

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

May 2002

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LSTA Special Population grants

—by Roy Bird

Library Consultant

In action by the State Library Advisory Commission and the LSTA Advisory Council in a joint meeting on Friday, April 26, 2002, a total of 23 of 35 applications for library services to underserved special populations were either fully or partially funded. A total of \$47,000 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, non-native English users, aging, institutionalized, a literacy project and combinations of these underserved special populations.

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

Children

Hillcrest Library, Cuba, \$1,400
USD #457, Garden City, \$3,590
Goodland Public Library, \$900
Dorothy Bramlage Public
Library, Junction City, \$2,500

Disabled

Hillsboro Public Library, \$975
Wakefield Public Library, \$1,000

Non-Native English users

Arkansas City Public Library, \$1,800
Manhattan Public Library, \$1,850

Aging

Emporia Public Library, \$2,700
Lawrence Public Library, \$2,000
Liberal Memorial Library, \$750
Luray City Library, \$467

Institutionalized

Topeka Juvenile Correctional Facility, \$2,000
Beloit Juvenile Correctional Facility, \$2,500
South Central Kansas Library System, \$5,300
Leavenworth Public Library, \$1,500

Literacy

Graham Library, Coffeyville Community College, \$3,000

Combinations of Above

Finney County Public Library, Garden City, \$2,500
Central Kansas Library System, \$3,000
Nortonville Public Library, \$1,000
Pittsburg Public Library, \$3,000
USD 501, Topeka, \$5,000

Letters of intent solicited for LSTA technology grants

—by Roy Bird
Library Consultant

Letters of intent to apply for FY 2003 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) technology grants are now being accepted. The deadline for letters of intent is Thursday, August 1, 2002. Letters of intent should be written on local library, agency or institutional letterhead.

Letters of intent should state that the library governing body intends to apply for federal funds in grant form from the FY 2003 LSTA allotment for technology development.

Libraries of any type wishing to apply for grants to provide technology development or technology training need to submit a letter of intent to Roy Bird, Federal Projects Coordinator, Kansas State Library, 300 SW 10th, Room 343N, Topeka, KS 66612-1593. They can also be faxed to 785/368-7291 or e-mailed to royb@kslib.info.

The letter of intent is the first step in the application process for a grant from the 2003 allotment to Kansas for technology development and training.

Libraries that submit a letter of intent will then receive a copy of the application and LSTA Technology Grant program guidelines. This information is also on Blue Skyways at http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/admin/ksl_admin.html.

If your library is interested in federal funds to support a technology grant during FY 2003, submit your letter of intent by August 1. Grant awards will be determined at the October 25 joint meeting of the State Library Advisory Commission and the LSTA Advisory Council.

FirstSearch and Infotrac update

—by Marc Galbraith
Research & Information Services

Negotiations with vendors regarding the state-wide contract for both the FirstSearch databases and for the Infotrac databases are still under way. The multi-year contracts for both of these database packages comes to an end this year. Consequently, the State Library, the Reference Networking Committee, and the Regents Library Database Committee are working diligently to bring discussions with vendors to a close sometime very soon and will announce any agreement ASAP via Kansas library e-mail discussion lists.

While the addition of new databases does not look likely for next year, it is hoped that the existing packages of databases can be maintained.

The Sirs Discoverer Deluxe database is not up for renewal this year.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.





NOTES

—by *Eric Hansen*
Executive Director



The Western Trails Introduction to Metadata and Scanning workshops held at the Salina Public Library on April 15 and 16, respectively, were attended by more than 30 each day (see photo below).

From evaluations received, the vast majority of those in attendance came away from the experience with increased knowledge of the purposes and processes of metadata creation and scanning.



Participants mull metada in Salina

Users of the Kansas Library Card have access to high quality reviewed online information resources, including the BCR shared collection of netLibrary ebooks of more than 4400 titles, and the Kansas Virtual Collection of netLibrary ebooks of 531 titles hand-picked by Kansas library selectors. While the BCR shared collection title list has been available online at <http://www.bcr.org/~ids/>

Reference/Netlibrary/NL-SC-Titlelist.html for some time, the Kansas Virtual Collection title list can now be accessed online too, at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/kansascollection.html>.

