

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

July 2002

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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.

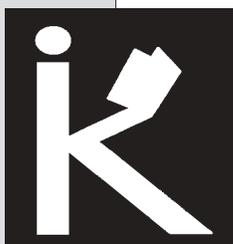
Libraries that submit a letter of intent will then receive a copy of the application and LSTA Technology

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.

KLA CE funds

Janet Anderson-Story announces that the Kansas Library Association (KLA) Continuing Education Committee has new funds for fiscal year 2003 now available to distribute for continuing education conferences and workshops. KLA members are eligible to request funds. Guidelines and application forms are available on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/divisions/coned/index.html>. Requests for continuing education funds must be made prior to the event applied for. Application forms are to be sent to the KLA Executive Secretary at the Hutchinson Public Library, 901 N. Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501, Attn: CE Committee. Questions about KLA Continuing Education grants can be directed to Janet Anderson-Story at andystory@yahoo.com.



SLIM centennial celebration

The School of Library & Information Management at Emporia State University will celebrate its 100th birthday this year. The event, called "Celebrating a Century of Service, Framing a Future of Excellence" will take place on Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9. A SLIM alumni reunion will take place at the Ramada Inn Ballroom, 2700 W. 18th, Emporia, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on the 8th. On Saturday, November 9, workshops and campus tours will occur in the morning and afternoon, and Diantha Schull from Libraries for the Future will be the luncheon guest speaker. On the same day the evening banquet speaker will be Dr. Samuel Betances, noted authority on matters of multi-culturalism and diversity. A \$25 registration fee includes the cost of the luncheon and banquet. After October 1, 2002 the cost to register will be \$30. To register for the celebration, call 800/552-4770.

Dr. Mel Cunningham retires

—by John Russell

Billington Library

Johnson County Community College

Long-time Johnson County Community College Library Director and more recently Dean of Computer Instruction and Media Resources, Dr. Mel Cunningham, officially began retirement on July 1st. Since the College's inception in the 1970s, Mel has guided the library's growth and development as well as that of our TV and Audio-visual departments and has been involved with a multitude of college committee assignments over the years.

Succeeding Mel is Mark Dagaanaar. A native of the Midwest and a graduate of the library school at the University of Missouri, Mark comes to JCCC from Nicholls State University, Louisiana, where he was Library Director for several years, and officially begins his new role on July 8th. One of our intentions is to involve Mark in CULS and KLA and to meet community college peers across the state.

Literacy toolkit

—by Vikki Jo Stewart

Literacy Program Director

I am delighted to announce the release of the International Literacy Day Celebration Tool Kit, which is available in both PDF and Word format at <http://www.nationalliteracysummit.org>. Carrying out International Literacy Day activities is one important way to support the development of the nation's adult education and language system. You are encouraged to use the suggestions, models and materials in the tool kit to engage your community and raise awareness of your program and the issues of adult literacy and language learning.

The tool kit was produced by the National Literacy Summit Initiative, a special project of the National Coalition for Literacy. The Initiative's goal is to achieve a system of high quality adult literacy, language and life-long learning services that helps adults in every community make measurable gains toward achieving their goals as family members, workers, citizens and lifelong learners by the year 2010.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.





NOTES

—by Eric Hansen
Executive Director

Presentations

I was very pleased to make two presentations about the Kansas Library Card in June. The Kansas Society of Certified Public Managers luncheon on June 18 was held at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. The presentation “The Kansas Library Card: Information to Kansas Residents When and Where They Need It” emphasized the value of the card as a means of remote access to quality reviewed electronic information databases and the steps taken to gain approval and support for the idea from the Network Board. A Powerpoint version of the presentation will be available for a time on the State Library's Staff Presentation page on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/presentations/index.html>.

“The Kansas Library Card and netLibrary Ebooks” was the topic of a presentation to the Summer Institute for School Librarians on June 20 at the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Academy in Salina. This discussion focused on updates to the process of issuing and renewing cards and searching for cardholder accounts online by librarians and school media specialists. It also discussed the process of using the card to access netLibrary electronic books.

Gates Foundation

June 3 and 4 were the dates of a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation update and training session for Kansas held in Seattle that it was my pleasure to attend. See the photo in the column to the right for a look at others from our state who attended.



Kansas library personnel at the Gates Foundation headquarters, Seattle. Digital photo by Matthew Crosby. Used by permission.

PLA

At the American Library Association annual conference in Atlanta in June it was my pleasure to assume the chairmanship of the Public Library Association Rural Library Services Committee from the very capable hands of Rosanne Goble. The committee will sponsor a program called “How we survived: Coping strategies for rural libraries and state budget shortfalls” to be presented as a panel discussion at the PLA Annual Conference in Toronto in 2003.

Virtual Reference Task Force

The Kansas Library Network Board has authorized me to convene a Virtual Reference Task Force to draft a plan for statewide library cooperation for such a service to Kansas. Membership of the task force has been completed and the task force will meet twice in July, at the Salina Public Library on the 2nd and at the Manhattan Public Library on the 30th. Task force membership includes innovative, energetic representatives from different types of libraries throughout the state, and a look for good things to issue from its work.

