

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

March 1998

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LSTA Special Population grants

The Kansas State Library Advisory Commission and the LSTA Advisory Council determined the recipients of the federal FY 1998 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) special population grants at a joint meeting on Friday, February 27, 1998, at KSU-Salina.

This was the first of the LSTA grants awarded since the implementation of the Act in Kansas at the beginning of the federal fiscal year on October 1, 1997. A total of 26 applications were considered totaling \$145,322. A total of \$94,229 was awarded. Uses listed in the

applications approved included equipment, software, contractual services, print, large print and audio books, Spanish language materials, assistive technology, technology, travel, training, supplies, and postage.

Grant applications ranged from \$685 to \$19,000. Amounts funded ranged from \$685 to \$14,083. Libraries of all types were eligible to apply. Those whose grant applications were funded in whole or in part include the ACCK Libraries, \$11,000; Beloit Juvenile Correctional Facility, \$3,083; Bradford Memorial (El Dorado), Andover and Augusta Public Libraries, \$6,812; Central Kansas Library System, \$3,000; Hays Public Library \$5,351; Independence Free Public Library, \$1,500; Johnson County Library,

\$3,000; Kansas State University Libraries, \$8,780; Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility, \$3,575; Larned State Hospital, \$4,000; Lawrence Gardner High School at Topeka Juvenile Correctional Facility \$2,000; Manhattan Public Library, \$13,600; Mankato Public Library, \$2,500; Oskaloosa Public Library, \$1,500; Scandia Public Library, \$1,000; Silver Lake Public Library, \$1,000; Southwest Kansas Library System, \$14,083; Stockton Public Library, \$2,000; Sunshine City Library at Prairie View, \$800; Tabor College Library, \$685; Wellington Public Library, \$1,500; and Wichita Public Library, \$3,500. Congratulations to the successful applicants in the first LSTA grant round. Contracts for these amounts are being prepared by the State Library at this time.

1998 Tri-Conference

Partnerships: Information and Technology

April 8-10

Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS

The 1998 Tri-Conference for KASL, KAECT, and KLA begins with a variety of preconferences on April 8.

The keynote speech will be given by ALA President-Elect Ann K. Symons at 8:30 am on Thursday, April 9. Luncheon speakers are Robert B. Leuhrs who will present "The Secret History of the Emerald City: Oz for Adults" on Thursday and author/illustrator Cheryl Harness on Friday. The FoKL Breakfast guest speaker on Friday is Dr. Don Coldsmith, the "most published living Kansan." The keynote speaker for KAECT's 1998 Leadership Symposium is Dr. Kyle Peck. He will present "Leadership in the Information Age" on Wednesday, April 8 from 2:30 to 4:30.

Pre-Conferences will take place on Wednesday, April 8. Topics include: "Introduction to Using the Internet as a Reference Tool," "Cooking the Books' and Other Book Repair Tips," "Finding, Hiring and Training: Three Steps to the Perfect Workforce," "Introduction to Disaster Preparedness: Libraries Helping Each

(continues on page 4)

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Touching Children's Lives in Republic County

Kathryn Gile is the public library director in Scandia, Kansas, a highway 36 town that has 400 people. She found the Scandia Library an inadequate outlet for her love and concern for young children and set out to do something about it.

Today Kathryn is a much loved storyteller and tutor in Republic County primary systems. She does two Friday storytimes at the library, one for pre-schoolers and one for school-age children. She goes to primary school classes and teaches through storytelling, songs and poetry. Then she works one-on-one with children who need extra attention because they have learning disabilities, attention deficit or who simply have trouble staying on track.

Asked how she got started, she returns a unique answer: "My twin grandchildren took me in for Show and Tell."

Kathryn never travels alone. She takes her "people". Professor Reads A Lot introduces stories, while the more scholarly Professor Quest for Knowledge prefers non-fiction and biography. Henri Toulouse-Lautrec Toucan introduces famous figures in the arts. William the Wizard builds word power while Henry Hexagon teaches about shapes. Byron Bruin, Blythe Bruin and Basil Bruin all adore poetry. Randolph the Rabbit simply deposits love.

"Small children soak up vocabulary and knowledge while they are having fun. They are wildly enthusiastic and very upset if I don't come. That I was serving as a paid substitute in Concordia was no excuse as far as they were concerned!"

"Later they come into the library - mine or one of the others, it doesn't matter - and they check out books of their own. Children in Scandia have grown up here. They bring in bugs and butterflies and rocks to be identified. They bring in dandelions and prairie mallow as presents. Or they simply need a shoulder to cry on. It's foolish to say that children will get everything from their parents. They need many adults who care about them."