The Kansas Library Network Board will have its spring meeting on May 16 at the Leonard H. Axe Library 2nd floor meeting room, Pittsburg State University, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Agenda items before the board include an update on the strategic planning process from consultant Herb Callison of the Kansas Non Profit Association, committee recommendations for digitization and ILDP grants, and the FY 2003 budget. The complete agenda is available on Blue Skyways at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/meetings.html>.

I was pleased to have made three presentations at Tri-Conference last month, related to the Kansas Library Card and netLibrary ebooks with Charlene McGuire of SWKLS, the KLNB digitization grant, and the KLNB ILDP grants. The Network Board also hosted its Internet booth again this year as a service to all attendees in need of Internet access. And again this year I am grateful to John and Susan Howell of Kansas on the Net for the fine job they did in managing the booth, and to Jeff Underwood of KansasWeb for lending his computer networking expertise to the event. And finally, a big thank-you to all those from systems, libraries and schools throughout the state who volunteered their time and talent to help staff the booth.

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

Kansas Library Directory (KLD) now online

—by Jeff Hixon
Director, Library Information Technology

On Tuesday, April 2, 2002, (just one day after April Fool's day), the Kansas Library Directory (KLD) was unveiled as a part of the State Library's Blue Skyways web service. Nearly five years in the making, the directory contains or welcomes entries for Kansas libraries in several categories: Community College, Corporate, Corrections, Health Care, K-12, Law, Private College, Public, Regents' Institutions, Regional Systems, and Special/Other.

KLD is an online database of directory information about Kansas libraries, including traditional address and contact information plus: URL, Hours Open, County, Library Region, School District, and Telnet address, and a link to individual listings for library staff. Initial staff listings are limited to a record for each library director. Directors have the ability to create records for local staff, and the option of giving staff update control over their own records.



Jeff Hixon (r.) demonstrates the KLD to Lois Teegardin (Dodge City Public Library) at Tri-Conference

The database currently contains over 900 libraries—primarily public, academic, and K-12. If your library is not listed, just send an e-mail message to Ben Lobengilo at blobengilo@nekl.org. Include the following information:

Library Name
Street Address
City
Zip Code
Library Type
(from the list in the KLD)
Phone Number
Director's/Librarian's name

Ben will create a basic entry for your library, and a record for the library director, with the ability to create and assign permissions for local staff records.

If your library is already listed, library directors should call one of the persons listed below for the username/password assigned to your library and staff record:

Donna Copeland, Jeff Hixon, or Rhonda Machlan
800/432-3919

Ben Lobengilo
888/296-6963

The records in the KLD were created to establish the database, and allow assigning of local passwords. Data in these records may be out of date. If you are relying on information from the KLD, be sure to check the **LIBRARY RECORD LAST UPDATED** information on the library's main entry.

The Directory relies on libraries listed to update records in the database. Be sure to check the **ASSIGN CONTACTS** link for your library as well as the main entry.

The system allows records to be "morphed"—the listing for a library director no longer serving can be edited and saved as a record for the new director when appropriate. All editing permissions transfer from the original record.

One person can also be attached to more than one library, since a **PERSON** record contains only name and password, and **PERSON-TO-LIBRARY** contains title, phone & e-mail address, etc. **PERSON** records can have more than one **PERSON-TO-LIBRARY** record associated.

The Kansas Library Directory will replace the EMAD, long maintained by the Kansas Library Association. According to the KLA website <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/directory>, the EMAD "will no longer be updated as of Midnight, April 11, 2002. It will remain on [the KLA] web site until December 31, 2002."

The Kansas Library Directory as it exists today represents many hours of work by competent, professional people, who must have been laboring out

of love, as more concrete rewards were scarcely in evidence. In a commercial or for-profit environment, it might not be considered "ready for prime time" without further testing. The reality is that in libraries we do a lot of our testing in the real world, and the KLD has reached the point at which only real world use of the system will help us effectively identify what still needs to be done. We ask for your help, your patience, and your feedback!

