now - this is the only area in which I select materials, by the way - I tend to get involved initially in our “new ventures”). I have tried to select widely among all film genres, with an eye toward getting titles on the AFI list, Academy Award winners, the Library of Congress National Registry, and classic titles for kids. I also recognize that early adopters of new technologies tend to be “gear heads” who are into science fiction, shoot-em-ups, etc., so we will have lots of titles along the lines of “The Matrix.” As with our movie video collection, we will collect current popular Hollywood films, but will over time tend to emphasize older/foreign films that most video stores don't carry.

It will be interesting to track circulation over the next year to see how DVD circ will increase.



Gates grants to Wichita Public

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation through the Gates Library Initiative is providing two grants totaling \$ 98,000.00 to the Wichita Public Library. The grants are part of a new \$30 million dollar initiative launched by the Gates Foundation last September. These grant dollars are split into two primary functions: \$35,650.00 of the grant will provide funds for a computer training lab at the Central Library, 223 S. Main. The second grant is allocated for the purchase of 24 Pentium III computers to be dispersed throughout the library branches in Wichita.

The computer training lab, to be located at the Central Library on the first floor, will consist of ten Pentium III computer workstations, a 35-inch training monitor and a laser printer. The purpose of the training lab is to provide the resources for librarian and patron training in computer management and applications for patron access to computers and the Internet. "The Library will undergo a major renovation in order to provide the ambiance and space conducive to technological learning," said Richard Rademacher, Director of the Library. "Our goal is to create a lasting infrastructure for ongoing training opportunities for our patrons and staff alike," Rademacher added. All Pentiums will come with a full complement of software selected by the Gates Foundation. The Library has established a goal of June 30, 2000 for equipment to be up and running.

The allocation of 24 Pentium III computers will be delivered in sets of four to library branches in greatest need of technological upgrades. These libraries are:

Aley, 1749 S. Martinson
Angelou Northeast, 3051 E. 21st
Central, 223 S. Main
Linwood, 1901 S. Kansas
Minisa, 725 W. 13th
Planeview, 2820 S. Roosevelt

"The Gates Library Initiative grant will offer more computer stations for data researching and training to our library. Keeping our facility up-to-date with computer equipment and computer software carries a high price tag and we're incredibly thankful for the generous grants and donations that help make it happen," noted Rademacher. "We live in a world pushing forward, where digital information from around the globe may be accessed through the touch of a button. The library

has always been and will remain committed to providing a full gamut of operational tools needed in gathering information. Most importantly, these resources are available to the public at no charge, eliminating the so-called digital divide," he stated.

The Fred C. & Mary R. Koch Foundation will enhance the Gates Foundation grant by funding a computer network training academy. The academy, which will be formed through a partnership of CISCO Systems, Inc. and Communities In Schools, will utilize the new library computer lab to train students from poverty backgrounds to become certified computer network technicians.

The academy will offer an online curriculum containing 280 hours of instruction over four semesters. Upon successful completion of the training and passing of a certification exam, graduates of the academy will earn a designation of a Cisco Certified Networking Associate (CCNA). Individuals with such a designation are in high demand and have the potential for outstanding earnings potential. Students for the academy will be recruited from Communities In Schools and USD 259.

"The Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation is very pleased to have the opportunity to enhance the value of the Gates Foundation grant," said Roger Ramseyer, Assistant Vice President of the Koch Foundation. "The academy will take advantage of the fabulous technology furnished by the Gates Foundation, and provide training for individuals that will help ensure the attainment of a well-paying job. Consistent with the goals of the Koch Foundation, this program will help individuals with initiative work their way out of poverty."

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*.

KSHS announces internship

The Library and Archives Division of the Kansas State Historical Society is pleased to offer the Lela Barnes Archival Internship for graduate students enrolled in Kansas colleges and universities and Kansas residents attending any graduate school. This internship is designed to provide summer or fall work experience for a graduate student interested in pursuing an archival career. The intern will be introduced to one or more of a wide range of activities in the society's manuscripts collection including arrangement and description, reference, and preservation. A \$2000 stipend accompanies the eight-week internship which may be started as early as June. Funds for this internship are provided by a bequest from the late Lela Barnes, curator of manuscripts at the Kansas State Historical Society from 1936 until 1962.

Requirements: Successful completion by June of the year of application of at least twelve graduate semester hours or equivalent in American history, American studies, archival, library or information management; or museum studies applied toward an advanced degree in American history, American studies, archival administration, or related fields; at least eight undergraduate semester hours or equivalent in American history; and demonstrated interest in the archival profession.

Applicants should submit a letter describing their interest in the archival profession, a resume, transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work, and two letters of recommendation to: Bob Knecht, Library and Archives Division, Center for Historical Research, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66615-1099. Applications must be received by March 15, 2000. Award of the internship will be announced no later than April 15, 2000. Questions may be addressed to Bob Knecht at the address above or 785/272-8681, ext. 304, fax 785/272-8682, TDD 785/272-8683, E-mail:bknecht@kshs.org.

The Kansas State Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.

