

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

September 2000

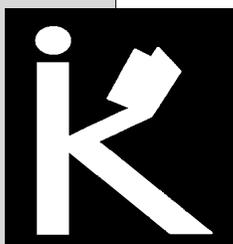
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## Library media mentorship program

—by Dean Robert Grover  
Emporia State University  
School of Library and Information Management

Many school districts in Kansas lack library-certified applicants for job openings in libraries of both elementary and secondary levels. As a response to the critical shortage of school library media specialists, the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University has launched a new program designed to facilitate certification for talented, people-oriented, energetic teachers willing to seek new challenges by entering the field of school librarianship.



The Library Media Mentorship Program provides direct, hands-on assistance with the basic tasks related to running the library, managing technology and providing information skills instruction in the form of three Saturday sessions at ESU:  
September 9  
October 28  
December 2

This course is followed by a 10-hour package that offers courses directly related to professional practice and necessary for School Library Media endorsement. After that, the Mentorship Program

is folded into the regular 30-hour school library media certification program offered at ESU. The entire 30 hours can be taken within three years—a time period within the limits permitted by the State Board of Education if the hiring district requests a waiver. If you know of someone who fits the above description or a district looking for help with hiring certified library media specialists, please contact:

Carol Fox  
ladyfox@southwind.net  
316/321-7216

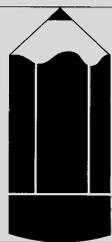
There is still time to enroll in the mentorship class "Introduction to School Librarianship."

## Sunflower journeys 2000

—by Roy Bird  
Library Consultant

Viewers' guides are now available for the 2000 season of the locally-produced public television series "Sunflower Journeys." Produced by KTWU/Channel 11 in Topeka, with financial assistance from the Kansas Humanities Council, these half-hour programs present a diverse array of stories about historic and contemporary Kansas. This popular series is available on video-cassette from various sources, including a number of public libraries, the Kansas Heritage Center, and the Kansas State Historical Society as well as from KTWU. For a free copy of the viewer's guide, contact KTWU at Washburn University, Topeka, KS 66621, 785/231-1111 or email the series producer, Dave Kendall (kendall@washburn.edu). For more information, consult the "Sunflower Journeys" website at <http://ktwu.washburn.edu/journeys>.

SEPTEMBER



## What's new at the conference?

—by *Vikki Jo Stewart*  
Literacy Program Director

*Multi Media, Financial Planning and Fatherhood!* The Literacy Volunteers of America's National Conference is approaching fast! This year it will be in Kansas City, MO, from October 5-7, with preconference sessions on October 3 and 4. There are many exceptional workshops again this year and we'd like to tell you about a few of them.

There's a great, innovative approach to teaching students presented in workshop #221, called *TV411: Using Multi-Media to Reach, Teach, and Inspire*. Lisa Gale, the Program Development Director for Adult Literacy Media Alliance, New York, and Dynishal P. Gross, a research assistant in the same program, will discuss how TV411 uses popular media formats to teach reading, writing, math, and life skills in real-life contexts. TV411 was developed by the Adult Literacy Media Alliance. Lisa and Dynishal will talk about how TV411 engages learners with celebrities, music, poetry and learner testimonies, and how it can motivate and educate adults in classrooms, community groups, or at home. What's great about this program is that the video, print, and web site materials are flexible and easily blended into pre-existing curricula. They will also discuss how tutors can use video to prompt discussions and writing activities, and how this exciting programming can be accessed through private purchase, public broadcast, or lending. A great new innovative idea!

We also need to address the basics at our conference. Workshop #250 is entitled *Other People's Money! Effective Financial Management in a Nonprofit Organization*. It will be conducted by a very popular presenter, Sandy Duncan, from Associated Consulting Services, Austin, TX. Sandy always has lively and interesting workshops! He will help treasurers, board members, and executive directors understand effective financial management in a nonprofit organization. He will also discuss how to help your board really understand and use financial reports, improve its financial oversight skills, and do a better job of taking care of other people's money. Last year, his workshops were extremely popular, you don't want to miss him this year!

