

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

July 1998

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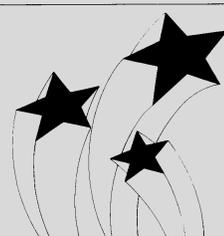
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J U L Y



Letters of intent solicited for LSTA Technology, Training grants

Letters of intent to apply for FY 1999 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Technology Development grants and LSTA Technology Training grants are now being accepted. The deadline for letters of intent is Monday, August 3, 1998. Letters of intent should be written on local library, agency or institution letterhead.

Letters of intent should state that the library governing body intends to apply for federal funds in grant form from the FY 1999 LSTA allotment for technology development or for technology training. Because these are two separate grant projects, it is important to identify either development or training.

Tax-supported libraries of any type wishing to apply for grants to provide technology, development and training need to submit a letter of intent to Roy Bird, Federal Projects Coordinator, Kansas State Library, 300 S.W. 10th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66612-1593.

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

Libraries which submit a letter of intent will then receive a copy of the application and LSTA Technology Grant Program guidelines.

If your library is interested in federal funds to support a technology grant during FY 1999, submit your letter of intent by August 3. Grant awards will be determined at the October 23, 1998, joint meeting of the LSTA Advisory Council and the State Library Advisory Commission.

During August and September while the guidelines and applications are being distributed, a series of workshops will be conducted to assist in their preparation. The workshops will consist of two parts: 1) Vikki Jo Stewart will present a basic grantwriting session, and 2) Roy Bird will discuss Kansas LSTA grants in particular. Contact your regional system consultant regarding the time and place of the workshop nearest you.



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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.

FirstSearch, SearchBank Services, FY 1999

FirstSearch services will be continued for FY 1999 (July 1, 1998—June 30, 1999). FirstSearch for FY 1999 will include the following base package databases: WorldCat, ArticleFirst, ContentsFirst, ERIC, GPO, MEDLINE, Papers-First and Proceeding. The FirstSearch service will also continue to include UMI's Periodical Abstracts and ABI Inform full-text databases. Starting July 1, the FirstSearch service will also include WilsonSelect, a database that includes indexing, abstracting and full-text from 800 of the most popular periodical titles covered in Wilson publications. In total, WilsonSelect includes 209,000 records. WilsonSelect has been available on a demonstration basis until the end of May. WilsonSelect will reappear July 1 and remain available through the fiscal year.

While neither Books In Print nor SIRS-Research will be available via the statewide contract, some libraries may be interested to know that both databases are available to individual libraries from OCLC via BCR. OCLC is planning a mailing to all Kansas libraries that details the subscription price and per search price for all OCLC FirstSearch databases.

The statewide IAC contract for SearchBank databases will be continued for FY 1999 without change. The IAC service includes access to the following databases: Expanded Academic ASAP, Business and Company ASAP, Health Reference Center-Academic and National Newspaper Index.

Help 'Put Your Town on the Map'

Have you ever wanted to "put your town on the map?" The federal government needs more than 280,000 men and women who want to earn extra cash by spending about six weeks on one of America's most interesting and important temporary jobs. The first phase, called "address listing," will kick off on July 31, 1998, and start in smaller towns and counties where people don't have city-style addresses. The point of the job is to literally put your neighbors on the map. About 24,500 listers and 6,100 crew

leaders will drive down every country road and lane to make sure that the address of every place where someone lives, or could live, is properly listed on the records and maps that the U.S. Census Bureau will use to deliver census questionnaires in 2000.

Address listers will interview residents to determine the most accurate address for every house, apartment building, cabin, campground, military base, converted barn, mobile home or other habitable structure. If a dwelling doesn't have a street address, their job is to mark it on the map and give a brief, but precise description. They list new houses and note the location of abandoned or demolished structures.

Address listers must be familiar with the areas on their maps, so they almost always work near home. It's perfect for someone who really wants to get to know his or her community from the inside out. The job is open to retired people, most current federal government employees, students, people who want to work a second job; anyone over 18 who passes the test and has four to five hours available during the day or the evening, and on weekends. U.S. citizenship is required, except where specific language needs exist and a qualified U.S. citizen is unavailable. In addition, you must have a driver's license and reliable transportation. The Census Bureau also is seeking people who are bilingual, particularly in Spanish.

In return for being careful and accurate, address listers receive 31 cents a mile, in addition to an hourly rate that's always better than minimum wage, ranging from \$6.30 to \$13.75 an hour, depending on the location.

For more information about jobs with Census 2000, call this toll-free telephone: 800/325-7733.