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

Connecting: The Community Access Network

—by Sandy Jacquot

Director of Law/Legal Counsel
for the League of Kansas Municipalities

This article originally appeared in the April, 2002 issue of *Kansas Government Journal*, published monthly by the Kansas League of Municipalities. Reprinted by permission.

Imagine a website where you can find out whether your city has a domestic violence program or a parenting class, or even a Tuesday night water aerobics class. Before you attempt to link to a service, however, you are able to read about domestic violence, the importance of parenting skills or what aerobic exercise is best for you by accessing other web pages. This website would always be current, would be accessible by individuals with disabilities and even available with support for multiple languages. You would be able to access the website from your home computer, or at the public access computers in the local library. In essence, it would be a statewide community resource database.

That has been the dream of a dedicated group of individuals across Kansas for the past four years. The idea was spawned during meetings of the Governor's Committee on Children and Families. Some individuals have been a part of the project from the beginning and in some cases the faces have changed, but the goal has remained the same. The Community Access Network (CAN) is a collaborative initiative comprised of representatives from various state organizations and community partners. Some agencies and organizations represented on the CAN Board of Directors include the Kansas State Library, Social and Rehabilitation Services, Kansas Children's Service League, Kansas Coalition Against Sexual And Domestic Violence, Kansas State Research and Extension Council, the Judiciary Family and Children Program, the State Department of Education, the Kansas Association of Counties and the League among many others.

The purpose of CAN is to develop an online resource to promote social issues, identify available services and to provide community statistics surrounding social issues and services. While some Internet websites attempt to link people with community resources and services, records tend to be incomplete, are often inaccurate and out-of-date and not particularly comprehensive. Often,

only not-for-profit providers are listed, excluding some valuable resources. CAN will include information on private corporations or agencies delivering services to Kansans. Those could include physicians, attorneys and mental health providers, among others.

Most websites merely provide the link to services and that is a crucial difference between existing online databases and the vision of CAN. An integral part of the CAN plan is to provide educational information through separate web pages and links to resources. The CAN Board believes it is important to provide consumers the opportunity to educate themselves about topics they are interested in before they seek resource information. For example, in the area of domestic violence against women, the educational web pages would provide information on the topics of physical abuse, rape, sexual abuse and the impact of domestic violence on children. This would help the user define searches and find the most appropriate resources in the fewest attempts possible.

In addition to the characteristics of the program already described, the network will analyze the data so that our citizens will have a better understanding of what services are available, where the services are, which areas are covered, and what populations are served. Thus, the database will not only be a resource for citizens in the communities, but for local, state and even federal government officials to look at the distribution of resources, the availability and need for the resources, and the overall usage of the resources.

Several other features of CAN set it apart from other online databases. The network will include information about grants available from state agencies and private foundations. It will invite neighborhood associations, interagency coalitions, interfaith groups and others to include information about themselves on the web. There are many times when someone is looking for a community-based advocate and this would be a good place for them to find a group advocating for their cause.

Of particular interest to city officials is the ability to create what might be called a "virtual community database." This would use search interfaces that would allow the user to limit the data by geographic location, such as city name, county, region and so forth. Another goal would be to create the database in a format that would allow public libraries to import records into their own catalogs or local directories. Such flexibility would make the network even more user-friendly for Kansans looking for local services.

Development of the Community Access Network should begin early this summer. The CAN Board signed a contract with the Southeast Kansas Education Center at Greenbush in March. The initial six-month phase will focus on purchasing equipment, constructing the database, building the core interface and reports, and collecting comprehensive information on several key Kansas communities. The next phase will focus on system enhancements including multi-lingual support, handicap accessibility, and additional equipment and Internet connection improvements. CAN will also begin recruiting data entry partners, including local libraries and other state and community organizations, which will update and maintain the information system. The second phase should take about six months to complete.

In the third phase of the project, administrative functionality will be added allowing records to be input and maintained through the Internet. Data entry partners will be trained and will have the ability to log into and add records to the network. Community Access Network staff will coordinate the data collection and the maintenance of the network.

Other states have attempted and some have successfully implemented a project this ambitious, but at great fiscal cost. Unlike CAN, these projects have largely depended on state funding. The CAN initiative has obtained funding and grants from a variety of sources including the Domestic Violence STOP Grant issued through the Kansas Attorney General's office, the Children's Trust Fund issued through the Kansas State Library, funding from the state Incentive Cooperative Agreement issued through the Kansas Department of Social And Rehabilitation Services (SRS) Office of Prevention, and countless in-kind hours provided by CAN partners. Additional funding sources are being pursued and the prospect of obtaining additional funds is excellent. If all goes as planned, the Community Access Network should be available as a unique resource to the public and to state and local policy makers in 12 to 18 months.



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*.

