

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

October 2003

## This month in Kansas Libraries

*New admissions and recent graduations reflect variety of programs at SLIM...1*

*We The People Book Grants available...1*

*Why libraries should make service to people over 55 a high priority.....2*

*New voice at the State Library.....2*

*N O T E S.....3*

*Librarians eligible for Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad Program.....3*

*Kansans are leaders....4*

*KHC seeks Kansas towns for Chautauqua...4*

*An invitation.....4*

*Library positions.....5*

*Kansas books.....7*

*Kansas libraries.... 10 years ago.....8*

**OCTOBER**



## ***New admissions and recent graduations reflect variety of programs at SLIM***

—by Dan Roland  
Director of SLIM Communications

The School of Library and Information Management (SLIM), Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas, admitted 103 new students for the fall semester of 2003. The number marks a 43% increase over the fall semester a year ago, but that is more a reflection of the school's successful distance education program and variety of degree and certificate options than of a dramatic increase in interest in library and information management careers.

An entirely new degree at SLIM is the Master of Legal Information Management. The program, offered in partnership with the School of Law at the University of Kansas, combines thirty hours of library and information management courses with twenty hours of law school courses. The new program has a total of seventeen students, eleven of whom are new to Emporia State University. Four of the students already hold a Juris Doctorate and four hold the MLS degree from SLIM.

The average age of the new students is 35 years and 3% of the new students represent ethnic minorities. This past spring SLIM graduated 56 with the MLS degree in commencement ceremonies held in Emporia and

Denver. The SLIM distance education program in Denver graduated its sixth class of MLS students for a total of 301 graduates from its "Emporia in the Rockies" program. Eleven percent of the spring graduates represent ethnic minorities. Ten graduates completed coursework for certification as K-12 school librarians and seven worked towards a more business-oriented career path in the Information Management Certificate program.

SLIM is currently accepting applications for what will be its eighth student cohort for the MLS program in Denver. Classes will start in the summer of 2004 and the application deadline is March 1. For more information, contact Dan Roland, Director of SLIM Communications, at 800/552-4770, x5064, or by e-mail to [sliminfo@emporia.edu](mailto:sliminfo@emporia.edu).

## ***We The People Book Grants available***

—by Laura Hayes  
Public Programs Office  
American Library Association

The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are accepting applications from public and school (K-12) libraries for the We The People Bookshelf grants. Part of NEH's We The People initiative, the Bookshelf project will award the 15 Bookshelf books for young readers to up to 500 libraries across the country. Selected libraries are required to present programs that highlight the theme of "courage" and encourage young readers to explore these works.

Libraries interested in receiving the We The People Bookshelf grant can view the application and guidelines at [www.ala.org/wethepeople](http://www.ala.org/wethepeople) or [www.wethepeople.gov](http://www.wethepeople.gov). Applications are being accepted online until October 22, 2003 for Round One, and February 15, 2004 for Round Two.

**ALA Public Programs Office**  
*Linking Libraries, Communities and Culture*  
[www.ala.org/publicprograms](http://www.ala.org/publicprograms)

## Why libraries should make service to people over 55 a high priority

—by Shannon Roy  
Director, Local Library Development

The Older Kansans Information Forum is continuing to plan future projects and gather information on senior issues and resources for the OKIF website at <http://www.skyways.org/okif>.

For a recent program, several OKIF members designed the following report on why public libraries should make service to older Kansans a high priority:

- People over 55 will be a quarter of the American population by 2015. The Baby Boomers and their surviving parents will be the first giant senior population in human history.
- This will be not only a larger senior population, it will be completely different. More seniors will be healthy, productive, solvent and genuinely happy. They will have no patience with bias against older people.
- People who are 60 and over vote more than any other age group. Their sheer numbers will give seniors tremendous political clout in local, state and national politics. They will no longer be a group that can be marginalized.
- Many of them will have financial clout as well, that they can use to benefit their communities and their libraries, if they choose to. They often choose to, if they are treated with respect. Many libraries have received gifts or bequests from older citizens who appreciated the library.
- Seniors have traditionally been among the public library's strongest supporters. They have contributed disproportionately to library boards, Friends groups, library programs, volunteer programs and heavy library use. They are likely to be even more important in the future. Librarians can actively foster partnerships with seniors, to the great benefit of both.
- People over 55 will have *urgent* information needs that libraries can choose to help with:
  - Seniors will be insisting on high quality pain management and end-of-life care.
  - Caregiving will grow into a major social problem.
  - Geriatric and preventive healthcare will also be major concerns.
- A large number of grandparents will be concerned about their legal rights regarding their grandchildren.
- Financial savvy will become critically important.
- Retirement will change completely.
- Seniors will be pursuing education, changing fields, starting businesses, planning travel and investing in hobbies and avocations.
- Excellent library service to seniors will not happen automatically while the age wave is having a major impact on our society. It will take commitment, planning and skilled information organization at the state and national level.