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*.

Catalyst

Trends that will impact library resource sharing

(part 2 of a 2 part series)

*by Paul Hawkins, Assistant Director
South Central Kansas Library System,
Hutchinson*

Part one of this article, in the June *Catalyst*, reported on a presentation in Wichita by former KLN Executive Director Michael Piper. This second installment concludes coverage of that presentation, outlining five trends that will shape library developments in Kansas.

In his presentation for the South Central Kansas Library System, Michael Piper identified five trends which will shape Kansas libraries in the future:

- 1) Networked information
- 2) Rising customer expectations
- 3) Continuing pressure to do more with less
- 4) Higher levels of library cooperation
- 5) Increased complexity

Trend 1: Networked information

The World Wide Web is the most powerful tool ever developed for connecting people and fostering creativity. Having effective Web access is like living next door to a research library that never closes, according to Michael Piper.

This ever-increasing amount of information can lead to overload. It can also underscore the

importance of librarians. Librarians need to be continually trained and updated to understand how to make this information available to their customers as effectively as possible.

Trend 2: Rising expectations

"More information means that rural customers will expect the same level of access to information as their urban counterparts," Michael said. Providing equal access to information regardless of geographical location will be a second major trend.

Trend 3: pressure to do more with less

A third trend will be political and economic pressure to provide more service with less money. "Today's tight fiscal climate will continue, fueled by the false sense that the Internet is the answer to everything," said Michael.

Trend 4: increased cooperation

A fourth trend that may help address the first three trends is increased interlibrary cooperation. Michael explained, "The information explosion has underscored the recognition that no single library can fulfill the full range of its customers' needs."

Years of library cooperation have led us to the recognition that even the smallest libraries have something to contribute. Libraries need to extend their resources by sharing with other libraries. Every library can contribute because there is strength in numbers.

"We must also extend these cooperative partnerships beyond libraries," Michael noted. As an example, he cited the library community's partnership with The Boeing Company. Boeing has funded the work of John and Susan Howell who have helped numerous Kansas communities develop Web pages.

Trend 5: increasing complexity

A fifth trend points to an increasingly complex environment for library services. "New methods, new partners and new services mean new problems and new solutions. The rapid

pace of change will continue, and the future will be more complicated," according to Michael. "There has never been a greater need for effective local library service, and there's never been a greater need for leadership at the state level." said Michael. "There is an significant need for communication, cooperation and collaboration. By working cooperatively, we can develop the wisdom and consensus to build the services our customers deserve."

In Michael's view, the State Library and regional library systems are at the heart of it all. They will play a major role in making Kansas an information leader by building a spirit of cooperation, enlisting support from diverse partners, keeping customers informed, and helping the Kansas library community speak with one voice.

Michael concluded his presentation by saying, "Opportunities abound, and the possibilities are limited only by our imaginations. When Kansas librarians speak with one voice, there can be no limit to what we can accomplish together."

Haysville tragedy has library impact

Haysville has been in local, regional and national news since the explosion at the DeBruce Grain elevator there on Monday, June 8. The tragedy has some impact on the Kansas library community since one of the men trapped in the tunnels beneath the elevator was Howard Goin, husband of Dorothy Goin, KPLACE graduate and 15 year employee at the Haysville Public Library. Goin was the only one not found in the ruins.

Our sympathies go out to Dorothy in this time of tragedy in her life. Expressions may be sent to her at her address at 400 Van Arsdale, Haysville, KS 67060 or by email to the library at haylib@southwind.net.

Memorials can be made for Howard Goin to the Haysville Public Library, 130 W. Grand, Haysville, KS 67060.

Graham family shares adventure

The nationally known Graham family of Wichita will share tales of their yearlong, 50-state adventure in an open forum at the Westlink Library on May 30 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

From July 4, 1996 through July 4, 1997, the Grahams—Craig, 43, Marlene, 40, Courtney, 13 and Collier, 5—connected with America and each other by selling their home, packing a tent and hitting the road.

The 12 months that followed were incredible, not just for the sometimes hair-raising adventure, but because the Grahams learned true appreciation for the great diversity of our country and its people—lessons and experiences they continue to share with classrooms, as well as the thousands of people who write to them over the Internet.

Over the past year the Grahams' journey has been featured in hundreds of newspapers and television shows nationwide. The Grahams documented their adventures on the Internet, gradually developing a following around the country and the world. They have recently published a 704-page book on the family's experiences entitled *Headfirst Into America*.