"Its really very much the same when I visit the nursing homes. The people there need affection, they need to be re-connected, they need to have their memories awak-

ened. Their eyes light up when they remember a story or poem they once loved."

Kathryn's work has awakened a concern for parents and teachers who work with children who have special needs. She recently applied for an LSTA Special Population Grant for materials on learning disabilities to help students, parents and teachers handle them effectively.

Kay was recently given an award by the Thunderbird Reading Council for her work with children and reading. But was a bigger honor to learn that three children had come to a local Halloween as "Mrs. Gile." "That is true fame."

Asked how she does all the outreach and runs the library, Kathryn just smiles. "We're open when my car is here." Actually, they are open quite a bit. But it can occasionally be difficult to reach the Scandia library by telephone. Kathryn is often on the Internet, answering reference questions or tracking down promising sites for her beloved children.



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: *Jana Bowers*

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.

Catalyst

by Michael Piper
Executive Director
Kansas Library Network Board

Highlights from the Winter 1998 Network Board meeting

In February, the Kansas Library Network Board held its Winter meeting in Topeka. Here's a report:

You're invited to the KLN's "virtual focus group"

As a basis for its future activities, the Network Board is sponsoring a "virtual focus group." This statewide planning effort is meant to generate as many innovative, forward-looking ideas as possible. This process will be the basis for the Network Board's action agenda in the 1998-99 fiscal year and beyond. Here's how the process will work:

- 1) The KLN has posted a survey on Blue Skyways (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/KSL/KLN/survey.html>). The Board has also mailed the survey to librarians and library trustees statewide. Survey responses are due by 27 March 1998.
- 2) Beginning in late March 1998, Network Board members will review survey responses and identify significant themes.
- 3) On 1:30 PM on Thursday, 9 April, during the Tri-Conference in Wichita, the KLN will discuss the survey. The Board will use this session as a focus group to identify strategies for addressing key themes in the survey responses.

4) During its Spring meeting, the Network Board will assess results of the "virtual focus group" and draft its goals for fiscal year 1999.

5) In August, the Network Board will review its mission statement and set its plan of action for FY 1999.

This is your opportunity to advise the Network Board about how it can help you serve your customers better. So be sure to complete and return the survey.

KLN will help librarians face online censorship issues

Last year, the US Supreme Court struck down the Communications Decency Act, which made it a felony to provide "indecent" material to minors via the Internet.

Since then, librarians have increasingly found themselves amidst a national debate. On one side, lawmakers, including some in Kansas, are pushing legislation to require libraries to install filters on public access Internet work stations as a condition for receiving public funding. On the other side, groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union are taking libraries to court for using filters on public access Internet terminals.

To educate and inform Kansas librarians on these issues, the Network Board agreed to work with the Johnson County Library to prepare balanced information resources to help librarians make informed decisions on these issues. A Web guide will draw together publications and Web resources on the issues of filtering, sexual harassment and child pornography. To supplement this tool, the Board may develop other resources such as handouts addressing the pros and cons of filters, sample policy statements, and examples of how librarians have successfully dealt with these issues.

Michael Piper, Executive Director of the Kansas Library Network Board, welcomes your questions about the KLN's services. His email address is mpiper@ink.org.

Reminder: Interlibrary Loan Development Program grant applications are due on 31 March 1998.

For tips on writing ILDP proposals, see the "ILDP Tip Sheet" on Blue Skyways (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/KSL/KLN/ILDPTips.html>).

(continued from page 1)

Other," "Look Ma, No Code: Creating and Updating Home Pages Without Knowing HTML Using Front-Page," "What To Do Before the Censor Arrives!," and "La biblioteca es Para Todos: Serving Your Spanish Speaking Population."

Conference sessions run from 1:30 on Wednesday afternoon through 10:45 on Friday morning.

Approximately 100 exhibitors will be at the Conference.

The Tri-Conference Store selling ALA merchandise will offer bookmarks, posters, T-shirts pins, buttons, and books. The 1998 National Library Week items will be available.

Conference registration fees before March 30, 1998 are: \$45 for members for the entire conference, \$65 for non-members for the entire conference or \$30 per day for members and \$35 per day for non-members. The preconference fees are additional. Registration after March 30 and at the Conference will be more expensive.

For more information on the 1998 Tri-Conference or to receive a copy of the registration form contact the headquarters of your regional system of cooperating libraries. Pre-registration forms are due on March 30.