Kansas Children's Forum hosted Summer Reading Cooperative in Kansas City April 22-23

—by Shannon Roy
Director, Local Library Development

Representatives from 16 states, six Kansas regional systems and four Kansas urban systems met in Kansas City at the Hyatt-Crown Center for the annual meeting of the Multi-State Summer Reading Cooperative.

The Summer Reading Cooperative is a growing organization that works with vendors from Highsmith/Upstart to bring high-quality summer reading materials to libraries at a very reasonable price.

Participating states include Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, North Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin. The Chair is Jim Oliver from South Dakota and the Executive Coordinator is Karen Day from Iowa. Both have put a tremendous amount of work into the organization.

The participants reviewed the successes and problems with the theme for 2002, which is called *Join the Winner's Circle: Read*. They greatly enjoyed the planning for the 2003 theme, which is called "Laugh it Up at Your Library." This planning made it necessary to evaluate many gag gift incentives offered by Upstart. They began the planning for the theme for 2004, which will be "Discover New Trails at the Library." Some states are planning to tie this to the Centennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The members tentatively planned a Medieval theme for 2005 that would involve knights, castles and dragons.

One of the major agenda items at the 2002 Conference was the increasing need for artwork and manuals that would be directed at teens who are between 12 and 16. Several Young Adult coordinators had attended the conference to join the discussion of what appeals to the quirky humor of this age group. These YA specialists included Christi Haines from Johnson County and Kim Patton from Lawrence.

In their scanty free time, the conference participants feasted at the Peppercorn Duck Club, explored Crown Center and shopped and dined in Westport. They also bought children's books at the famous Reading Reptile Bookstore in Westport. The Westport expedition was hosted by staff from the Johnson County Library and was a great success.

The visitors appeared to enjoy Kansas City in April. Several of them couldn't resist pointing out that they didn't seem to be in Kansas, but they thanked their Kansas hosts very nicely.

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*.

Upcoming book sales

Johnson County Library and Friends of the Johnson County Library will hold their annual Sizzlin' Summer Book Sale at the Mission Mall, (Shawnee Mission Parkway and Roe Blvd.) June 6-7, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. and June 8, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. As always, this is one of the region's largest sales and a major fundraiser for the Friends and the Library.

To avoid the costs of moving a large amount of weeded reference materials to the annual sale, there will be a clearance sale of business reference and education materials during April and May at the Friends Book Store located at the Antioch Library, 8700 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam. Sets and larger volumes will be 50% off regular price, with many, many books going for \$1.00 each. For more information about the clearance sale, call the book store office 913/261-2330.

A Children's Book Sale will be held at the Blue Valley Library, 9100 W. 151st St., during National Library Week. This sale will run April 19, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about the annual sale or the children's sale, contact:

Marsha Bennett
Community Relations Coordinator
Johnson County Library
P.O. Box 2933
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-1333
e-mail: bennett@jcl.lib.ks.us
Phone: 913/261-2319
Fax: 913/261-2325

Library event

One of the events used by the Emporia Middle School Library to promote National Library Week came on Tuesday, April 16th. Since the theme was (again!) "@ at library," the staff took a good look at the @ sign and decided it resembled a donut. They declared Tuesday "DONUT Make You Happy to Visit Your Library Day" and handed out donuts to students who came to connect @ the library. There were four flavors of donuts (which were baked on a donut maker in the library office) and these were topped with frosting (four different kinds) or rolled in sugar (two kinds) and then decorated with everything from sprinkles to nuts. Over 330 donuts were made and given to people who visited the library between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. that day.

Friends of the Library honored library founders

—by Marsha Bennett
Johnson County Library

The Friends of the Johnson County Library hosted a Johnson County Library 50th Anniversary reception at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 14, at the Johnson County Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87th Street, Overland Park, KS to honor the library's founders. Joel Nichols, KMBC TV9 weather reporter and library supporter, was the guest speaker.

It was 50 years ago that a committee of 35 prairie school mothers bonded together to advocate for a library in Johnson County. At that time the closest libraries were a branch at Southwest High School on the Missouri side of the state line and a small city library in Olathe.