If you have questions about the Older Kansans Information Forum, please call Toni Harrell at the Kansas State Library Talking Books Office (620/343-7124) or Shannon Roy at the Kansas State Library Local Library Development Division (785/296-2148).

## New voice at the State Library

—by Marc Galbraith  
Director, Reference and Information Services

Annette Treadwell, a new employee at the State Library, will be the person behind the voice when you call the State Library at either 785/296-3296 or 800/432-3919.

Annette has just been hired as the Research and Information Services Administrative Assistant and will staff the State Library's switchboard, be responsible for circulation transactions and will provide assistance to the ILL librarian.

Annette originally hails from Texas, with a stint in Louisiana, which accounts for that nice drawl as she says "Kansas State Library, may I help you?"

*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.





## NOTES

—by Eric Hansen  
Executive Director

### Three appointed to Network Board

I am very pleased to announce three new appointments to the Kansas Library Network Board.

**Roger Carswell**, Director of the Southeast Kansas Library System and Iola Public Library, will represent System Libraries for a three-year term. He replaces Fred Atchison, Director of the North Central Kansas Library System and Manhattan Public Library. Roger is a Delegate to the KAN-ED Delegates Council and has served as a member of the Kansas Library Association and the American Library Association.

**Susan Taylor**, College Librarian and Professor of Journalism at McPherson College, will represent Academic Libraries for a one-year term. She replaces Sylvia Kuhlmeier and will complete her term of appointment. Susan is a member of the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and Beta Phi Mu (International Library Science Honor Society).

**Jo Ann Wahrman**, a High School Librarian for Goodland USD 352 since 1990, will represent School Libraries. Jo Ann is serving her second consecutive term on the board. She is also a researcher for Lazy Students at [www.lazystudents.com](http://www.lazystudents.com), a web indexer for Webfeet at [www.webfeetguides.com](http://www.webfeetguides.com), and a Virtual Reference Desk Volunteer at [www.askvrld.org](http://www.askvrld.org). She is a member of the Kansas Association of School Librarians and the American Association of School Librarians.

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

## Librarians eligible for Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad Program

—by Peter Kraus  
Mountain Plains Library Association

The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program provides short-term study and travel seminars abroad for U.S. educators in the social sciences and humanities, including library science, for the purpose of improving their understanding and knowledge of the peoples and cultures of other countries.

Seminars are four to six weeks in duration and take place from late June to mid-August. There are generally ten seminars each summer with 16 positions per seminar. Round-trip international airfare, room and board, and program-related travel within the host country(ies) are all covered by the Fulbright-Hays Program.

A special bilateral seminar will be hosted in Summer 2004 by Canada and Mexico. The seminar, entitled "Getting to Know America's Neighbors: Nationhood, Culture, and Identity in Mexico and Canada," will explore the construction of national and cultural identity by looking at culture and identity in Mexico and Canada. In Canada, participants will visit several regions, including the Canadian Arctic and Quebec City. In Mexico, visits will include Oaxaca, Puebla, and Michoacán.

The application deadline for Summer 2004 seminars is October 17, 2003. Please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/index.html> or contact Gale Holdren at [gale.holdren@ed.gov](mailto:gale.holdren@ed.gov) for more information on the Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program and how to apply.

## ***Kansans are leaders***

—by Susan Moyer, Director  
Dorothy Branlage Public Library

Here's a bit of good news to start off your week. Three Kansans will be attending the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute in November. Kristen Becker (Kansas Wesleyan University), Scott Goldy (Wichita State University) and Kimberly Martin (Bonner Springs City Library) will spend a week in the mountains of New Mexico sharpening their leadership skills. Hats off to all three and best wishes for the experience of a lifetime!

For more information about the Institute and about the Mountain Plains Library Association, go to their web site at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla>. In addition, visit the site for the upcoming joint conference with the Nevada Library Association at beautiful Lake Tahoe at <http://www.nevadalibraries.org/Conference03/index.html>.

## ***KHC seeks Kansas towns for Chautauqua***

—by Julie Mulvihill  
Director of Programs, Kansas Humanities Council

The Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) is seeking towns and organizations interested in hosting the Great Plains Chautauqua in 2004, 2005, and 2006. Chautauqua will play in Kansas each June/July as part of its annual five-state tour. Dates for 2004 in Kansas are June 18-22 and June 25-29. Dates for 2005 and 2006 are not yet set.