Gates Foundation update

Saraliene Smith, Logistics Coordinator of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, reports that an update is necessary with regards to Gates Computers Technical Support Agreement. Several libraries in Kansas received an out-dated copy of the agreement with their Ordering and Support Starter Kits. The outdated version states that the libraries receive an additional year of "limited" tech support after their first year of unlimited support. Unfortunately, this is not the case. The foundation will send a letter out with the new agreement to those few that received the wrong one. Every library from this point forward will receive the correct form.

The August training dates for Kansas libraries are available from the Kansas State Library in Microsoft Excel format. To receive a copy of the schedule, contact Jeff Hixon or Eric Hansen at 800/432-3919.

The August Kansas training schedule is available in HTML format on Blue Skyways at http://www.skyways.org/KSL/admin/KS_AUG02_Training_Dates.htm for your review. To print it, set your Web browser's Page Setup to legal size paper in landscape orientation.

Marion City Library is moving

The Marion City Library will celebrate its new home at the former Santa Fe Depot, 101 Library Street, with a dedication and open house on July 14, 2002, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The library was able to relocate from its former location at 208 Santa Fe Street after the depot building was renovated.



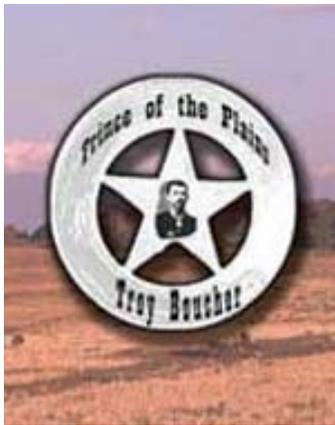
On Sunday June 9, the library commemorated the move with a book chain from 2:00-3:00 p.m. About 250 people formed a line between the old and new library buildings and passed books to one another.

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird
Library consultant

Prince of the Plains, by Troy Boucher. College Station, TX: Virtualbookworm.com Publishing, Inc., 2002. 270pp. Hardcover \$19.95; softcover, \$14.95. Order through Ingram for a 30% library discount, or order from Troy Boucher, 823 East 10th Avenue, Winfield, KS 67156 for autographed copies.

One of the most common things heard among public library acquisitions staff is the need for more Westerns. Here's a great one for all Kansas public libraries. Not only is it a fast-paced Western story, it is based on a famous true incident that occurred in Kansas. In 1884 the newly-wed marshal of Caldwell, his assistant and two Texas cowboys attempted to rob a bank in Medicine Lodge. The story of *Prince of the Plains*, by Southwestern College Professor Troy Boucher, is an historically accurate, though fictional, account of the life of Henry Newton Brown, that Caldwell marshal. Boucher has skillfully woven historical fact with great storytelling ability to create an exciting tale of what might have been. For years Kansas historians have puzzled over why a hard case like Brown, who once rode with Billy the Kid, would settle down and become respectable only to turn outlaw and die at the hands of a mob. This novel offers speculation about the motivation, in the author's own words, behind a man who wanted a better life and tried to make that life happen.



Troy Boucher grew up like many of us, steeped in the American media tradition of Western movies and television, Zane Grey novels, and Western comic books, wanting to be a cowboy when he grew up. Instead, he has entered the tradition of Western storytellers. *Prince of the Plains* went through traditional routes of publishing but has become an early piece of fiction through a print-on-demand publishing house. Considering the historical accuracy many Western

readers expect, the creative writing style that many Westerns lack, the strong Kansas connection, and the author's track record as a short story writer, there should be a tremendous demand!

Recommended for every public library adult fiction and Kansas collection. Academic libraries will also have an interest in Kansas collections or fiction and literature collections. And it's a must read for those of us who seek good fiction in this genre.



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

Kansas libraries.... 20 years ago

—by Bill Sowers

Kansas Documents Librarian/Tech Support Librarian

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

- South Central Kansas Library System will offer consulting assistance in genealogy starting this summer. Rebecca Sue Hatton will be in charge of the new service. (South Central Kansas Library System's *SCKLS Sun*, July 1982)
- Leroy M. Gattin, Jr., became director of the South Central Kansas Library System in June succeeding Duane Johnson, who has been appointed State Librarian. (*SCKLS Sun*, July 1982)
- The State Library is encouraging Kansas public libraries to become designated voter registration locations this year. Haysville Public Library was recently designated a

site by the Sedgwick County Commission. (*SCKLS Sun*, July, 1982)

- The Public Library of Bird City observed National Library Week using the theme, "Jog Your Mind, Run to Your Library." Colorful shoes of all sizes were hung from the ceiling and decorated the bulletin boards. (Northwest Kansas Library System's *NWKLS Exchange*, June 1982)
- The Goodland Public Library had the "Kansas--A State of Mind" exhibit on display in the spring. (*NWKLS Exchange*, June 1982)
- The Minneola Public Library averaged between 12 and 17 children during the school year storytime programs. The library recently had a quilt display that created a lot of community interest. (Southwest Kansas Library System's *SWKLS System Scene*, June 1982)
- Liberal Memorial Library added several new pieces of equipment to the library...among them a lighted book display, a map case and two cassette cabinet units. (June 1982)



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Please route to

• Librarian Director

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