Tri-Conference update

The Tri-Conference brochure omitted the names of several presenters for the Pre-conference workshop titled "Finding, Hiring, and Training: Three Steps to the Perfect Workforce." The presenters are:

Cynthia Berner, Moderator
Coordinator of Administrative Services
Wichita Public Library

Mia S. Kobelik
Human Resources Manager, Dodge City Public Library
and Resource Development Coordinator, Southwest
Kansas Library System

Seena Vece
Staff Development Officer
Johnson County Public Library

Guy McCormick
Personnel Technician (Employment and Benefits)
City of Wichita

The presenters for this workshop bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to share. They will offer tips and tools for hiring effective employees including writing job descriptions and ads; designing the interview; addressing ADA & EOE issues; reading resumes and checking references; orientation; and performance appraisal. Each participant will receive a packet of sample forms and tools.

PBS distributes interactive e-rate videoconference

A satellite videoconference was produced by Convergence Services, Inc. and distributed by PBS.

"E-Rate: the Implementation," a live and interactive program aired March 26, provided education administrators and technologists with guidelines for securing their part of the \$2.25 billion in discounts on telecommunications services, established by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Based on lessons to learned from during the first round of discounted procurements in early 1998, the program examined strategies for achieving the greatest cost reduction through aggregation of demand. It also explored strategies for bundling discounts with other "ed-tech" funding sources, such as the new National Technology Literacy Program. In short, it helped ensure that education institutions and libraries receive the maximum discounts to which they are entitled.

This videoconference couldn't have happened at more opportune time. Although the FCC and its E-Rate administrator, the Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC), hoped to have the program in place by this fall, the paperwork and administrative processes were just finalized this month. Many questions on eligible equipment and consortia may not be definitively answered until well into the year. By the March program, all the questions were laid to rest and all administrative procedures were well defined. Educators and technology planners found out what kinds of services have been requested, how much of the fund have been committed and what can be learned from the first months of the program.

Panelists included Ira Fishman, SLC CEO, SLC Chairman K.G. Ouye, SLC board member Brian Talbott, and Cheryl Lemke, Vice President for Educational Technology at the Milken Family Foundation.

“E-Rate: the Implementation” follows-up on the hugely successful PBS broadcast “Maximizing Your E-Rate,” produced by Convergence Services in June, 1997. That program was licensed and downlinked at nearly 1,000 viewing sites across the U.S.

98 library/museum grants ready

The first grant guidelines for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grants are available. Application deadline is April 17. Awards ranging from \$15,000 to \$500,000 will be made in September. The Clinton Administration’s FY 1999 budget requests \$172,340,000 for IMLS, which contains \$146,340,000 for library services, level to the FY 1998 appropriation.

Awards in the 1998 cycle will be made for education and training for library and information science; research and demonstration projects in library and information science; preservation and digitization of library materials; and model programs for collaboration between libraries and museums. All types of libraries and museums may apply for the grants. Awards in excess of \$250,000 must be matched at least one-to-one with non-Federal support, including in-kind cost sharing. Guidelines are available at <http://www.imls.fed.us/guidelines/hatlead>, or call 202/606-5227.

Grants will be awarded through a competitive peer review process. Library, museum, and information professionals are needed to review grant applications. Reviewers must be available to review approximately eight proposals during a four-week period starting May 1998. To apply, complete the reviewer recruitment form on the web site, or call for an application.

ALA unveils “cybercollection” for kids

The American Library Association (ALA) has launched a new “cybercollection” of links to more than 700 fun, exciting and useful Web sites for children and their grown-ups.

ALA’s site was featured as an example of the kinds of support increasingly available for children and adults at libraries across the nation. The full name is Great Sites: Amazing, Spectacular, Mysterious, Wonderful Web Sites for Kids and the Adults Who Care About Them. The site can be found on the association’s Web page at <http://www.ala.org/parents/greatsites/amazing.html>.

Links include sites ranging from the Negro Baseball Leagues and the Electronic Zoo to a Club Girl Tech Game Cafe and the Titanic. Subjects include standards like the arts, history and science, along with dinosaurs, games and other kid favorites. Special features include a Spanish language collection and sites of special interest to parents, educators, homeschoolers and caregivers. There are links to the Library of Congress and a growing number of libraries throughout the U.S.

Selection criteria for the “Great Sites” combine professional evaluation techniques used by librarians with new criteria that address the special characteristics of cyberspace. The criteria, posted on the site, provide helpful insights for librarians, parents, educators and others on what makes a good Web site.