“According to Theodore Roosevelt, Chautauqua is ‘the most American thing in America’,” said Marion Cott, KHC executive director. “Since the Great Plains Chautauqua will be in only six towns over the three-year period, we’re seeking just the right communities to host this wonderfully educational and entertaining program.”

To be selected, a town or organization must make a minimum cash contribution toward program costs, provide support services, and be willing to host at least one humanities event prior to Chautauqua’s arrival in the community. Extensive promotional and educational materials are provided free.

Selection preference for the 2004 hosts will be given to communities located south of I-70 and west of I-135/I-35. Previous host communities are eligible to apply if more than three years have passed since they hosted Chautauqua. “The successful applicants will be ones

who demonstrate broad community involvement and support,” added Cott.

The Great Plains Chautauqua is a revival of the traveling tent chautauquas that educated and entertained Kansans during the first decades of the past century. The state humanities councils of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and the Dakotas sponsor the contemporary Chautauqua. Major funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Kansas Humanities Council is a non-profit cultural organization with 30 years experience in supporting community-based programs.

*From Sea to Shining Sea: American Expansion and Cultural Change, 1790-1850* features William Clark, Sacagawea, and York of the Lewis and Clark expedition as well as John Jacob Astor, Tecumseh, and Dolley Madison. Humanities professionals portray these historical figures in costume and in character. Chautauqua week includes five evening programs in which the characters appear on stage under the tent to discuss their lives in the new nation. Daily workshops for adults and special events for children are also planned.

This Chautauqua explores an era of history that witnessed the transformation of America. Audiences will have an opportunity to learn more about the Lewis and Clark expedition and the historical context for its undertaking.

In 2003, the Great Plains Chautauqua appeared in Wyandotte County. Visitors representing seven states and 28 Kansas towns attended that Chautauqua. Since 1983, twenty-nine Kansas communities, from Elkhart to Hiawatha, have hosted the event.

Groups interested in bringing Chautauqua to their community are invited to contact the KHC offices. Applications for host communities must be received by November 14, 2003. The Kansas Humanities Council anticipates selecting towns by January 2004.

For information or to request an application, call toll-free 800/562-8057, e-mail [deborah@kansashumanities.org](mailto:deborah@kansashumanities.org), or visit [www.kansashumanities.org](http://www.kansashumanities.org).

### ***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 positions

### Adult Services Business Librarian

The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library is seeking applications for an enthusiastic, positive, people-oriented and creative Adult Services Business Librarian.

The Adult Services Business Librarian reports to the Adult Services Manager. The essential job functions include: exhibit a thorough knowledge of the business and general reference collections, including print and electronic resources. Evaluate and develop the Business Reference collection in concert with the collection development staff. Provide leadership in developing an active relationship between the business community and the library, including the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations. Act as a spokesperson for all Business and Investment Center related activities for the library. Provide programming on business issues and interests at the library and in the community. Maintain and expand the Business and Investment Center Web page.

This position requires a Masters of Business Administration or Masters of Library Science degree from an ALA-accredited university. Preferred qualifications include: previous experience in the business field, library experience, knowledge of readers' advisory and reference techniques, excellent communication and public speaking skills and experience providing outreach to community organizations and groups.

The starting salary is \$39,777. Excellent benefits, including BCBS health/dental, retirement and cafeteria plan, with 22 days vacation and 12 days sick leave.

Application and more specific job information is available at web site: <http://www.tscpl.org>. Please submit an application with resume and three professional references to Human Resources, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th, Topeka, KS 66604-1374. 785/580-4492. EOE. Applications accepted through October 24, 2003.

### Johnson County Library Oak Park Branch Manager

Johnson County Library (JCL), located in metropolitan Kansas City, has an exciting opportunity for a Branch Manager at our Oak Park Library. JCL serves a population of over 344,000 with a Central Resource Library

(CRL) and twelve branch libraries. Incumbent will assist with the day-to-day operation and management of the Oak Park library including the selection, training, developing and evaluation of branch staff. This position is also responsible for staffing public service desks to provide reference and other services to all patrons, instructing patrons in locating information and in the use of the library's resources. Other duties include assisting in planning and implementing branch programs, scheduling branch staff, interpreting and implementing library system policies and procedures to patrons and branch staff and assuring that library resources and services are fully accessible to the public.