Eric Hansen to Snowbird

Eric Hansen of the Argentine Branch, Kansas City Kansas Public Library has been selected as one of approximately 32 participants nationwide to attend the 1998 Leadership Institute at Snowbird (Utah). Eric was nominated by the Kansas Library Association and selected by the Snowbird Advisory Board.

The Leadership Institute at Snowbird was initiated to identify, train, and network the library leaders of the future. Since its inception in 1990, Snowbird has met with great success and is now regarded as one of the finest library leadership development programs in the country.

Congratulations to Eric!

BlueSkyways featured by AP

Associated Press writer Carl Manning recently prepared an article based on an interview with Michael Piper, former executive director of the Kansas Library Network Board. Beginning with Freeport, the smallest incorporated Kansas city with only seven residents, the article that went out on the AP wire discussed the more than 250 communities now having home pages on Blue Skyways.

"Every Kansas community is a story waiting to have a community Web site is a source of enormous pride," said Michael. He said the Web sites are like windows to the communities. What's included on a homepage is left to the community. Most advertise their assets, and many connect to other Web sites for such things as lodging, restaurants, historical sites and tourist attractions in that area.

Michael told the reporter Blue Skyways started in December 1995 to give communities and counties a no-cost Web site to get the word out to anybody in the world with a computer. He said somebody must be getting the message, with 1.5 million hits last year on the Web site and 2 million expected by the end of this year.

"There is a whole world of smaller communities with stories waiting to be told and we're willing to help them. We want to make it a one-stop source for Kansas communities," Michael said.

The State Library can help communities set up a homepage, and some communities create their own Web sites and are linked to Blue Skyways. "What we would like to do is have it so any town can have a Web presence if they want it," Michael said.

Many of the community homepages have text and photos, but not the bells and whistles and moving images like more sophisticated Web sites. But that was done for a reason. Many computers operate with slower speed modems, which takes longer download complicated graphics. Instead of getting to a homepage, the user gets stuck in cyber-gridlock.

Helping design the community homepages for Blue Skyways have been John and Susan Howell of Wichita, who five years ago started building Web sites for the places they visited on weekends. The Howells created Kansas On The Net, listing towns with the highlights and attractions of each. In May 1996, their Web site became part of Blue Skyways.

The Howells have designed Web sites for about 125 communities and all 105 counties on Blue Skyways. John Howell has worked full time on the project since getting a one-year leave from Boeing last September.

The AP article was excellent publicity for Blue Skyways. Kansas On The Net can be found at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/kansas.html>.

Trudy Morse presents Sun Ra tribute concert

Poet Trudy Morse will perform the poetry of Sun Ra while local jazz musicians play his music in a Sun Ra Tribute Concert on Sunday, July 26 at 1:30 pm at the Wichita Public Library.

Sun Ra, born in Birmingham, Alabama around 1914, is considered a great jazz musician and one of the godfathers of punk rock. Sun Ra composed and performed all kinds of music in his 70 year career: pre-swing in the 1920s, gospel, rhythm and blues and doo-wop. He put together light shows in the 60s. He was even a part of the Disco scene in the 70s. He is thought of as a music trend setter. He was one of the first musicians to play electric instruments. He included lights and dancers in his performances before anyone else, and he created his own record label, Saturn, for his music and other avant-garde musicians. Sun Ra died in 1992.

Trudy Morse, poet and performance artist, performed with Sun Ra for the last three years of his life. At 81, and a grandmother with 20 grandchildren, she now travels all over the world planning and presenting Tributes to Sun Ra.

Used book clearance sale

The Friends of the Wichita Public Library will sponsor their Used Book Clearance Sale Saturday, July 25 from 10:00 am—5:00 pm and Sunday, July 26 from 1:00 pm—4:30 pm in the Lobby of the Wichita Public Library.

The Friends of the Library ask ridiculously low prices during their clearance sales. Most books are only 25¢ each, romance novels sell for just 10¢ apiece, and magazines are priced at 5¢ each.

The Friends Bookstore is open year round at the Central Library, 223 S. Main, offering low prices on used books and magazines. Donations are appreciated and accepted at all Wichita Public Library locations. All proceeds from the sale benefit the Wichita Public Library.

Rose Hill ILDP grant award

Rose Hill High school and Rose Hill Middle School libraries were awarded a 1998 Inter-library Loan Development Program grant from the Kansas Library Network Board in the amount of \$4,200 for the purchase of about 300 books on young adult contemporary fiction.