The “700+ Great Sites” builds on a list of 50+ Great Sites for Kids and Parents that ALA published in June as part of the “Librarian’s Guide to Cyberspace for Parents for Kids.” An index of resources for parents and children, including lists of award-winning books and other materials, can be found on the ALA Web page at <http://www.ala.org/parents/>.

For more information, contact the American Library Association, Public Information Office, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Kansas history fun

Kansas students learned about the state’s connection with Abraham Lincoln’s beard, that three astronauts were Kansans, and that the selection of several Kansas symbols came about through efforts of students. *Kansas Kaleidoscope: It’s About Time*, a history magazine for children in its first year of publication, relates adventures from the state’s rich past, offers information about interesting people and activities and, and makes Kansas history fun. Recent topics have included aviation, Native Americans, Kansas symbols, cowboys, and African American soldiers and the Civil War.

Each theme, carefully selected by the Kansas State Historical Society's education staff and written especially for kids, follows closely with classroom curriculums. *Kansas Kaleidoscope* focuses on fascinating aspects of the state's history. It offers games, puzzles, art, animals, science, biographies of famous Kansans, and stories about children about the state.

Kansas Kaleidoscope is available for only \$5 a year by subscribing to: Kansas State Historical Society, Inc., 6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615-1099.

Awards for first-time authors

Up to \$500 in awards may be available to first-time authors from the Kansas State Historical Society. Books on Kansas history published in 1997 by first-time authors are eligible for the Dr. Edward N. Tihen Publication Awards. The awards will be announced at the Society's annual meeting in October.

Those eligible for the award include authors who have not previously published historical books or articles in historical journals or magazines. Books must contain substantial information on Kansas history. Authors must include two copies of the book along with a letter certifying that the book is the author's first published historical work. One copy will be added to the Historical Society's library collection. The application deadline is April 1, 1998.

Edward H. Tihen Publication Awards are funded by an endowment established in 1995 by Dr. Tihen's family and friends in appreciation of his role as an amateur historian. A total of \$750 is available and may be granted to as many as three individuals each year, with a maximum award of \$500 per individual.

To submit an entry or for more information contact Virgil W. Dean, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615-1099; 785/272-8681 x 274.

A big thank you at Garden City

On January 22, 1998 the Finney County Public Library received a new puppet theater. The theater is a gift from UBC (United Building Centers) and two of its employees, Michael R. Ibarra and Thomas C. Gonzalez.

The business supplied the materials and Ibarra and Gonzalez, working on their own time, constructed the theater. It replaces a theater that was made many years ago by the Optimist Club. First Shows in the new puppet theater will be staged during spring storyhours.

Reception held to honor William R. Gordon

The South Central Kansas Library System and Hutchinson Public Library hosted a reception for William R. "Bill" Gordon, the native Kansan who is now the Executive Director of the American Library Association.

The reception was held on Sunday, March 15, 1998 from 2:00 — 4:00 pm at SCKLS headquarters in the Hutchinson Public Library.

Bill Gordon was born in Pratt and grew up in Hutchinson. His late mother Virginia Gordon worked at the Hutchinson Public Library. Gordon graduated from Baker University, Baldwin City, KS and he completed his Masters of Library Science degree at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He has held a number of progressive library administration positions in Washington, Idaho and Minnesota. Before being named Executive Director of the American Library Association in 1998, he served as director of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System in Hyattsville, MD.

Hutchinson to host Chautauqua

The Kansas Humanities Council announces that Hutchinson will host this summer's Great Plains Chautauqua. The Chautauqua troupe will visit there July 24 - 28. The 1998 tour features "Behold Our New Century: Early 20th Century Visions of America."

The Great Plains Chautauqua is a revival of the traveling tent chautauquas that educated and entertained Kansans during the first decades of the century. The contemporary Chautauqua is sponsored by the state humanities councils of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

"Behold Our New Century" will feature Jane Addams, Andrew Carnegie, Charles A. Eastman, Theodore Roosevelt, and Booker T. Washington. Humanities scholars will portray these historical figures in costume and in character. Chautauqua week includes five nightly

programs in which the characters will appear onstage under the tent to discuss their lives and work. In addition, there will be daytime workshops for adults and special events for children.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Americans were in lively debate about the future of the country - what direction the nation should take and what role it would play in the world. Issues they debated included the proper role of government; the rights of women, minorities, and immigrants; the impact of industrialization, and the influence of corporate America. Though separated by time and historical experiences, these issues are still part of today's political and social dialogue.