Our newest preconference session is PC107, appropriately called *Making Room for Daddy*. The pre-

sender is Neil Tift, National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families, Washington, DC. Neil will discuss the critical element he feels is missing in many literacy programs--fathers and men. He will talk about the factors that inadvertently preclude fathers and men from full participation, the effects of gender socialization, and styles of male-female communication. He will also review organizational and environmental influences that impact father involvement. Neil will share with you information about successful family literacy models that utilize fathers and men, and the best practices used by literacy programs. His presentation will also include methods to evaluate programs as male-friendly.

Remember, the deadline for registration is September 12, 2000! For more information, to download a conference registration form, or to find out when the workshops are scheduled, log on to our web site at <http://literacyvolunteers.org>.

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



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# Catalyst

—by Eric Hansen  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board

The Network Board met on August 10 at the Northeast Kansas Library System offices in Lawrence, Kansas. The Board and I were very pleased to welcome guest Charlie Perdue, Director of Libraries, Kansas City, Kansas Public and School Libraries. Network Board meetings are open, and the Board and I are pleased to have guests.

Several actions will be taken as a result of the meeting. The Network Board is reviewing the goals and objectives that form part of its strategic plan. The present plan will have run its course in 2001, which is also the twentieth anniversary of the existence of the Board.

I will be undertaking a study of the ILDP program to determine how the Board and I can furnish more effective assistance to libraries in their efforts to produce high quality competitive grant applications, how the competitive grant application and rubric can be improved, whether resource libraries shall be permitted to change their subject assignments to include fiction and genre fiction, if funds are allocated equitably among resource libraries, and if video interlibrary loan and public performance license requirements should be lifted.

The Board gave its approval for me to embark on a pilot study of use of the Kansas Library Card as a means of remote patron authentication for access to online databases, such as SIRS Discoverer Deluxe. At this writing I'm searching for a regional library system to collaborate with me in this study.

## Courier Update

The closing date for vendor bids was August 28. Five proposals were received at the office of the state Division of Purchases, and have been distributed to the courier contract negotiation committee for review. I expect negotiations to begin in September.

## New Members Round Table Fall Conference

Don't forget the KLA New Members Round Table fall conference, "Libraryland, USA: Personnel Issues, Interviewing, Team-building, and Employee Performance" will be held on Friday, September 15, 2000, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at the Emporia State University Memorial Union in the Kanza Room. Presenters will include Paula Etrick, Human Resources Manager, Southwest Kansas Library System; Tiffany Hentschel, Human Resources Coordinator, Johnson County Library; Emily Sitz, Assistant Director, Dodge City Public Library; and Seana Vece, Training Coordinator, Johnson County Library. No matter what sort or size of library or other institution you're in, you can't help but benefit from the combined experiences of these four professionals. For more information, contact me at 800/432-3919 (in Kansas) or Barb Stransky at 888/296-6963.

*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).*

*Visit the Network Board's new web site at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/start.html>.*

## Fire at Pleasanton Lincoln library

—by Harry Willems

Consultant, Southeast Kansas Library System

A week ago Thursday, Susan Tripp arrived back from an SEKLS workshop to find that her library (Pleasanton Lincoln Library), city hall and the fire department had burned as a result of an arson fire. The library sustained extensive smoke and water damage. Two new computers and one slightly older one were also destroyed. Fortunately the city insurance covering the library was a good replacement cost type of insurance.

The books were loaded up after nearly 48 hours of investigations (ATF from Washington came because it was a government building) and taken by American Catastrophe/Environmental Services, Inc. to Kansas City for freezing. They can now be cleaned and determined which ones to salvage. The salvageable ones will be taken to St. Louis for drying.

The library was two weeks away from moving into their new site, a separate building on main street in Pleasanton. Carpeting will be installed soon and shelving will be installed to hold the salvaged and newly purchased books. City hall (which lost a lot of records) has moved to a recently vacated national guard armory.

Encouragement can be e-mailed to Susan Tripp at [pleaslinlib@ckt.net](mailto:pleaslinlib@ckt.net).