Under the leadership of Kay Robeson, the group focused its efforts on establishing a county library. The Johnson County Citizens Library Committee circulated petitions and received the signatures of 5,102 supporters, which enabled the library issue to be put on the 1952 ballot. The issue passed four to one. Funding for the Johnson County Library, however, was not provided for another three years, so the group changed its focus and lobbied the county commissioners for funding. In the interim, the volunteers operated volunteer libraries until funding was provided and a librarian was hired in 1955. With the library established, staff hired and financial resources finally allocated, the women then formed the Friends of the Johnson County Library in 1956, a support organization that is still going strong today with more than 700 members.

Today the Johnson County Library has 13 library locations throughout Johnson County, employs more than 370 people and is ranked as one of the most efficient libraries in the nation. In 2001 more than 5 million items were checked out. The library's collection is 1.2 million items not including electronic databases, periodicals, or government documents. Over 70% of residents have Johnson County Library cards.



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

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird
Library consultant

The Great Whale of Kansas, by Richard W. Jennings (Kansas author who lives in Overland Park.). Order from: Houghton Mifflin. 2001. ISBN 0-618-10228-0, \$15.00.

Review by Jerri Garretson

This quirky story features improbable, offbeat humor. Jennings' distinctive storytelling voice pokes not-so-subtle fun at Kansas—our odd museums (World's Largest Ball of String, Largest Hand-Dug Well, etc.), landscape, and people. It won't help to dispel outsiders' notions about Kansas, but insiders should find the satire amusing.

It is difficult to tell where truth leaves off and fiction begins. There is real paleontology mixed with the impossible and real Kansas history mixed with inventiveness. Don't even try to sort it out. Just enjoy the fun.

Our unnamed 11-year-old narrator sets out to dig a pond in his back yard and discovers a huge fossil. As he insists on digging alone with nary a friend his own age in sight, he is aided in learning about his find by his science teacher, Miss Penny Whistle (on whom he has a big crush), and Tom White Cloud, a Kansa Indian.

The "Fossil Expert" from the State Museum of Natural History proclaims it a "common mosasaur." However, as the boy continues to dig, it appears that the mosasaur is encased inside a humongous whale. There were no whales when mosasaurs lived and the Fossil Expert first proclaims the fossil a fake, then later claims the land to create a fossil theme park.

The issue ends up in court, where Tom White Cloud invokes old treaties to claim the land. Thereupon, he holds a 4-day Indian ceremony to honor and rebury the whale, neatly resolving the question of how a fossil whale could be there by covering it back up.

Those who enjoyed Louis Sachar's "*Holes*" should find this an engrossing read. Recommended for public and school libraries, grades 4-8.

Kansas libraries.... 20 years ago

—by Bill Sowers

Kansas Documents Librarian/Tech Support Librarian

Excerpts from various Kansas library regional system newsletters in May/June 1982

- Sherry Crow, children’s librarian at Hays Public Library, was elected vice president/president elect of the Children’s Section of the Kansas Library Association this year. (*CKLS Kite*, May/June, 1982)
- Central Kansas Library System (CKLS) held a Trustee Day March 27, which was a great success. Attendees split in nine groups who toured divisions of the system center, spending 20 minutes in each division. Thirty-five trustees got a well-rounded look at system operations and then were treated to lunch of homemade stew and bread. (*CKLS Kite*, May/June, 1982)
- Following the 1982 Kansas Library Association Conference a meeting was held to consider formation of a

Friends of Kansas Libraries Group. There was unanimous agreement to move toward formation of a statewide group and an organizational meeting will be held May 19 in Topeka. (*CKLS Kite*, May/June, 1982)

- Many friends and patrons greeted Reva Joe Weninger, Kingman Public Library librarian, at a reception honoring her semi-retirement April 18th. A 3-volume set of reference books was given to the library in appreciation of Mrs. Weninger’s 22 years of service. (*SCKLS Sun*, May, 1982)
- Hesston Public Library will display brightly colored papier-mache book and animal colors in June, creations of the Hesston Middle School fifth and sixth grade art classes. (*SCKLS Sun*, May, 1982)
- John Richmond, librarian at the Winfield Public Library, has resigned to enter the Episcopal Church Seminary, Nashotah House, Nashotah, WI.



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