These books have been added to the existing library collections and are available for circulation and interlibrary loan. A bibliography of the titles purchased with the grant funds is available. To obtain the bibliography or request any of the grant items contact Jane Williamson, Rose Hill High School Library or Martha Helzer, Rose Hill Middle School Library, 104 N. Rose Hill Road, Box 111, Rose Hill, KS 67133 or email rh3941Lb@ink.org.

New deputy director announced

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced the appointment of Beverly Black Sheppard to the position of Deputy Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services for Museum Services. She began working at the Institute on Monday, June 8, 1998. Sheppard has more than 15 years of professional museum experience.

In announcing the appointment, Diane Frankel, Director of the Institute, said, "With her experience in museum administration and innovative thinking, Beverly Sheppard is well suited for this important position at the Institute. I am delighted that Ms. Sheppard is joining the Institute and look forward to her leadership in the development of policy that builds on the success of the Office of Museum Services."

This position was created by the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996. The Act reauthorized Federal museum and library programs and created a new agency to administer them. The Act calls for the appointment of two Deputy Directors of the Institute, one for the Office of Library Services and one for the Office of Museum Services. In January 1998, Elizabeth Sywetz joined the Institute as Deputy Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services for Library Services.

Former State Library employee publishes Oz article

Allen Gardiner, Hayward, California, has an article in the June 1998 issue of *Science of Mind* magazine titled "The Yellow Brick Road." The article illustrates how Frank Baum's world-famous story, "The Wizard of Oz," is an excellent secular example of "the kingdom of God."

Gardiner, a free-lance writer and newspaper columnist worked at the Kansas State Library until 1985. His parents, Raymond and Margaret Gardiner, are Holton residents.

Librarian speaks at Senate forum on Internet filtering

Karen Schneider, director of the Garfield Library of Brunswick in New York, was a featured speaker on May 7 at a presentation to Senate staffers on the pros and cons of Internet filtering and other issues related to S. 1619, the Internet School Filtering Act.

Though S. 1619 was technically passed by the Senate Commerce committee and would require K-12 schools to have installed filtering on all Internet terminals and at least one terminal in all public libraries, there are now discussions ongoing about how to possibly change S. 1619 language before the bill goes to the Senate floor. ALA and others have argued that, should any such content requirements be applied to the e-rate, requiring local use policies is far preferable to mandating filtering.

Schneider discussed some of the different filtering systems and the pros and cons of how they are used, referencing many of the points in her book, *A Practical Guide to Internet Filters* (order from <http://www.neal-schuman.com>). She also described The 1997 Internet Filter Assessment Project, for which she was the project leader, and pointed out the major advantages of user education and the development of strong Internet policies as key management options.

Kansas books

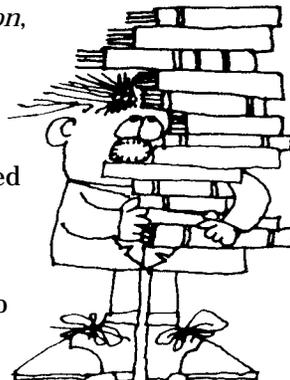
by Roy Bird

[Editor's note. No books were submitted to be included in the "Kansas Books" column. The editor chose this opportunity to editorialize about book reviews.]

In an article by Richard White in the June 12, 1998 *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the Stanford University history professor took on the neglect of academic books by the mainstream press. He concluded that book review editors are "like beat cops." He claimed that editors "suppress intellectual crimes that might initiate their readers—the questionings, the annoying dissents, the criticisms, the failures to conform to popular taste."

He reiterates the old complaint of scholars that scholarly books are ignored by the popular media. In so criticizing the mainstream press, White overlooked the audience that the popular media serves. If nothing else in a newspaper, magazine or other media is academic, why should the books reviewed be?

The Kansas Books column was created as part of the State Library's newsletter in 1987



as a service to public librarians in the state. It's original scope was to answer questions such as "I heard about a book printed by a small press, but how do I order it?" or "If it is self-published, what's the author's address?" Most of the books reviewed have been about Kansas or by Kansans and usually are in the "hard-to-find" category. Items from major publishers or those reviewed by professional periodicals are typically bypassed because libraries have access to those catalogs and journals in which such items are reviewed. Academic, popular, fiction and nonfiction, children's and adult materials have graced the Kansas Books column. The chief source of these materials of interest to Kansas libraries has been from the authors, publishers and librarians of Kansas.

Richard White's complaint against and criticism of the popular media's "neglect" of academic books seems to overlook the obvious. Librarians of all types use reviews in the scholarly as well as the mainstream presses. The source for Kansas materials by Kansas authors is the "Kansas Books" column in *Kansas Libraries*. Thanks for reading.