Library positions

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Clay Center Carnegie Library seeks director to supervise 40,000 item collection, staff of 6. Requires enthusiasm, library experience, PR skills. Professional education and knowledge of library applications of technology desirable. 30 hours weekly, beginning May 1. Send cover letter, resume, and references to Mary Ann Fowles, 711 Washington, Clay Center, KS 67432. Application deadline March 10.

SCHOOL CATALOGING LIBRARIAN

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library

Provide original and copy cataloging of new school library materials and the ongoing retrospective conversion project. Complete authority work, quality control and database maintenance for school library records.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS degree. Experience with MARC formats, AACR2 (2nd rev.), Dewey decimal classifications and Library of Congress Subject Headings preferred. Knowledge of the INLEX system beneficial. Salary range: \$24,966.00-\$39,635.00.

Expected hiring range: \$24,966.00-\$30,957.00. Attractive benefits program. Interested persons should send cover letter, resume and 3 professional references to Tammie Sharp, Personnel Coordinator, Kansas City, Kansas Public Library, 625 Minnesota Avenue, KCK 66101. Inquires accepted until position is filled. EOE. www.kckpl.lib.ks.us.

SCHOOL MEDIA SPECIALIST

Hillsboro U.S.D. 410 is seeking a media specialist for the 2000-01 school year. Media Center serves students in grades 6-8. Kansas teaching certification required.

Interested parties should contact: Joyce Medley, Hillsboro U.S.D. 410, 812 East A, Hillsboro, KS, 67063, 316-947-3184.

Kansas books

—by Paul Hawkins, guest reviewer

New and Selected Poems: 1980–1999 by Denise Low. Penthe Press, P.O. Box 994, Lawrence, KS 66044, 125 pages, \$12.50, ISBN 0-9632457-2-2.

At the national level, poets can count on support from the American Academy of Poets and the American Library Association to help promote their works. Promotions such as “National Poetry Month” each April and “Poets in Person” help increase readership, but regionally the publication of a poetry book may be overlooked. Nevertheless, Lawrence poet and teacher Denise Low’s “New and Selected Works” is worthy of note.

Low’s poems speak to Kansans. “My first audience is people who are attached to the landscape of the prairies and river valleys of this part of the country,” says Low, who graduated with a Masters of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from Wichita State University in 1984. “Living through the cycles of wind and snow and sunsets and flowering all together create an immeasurable impression on my life pattern, like a magnetic field. I hope to find those land-centered people with this writing.”

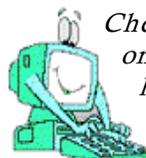
Penthe, a small press in Lawrence, has published 600 copies of *New and Selected Poems* with the help a grant from the Lawrence Arts Council. Limited publication and readership of her works do not discourage Low from writing. “I do have a small following nationally. And I realize this is a very small group of people—those who read poetry and then those who read ‘my’ poetry. But I am heartened by the fact that when my sons have gone to college out of state—Berkeley and Yale—they have found my books in their college libraries.”

The models Low chooses for her poems include some traditional forms from Native oral literatures plus contemporary forms by writers like Leslie Marmon Silko and N. Scott Momoday. She says she also loves Shakespeare and Chaucer.

In her poem “How To Read Petroglyphs,” Low traces the artistic urge across cultures. “Imagine never seeing / a book, a North-side up map, / billboards or street signs. / Blue air and blood-red stone / fit together like a scale / leading back to the first voice / and the first hand on rock.”

Low has taught literature and creative writing at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence since 1985. Originally from Emporia, she is a fifth generation Kansan. “Teaching with a wide variety of Native peoples—Haskell Indian Nations University has students from over 100 tribes—has been remarkable. I am not a Native person myself and I see myself as an American writer. Mine is a unique situation with literary antecedents from several cultures and I am trying to explore what the possibilities are for a person in this historic framework. I hope to add an intangible, transcendent dimension to my writing that I recognize in some of my favorite authors, like William Stafford, also from Kansas,” said Low.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle called poetry the universal language. In an experience that might be considered universal, Low writes in her poem “Flint Hills Elegy”: “Sunrise again. / Lightened clouds / and a few geese appear / mixed among stars and fog.” While Denise Low’s *New and Selected Poems* makes no pretense at becoming world literature, it does speak to Kansans.



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

Kansas libraries.... ten years ago

—by Bill Sowers

Kansas Documents Librarian/Tech Services Librarian

Gleanings from KANSAS LIBRARIES,
February, 1990

- Over 90 libraries are now on the KICNET interlibrary loan telecommunications system. The goal is to have 110 libraries online by mid-1990.
- On January 20, 1990, the Steering Committee for the Kansas Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services met to develop plans for the conference scheduled in November.
- The Hays Public Library's catalog went online in January. Library patrons at the public library, Fort Hays State University and the Hays Public Schools can

now view library holdings at different libraries within the city online. Reciprocal borrowing arrangements also allow library users to check out materials from the Hays-area library that has what they need.

- The Kansas City, Kansas Public Library is establishing an annual Edgar Wolfe Literary Award. The first award was given in January to Robert Day, author of *The Last Cattle Drive*.



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Please route to

Library Director

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