Lessons learned:

1. Check your insurance, especially if it's with the city, to make sure you have adequate coverage.
2. Have a disaster plan with phone numbers.
3. Keep copies of the plan and copies of your library policies in a place outside the library building.
4. Keep computer tape or disk backups outside the building.
5. Get in touch with a company such as the American Catastrophe Company (800/950-2237) and check out their services.
6. Keep your regional library system informed about disasters and let them assist you with information and maybe even physical help.

## Book sale in Johnson County

The Friends of the Johnson County Library announce that the following 2000 Special Book Sales will be held in the Antioch Library Meeting Room, 8700 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam, Kansas:

### Children's & Young Adult Book Sale

Thursday, September 7, 4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 8, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 9, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Children may bring up to five books in resalable condition for exchange. The sale in the meeting room will be open to children and adults. There will also be a special "Kids Only" room, with no parents allowed.

### Fall Book Sale

Thursday, October 12, 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, October 13, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 14, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Selections will include fiction books and other categories.

### Holiday Book Sale

Thursday, November 16, 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, November 17, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 18, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Reference and gift books from a variety of categories will be sold.

All sales are final. Checks will be accepted with proper identification. For more information, call 913/261-2330.

## 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*.

## Library moving day at Bird City

—by Stan Dorsch  
*Chairman of the building committee*

Friday, July 14, was a memorable day in Bird City. The Mary L. Gritten Library was moved to a new facility at 110 East 4th. This move followed a long fund raising effort and a building project. The city library was built without a bond issue at a cost of \$226,000.

The attractive brick building has a distinctive front entry. The energy efficient library is carpeted and finished with oak trim. Approximately one-half of the shelving is new. As funds are available the older shelving will be replaced with shelving to match the new.

Money for the library came as a bequest of \$123,000 from the Walt Eggers Estate. Walt Eggers was a bachelor farmer in the Bird City area. He also bequeathed funds to several organizations in Bird City and throughout Kansas.

An additional \$50,000 was received from the Bacon Family Foundation. The Bacons were bank owners in Bird City until the late 1940s. Some of the Bacon money was dependent on matching funds from the community. This obligation was met by direct mail fund raising. Publicity through the *Bird City Times* prompted donations from former residents and library supporters. Donations were received from numerous businesses in the Kansas-Nebraska area.

Paxton Construction of Goodland started work on the new building in mid-March. The site had been cleared earlier in the year by local volunteers. Security State Bank donated the property the library is built on. The library is between the bank and the Methodist Church.

The move across the street to the new building was assisted by the Bird City Go Getters 4-H club, lots of local volunteers, and staff members from Northwest Kansas Library System in Norton.

The building committee consisted of the seven library board members, three community leaders, and librarian Darla Deeds. This group spent many hours on the project.

A grand opening and open house will be held at a later date. The library is truly an asset to Bird City. It is amazing what can be done with volunteer labor and old-fashioned fund raising.



*New Bird City Library*

## New database service

—by Jeff Hixon

*Library Information Technology Division and  
Marc Galbraith, Reference Services Division*



It is a great pleasure to announce that the Kansas State Library has signed a contract with SIRS Mandarin, Inc. for statewide library access to the SIRS Discoverer Deluxe database.

### The Database

The "SIRS Discoverer database," says SIRS, "is designed to make learning fun and intuitive.

The database features articles and graphics from over 1,200 U.S. and international magazines and newspapers and teaches research, reading, writing, language and computer skills. Additional content databases are also included along with the full text articles, including a *Dictionary/Thesaurus* and *The World Almanac for Kids*."

According to the SIRS website, the "...Deluxe Edition [is] Great for Public Libraries and grade levels 1-9 ... with articles ranging through all three reading levels [:] Easy, Moderate, and Challenging." SIRS Discoverer Deluxe was selected with the help and approval of the Reference Networking Committee and the Kansas Library Network Board.

### Our License

The license provides access to SIRS Discoverer Deluxe Online for all public libraries, schools, universities and colleges. The contract will run from August 1, 2000 to July 31, 2001, and includes an option to purchase for a second and third year with a maximum annual price increase of 5%.

### Training

SIRS has agreed to conduct two training sessions in each of the seven regional system territories during the contract year. The State Library will work with the regional systems to schedule and notify participants for training.