#### Qualifications:

MLS from an ALA-accredited library school. A minimum of three years experience providing public service in a library setting required. A minimum of one year supervisory experience and staff scheduling preferred but not required. A broad knowledge of current public library procedures and practices is essential. Experience in planning, implementing, and evaluating library programs and collections is necessary. Experience in working within an automated library system environment preferred. Experience in the use of automated reference and informational resources as well as traditional print reference material to assist patrons in information searching is preferred. The successful applicant will possess the ability to communicate effectively with both staff and the public as they project the public service values of the JCL. Bilingual language skills desired.

This exciting opportunity offers an excellent starting salary and a competitive benefits package that includes health, dental, vision and life insurance, deferred compensation, KPERS and supplemental retirement.

Candidates interested in joining our team may submit a resume with salary requirements electronically to [hentschelt@jocolibrary.org](mailto:hentschelt@jocolibrary.org) or via mail to Johnson County Library, Attn: Tiffany Hentschel, PO Box 2933, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-1333. EOE.

### Kansas City, Kansas Public Library Argentine Branch Manager

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library is seeking an experienced professional with excellent interpersonal skills and a dedication to providing dynamic leadership to fill the position of Argentine Branch Manager. Located in an original Carnegie building listed on the National Register of Historic Places with recent updates including air con-

ditioning and heating, this library serves the southern sector of the Wyandotte County area. The successful candidate will possess a strong commitment to providing quality customer service to a diverse population in an urban setting and focus toward the advancement of library services and presence within the community.

Qualifications: an MLS degree from an ALA-accredited university, significant supervisory management experience on a division or branch library level with strong leadership and community outreach skills. Strong ability to communicate effectively on both staff and public levels is essential. Spanish language skills highly desirable. Salary range: \$44,000-\$63,000. Expected hiring range: \$44,000-\$50,000 d.o.q. Excellent benefits package. Cover letter, resume, 3 professional references and a summary of what strengths you would bring to this position may be sent to: Personnel Coordinator, Kansas City, Kansas Public Library, 625 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66101. Position opened until filled. EOE. [www.kckpl.lib.ks.us](http://www.kckpl.lib.ks.us)

### Web Content Manager Position

The Johnson County Library ([www.jocolibrary.org](http://www.jocolibrary.org)), consistently one of the top public libraries in the country, is seeking a Web Content Manager to plan, develop, and manage the library's expansive web-based content. The position will remain open until filled.

#### Job Summary:

Under the direction of the Associate Director for Technology and Bibliographic Services, the Web Content Manager (WCM) serves as "editor-in-chief," overseeing the development and maintenance of all original and purchased content available through the Library's Internet, Intranet, and Extranet Web sites. This position supervises and provides managerial oversight to the team of two Web Content Developers and a Web Content Assistant, and acts as a catalyst for creating and implementing new information access and delivery methods as a part of carrying out the Library's mission and goals. The WCM promotes the Library's Web sites to the intended audiences and provides outreach to patrons, Web partners, and employees in order to determine their needs and create commensurate information and services for the web. The WCM works collaboratively with the Technical Web Services Manager to plan and implement appropriate Web-based technologies to deliver the highest quality interactive content. In addition, this position assists the Library's Training Department in offering web-based learning activities to staff which

enable them to use the Web to do their work

#### Minimum qualifications:

Bachelors degree in English, Communications, or other relating field; substantial experience in user-oriented technical writing or online publishing; one year of project planning and management experience; substantial demonstrated knowledge of library services; demonstrated ability to work in a team environment and maintain excellent working relationships with colleagues, partners, and users; successfully demonstrated excellent interpersonal skills; demonstrated proficiency with web-related technologies; demonstrated supervisory experience; successful negotiation and consensus-building abilities.

#### Preferred qualifications:

Masters degree in Library Science (ALA accredited), English, Communications, or other related field; three years experience in Web site design, implementation, maintenance, and content management; two years experience working in a library environment; negotiation and consensus-building skills; understanding and experience with HTML, Adobe Acrobat, PDF, PageMaker, Photoshop, Illustrator, Flash, ASP, server-side VB, and Java scripting; knowledge of SQL, relational databases, and report writing skills; familiarity with application development cycle and change control procedures; graphic design skills.

#### Compensation:

1. Salary: \$36,368 – \$60,614; expected hiring range \$40,000-\$45,000, depending on qualifications.
2. The Johnson County Library offers a comprehensive benefits package including health, dental, vision and life insurance, deferred compensation and paid time off.