The Chautauqua tent will be in Sylvan Park with daytime workshops in various locations around the city. Included in the local coordinating committee is the Hutchinson Public Library.

Hutchinson was host city for a previous Chautauqua in 1991. This summer marks the 16th year that the Great Plains Chautauqua has been touring Kansas, with 24 communities across the state hosting the program.

New employee at Wichita Public

"Good library service can only be achieved through a healthy partnership between library and community," says Linda Knupp, the Library's new Coordinator of Extension Services. Linda comes to us from the South Central Kansas Library System, where she was the automation consultant.

Linda's duties will include supervising eleven branches, homebound services, and Blind and Physically Handicapped Services. Identifying service needs and finding ways to improve service are her primary goals.

Linda's position at SCKLS has been filled by Larry Papenfuss, who comes to Hutchinson from the Pratt Community College Library.

Academy award short subjects

The twelfth annual Academy Award Short Subjects program was held at the Wichita Public Library on March 15 and March 22. The program included current Academy Award nominees in the Documentary Short, Animation, and Live Action categories.

Academy Award Short Subjects gave Wichitans an opportunity to see non-feature films nominated for awards before the Oscar presentations on March 23. Wichita is the only city to have public showings of these films.

For additional information contact Sondra B. Koontz, Head, Art, Music, and AV Services at 316/262-0611.

Board of nursing

The mission of the Kansas State Board of Nursing is to protect the public. They are trying to increase awareness of the Board and it's functions.

The Board deals directly with education, legislation, licensure and discipline in regards to nursing in Kansas. The Board's concern is the public trust it represents.

Should you or your patrons have any questions concerning nursing care, the board of nursing wants to hear from you. Contact: Kansas State Board of Nursing, 900 S.W. Jackson, Room 551-S, Topeka, KS 66612, or call 785/296-5752.

Out-of-print sources on the web

In February Carolyn Guernsey, Southwest Kansas Library System, sought websites for out-of-print books through the KANLIB-L listserv. She received many responses and later posted a list on the listserv. That list is reprinted here for your interest and benefit.

<http://www.bibliofind.com/>
<http://www.antiquarian.com/>
<http://www.powells.com/>
 Archco@aol.com
<http://www.interloc.com/>
<http://home1.gte.net/mcorphan/books.html>
[http://www.comlab.ox.ac.uk/archive/publishers/
 bookstores.html](http://www.comlab.ox.ac.uk/archive/publishers/bookstores.html)
<http://www.antiquarian.com/lists/>
<http://208.144.214.69/privatelabel/welcome.htm>
<http://mxbf.com/>

Kansas books

by Roy Bird

Cabin Fever Relievers: Hundreds of Games, Activities, and Crafts for Creative Indoor Fun, by Tina Koche and Mary-Lane Kamberg. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press, 1997. \$12.95.

Handprint in the Woods: Poetry, Essays, and Fiction by *The Kansas City Writers' Group*. Prairie Village: Whispering Prairie Press, 1997. \$10.95.

Here are a pair of books, each worth a hard look for a different reason. They are presented together because they were delivered together on my desk from the soul thing they have in common—Mary-Lane Kamberg. She is co-author of *Cabin Fever Relievers*, and has a poem in *Handprint in the Woods*, and she is a driving force behind *The Kansas City Writers' Group*, demonstration the versatility of this professional writer and editor. In 1996 she won the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award from ALA.

Children's librarians will be delighted with *Cabin Fever Relievers*. It's not only for your collection, it's

also a source for indoor programming as well as something that will be in demand by parents, teachers and daycare providers once they discover it. It has chapters for activities in the kitchen, dining and living rooms, bed and bath rooms, the garage and "the Room in Your Heart." Each chapter has a handy page for your own ideas, too. This is a sequel to their 1995 book, *Tips From Tina*.

Recommended for children's, school and adult collections beside other daycare providers' materials.

Handprint in the Woods is a different sort of book. It is the second publication by *The Kansas City Writers' Group*, following the introspective *Beginning from the Middle*. Stories and poems with strong outdoor points of view are included in this new anthology. It provides samples of the work of more than 40 writers in the Kansas City area. In fact, Mary-Lane's poem is printed opposite one by former Kansas City Royals pitcher Dan Quisenberry. *Handprint in the Woods* provides a glimpse into how writers from a metropolitan part of Kansas see the outdoors—it deserves a place on shelves with other Kansas literature.

Order both from Mary-Lane Kamberg, 2128 E. 144th Street, Olathe, KS 66062.

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