### ACCESS: Temporary during early weeks of the service

In order to make access to the database available as soon as possible, SIRS has kindly provided Kansas State Library with a "generic" username/password, which we will distribute via mail to all Kansas libraries, with the understanding that this password is to be used for in-library access and not provided to patrons for remote access purposes.

This username/password will place on the local computer a "session" cookie, which will give the user 24 hours of seamless access and then prompt for the username/password again. (See "Authentication" below).

Libraries should plan to switch from the generic username/password to either an IP address recognition from of access OR a unique ID/Password assigned specifically to the library. This will allow the local library to collect statistics on its own use of the database. To encourage libraries to make this switch, the "generic" username/password may, by mutual agreement between SIRS and the Kansas State Library, be permanently disabled, no sooner than six months following the contract signing. More information about how to access the database will be provided on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/library/databases.html>.

### Existing Contracts

There are a few school districts in Kansas currently accessing SIRS Discoverer via an IP address recognition method. SIRS has extended these accounts beyond their original expiration dates to expire, along with the statewide contract, on July 31, 2001. These users will not need to use the "generic" password to gain access since they are already profiled by IP addresses. This profile will let the user skip over the password screen, even from the SIRS Discoverer link we will be adding to Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/library/databases.html>.

For more information, contact Jeff Hixon, Director, Library Information Technology Division, at 785/296-3154, or e-mail ([jeffh@ink.org](mailto:jeffh@ink.org)); or Marc Galbraith, Director, Reference Services Division, 785/296-3296 or e-mail ([marcg@ink.org](mailto:marcg@ink.org)), at Kansas State Library, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612. Phone: 800/432-3919 (in Kansas) or FAX: 785/296-6650.

## KLC meeting in Lindsborg

—by *Jeff Hixon*  
*Library Information Technology Division*

[Editor's note: Concerns surrounding announced future changes in OCLC catalog record upload prices was the basis for a meeting at the Wallersted library, Bethany College, in Lindsborg on August 11. Jeff Hixon posts the following summary of the outcome of that meeting.]



*Jeff Hixon*

A summary of the discussion of the Kansas Library Catalog which took place at Bethany College, Lindsborg, on Friday, August 11, has been posted to Blue Skyways at [http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/libtech/oclc\\_klc.html](http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/libtech/oclc_klc.html).

Based on what we've learned, and the thoughtful and helpful discussion at this meeting, we've determined that our next steps will include:

- Negotiating with OCLC for the best possible cost-to-frequency balance for transfer of OCLC records to the Kansas Library Catalog.
- Continuing to work with BCR to better understand and communicate the suitability of OCLC for state-wide use.
- Monitoring, and staying involved in, discussion of other solutions that may be proposed or discussed by OCLC.

In addition to that presented in the summary of this meeting, further background is available at [http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/libtech/oclc\\_klc.html](http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/libtech/oclc_klc.html).

Questions and comments can be directed to: Jeff Hixon, Director, Library Information Technology Division, Kansas State Library, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612-1593, 785/296-3154, 800/432-3919 (in Kansas), Fax 785/296-6650, [jeffh@ink.org](mailto:jeffh@ink.org).



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

# Kansas libraries.... forty years ago

—Bill Sowers

*Kansas Documents Librarian / Tech Services Librarian*

*Gleanings from Kansas Library Bulletin, September, 1960 issue*

- An article described newly renovated sections of the Ottawa library. One major problem was a large, unmovable air-conditioning unit in the middle of Adult Services. It was solved by encasing the whole air conditioner and putting shelves on one side.
- New space provided by county commissioners gives the Lane County Library over three times as much floor space as that previously occupied.

- In June an open house was held at the Madison Public Library at which time the state-owned bookmobile of the Traveling Libraries Commission was on display.
- The Garden City Public Library's Children's Department has been moved into the basement into an area formerly occupied by a storeroom and work area.
- The new Gardner Branch of the Johnson County Library was opened in June.
- Mary Moore, Johnson County Library, will direct the state-wide observance of National Library Week in April, 1961.



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