Candidates interested in joining Johnson County Library team may submit a resume with salary requirements to:

Tiffany Hentschel, Human Resources Coordinator,  
Johnson County Library PO Box 2901, Shawnee Mission,  
KS 66201. 913/495-2487; [hentschelt@jocolibrary.org](mailto:hentschelt@jocolibrary.org)  
or  
Tim Rogers, Assoc. Dir. for Tech & Bib Services  
Johnson County Library, PO Box 2901, Shawnee Mission,  
KS 66201-1301. Tel: 913/495-2459; Fax: 913/495-2441;  
E-mail: [Rogerst@jocolibrary.org](mailto:Rogerst@jocolibrary.org).

## Kansas books

—by Roy Bird  
Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

*Brannick and the Untamed West*, by Harold G. Ross. Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505-1009. 5" x 9" softcover, 192 pp. ISBN 0-89745-242-9, \$13.95.

Western novels contain greater appeal to their readers if they are realistic and heavily based on fact and truth. Harold G. Ross went even so far as to use his grandfather's name for the protagonist of this fictionalized story of his progenitor's life. James Michael Brannick was a genuine Kansas lawman at Junction City, Wakefield, Alta Vista and White City—not the wild and woolly scenes of western expansion like cowtowns or forts, but nevertheless rowdy frontier towns in their own rights, as Ross demonstrates.

Using what he knows of his grandfather's life, filling in gaps with speculation based on other historical events such as a shootout in cowtown Newton transposed to Council Grove, and augmenting it all with his intimate knowledge of north central Kansas terrain, topography (like the semi-precious garnets in the "Little Gobi Desert") and history, Ross weaves a tale of what was and what might have been. His first novel is historically accurate, and the reader will especially notice the frequent mention of type of food prepared and consumed during the time period of the book. *Brannick* is not only an exciting Western read, it is also speculative evidence that every Kansas town was a frontier town at one time, fully capable of being notorious even when no notoriety was sought. This is a fascinating remembrance of his grandfather and a reminder of all Kansans' potential heritage. Recommended for all adult Kansas and Western fiction collections.

*Death on the Western Frontier: Kansas, 1875-1879*, by Eugene D. Fleharty and Gary K. Hulett. Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66505-1009. 5" x 9" softcover, 266 pp., ISBN 0-87745-244-5. \$22.00.

Most examinations of the Western frontier discuss the successes or failures of those who came to settle the vast plains. They rely on accounts of the accomplishments of the lives of those pioneers. But what of those who did not survive the experience?

*Death on the Western Frontier* takes a close look at a brief but very active period of settlement on the prairies and high plains of Kansas. Authors Fleharty and Hulett use primary source material—frontier diary entries, newspaper accounts and obituaries, cemetery histories and headstones—to paint a group portrait of the people who came with similar aspirations to those who tamed the wild land but whose dreams were cut short abruptly by death. They were very young, youthful, middle-aged, and old. They were white, African American, European immigrants and Americans from the East. They came west to Kansas seeking new lives but instead found death awaiting them because of the harsh environment, unexpected disease, accidents and violence. Fleharty and Hulett are Fort Hays State University faculty members who have spent much of their careers in the sciences. This examination of human ecology of Kansas was written because the authors "have an interest in mortality," and the fascination is increased if the death is premature or violent. This is a good example and resource for genealogists at public libraries and for historians and scholars at academic libraries. Recommended for Kansas and adult history collections in public, secondary school and academic libraries.



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

## Kansas libraries... 10 years ago

—by Bill Sowers  
Kansas Documents Librarian/Tech Support Librarian

### Gleanings from Kansas Libraries, October, 1993

- Pauline Stauffer retired as librarian of the Alma Branch of the Pottawatomie-Wabaunsee Regional Library on August 13. During her 13-year tenure Alma added video and books on cassette services and increased circulation to an all-time high of 4,000 items during June, 1993. On September 1, Julia Flack became the new branch librarian.
- Storytellers, free train rides, antique cars, a special performance by the Seem-To-Be Players and the Santa Fe Band helped to celebrate the grand opening of the combined facilities of the Chanute Public Library and the Martin and Osa Safari Museum on August 28.
- On August 28 the Oxford Public Library inaugurated a facility that virtually doubles the space over what the old library had.

- On August 18 the board of Johnson County Library OK'd the design for its new Central Resources Library. The project calls for renovation of a retail store into an 85,000 square foot full service library facility at an estimated construction cost of more than \$7 million.

- August 20 was the last day of work at the Fort Scott Public Library for Cathy Cole, director. Cathy is pursuing a degree in business administration at Pittsburg State University. The new library director is Larry Bain, formerly a school librarian in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.



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**Please route to**

• *Library Director*

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