

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

July 1999

This month in Kansas Libraries

Letters of intent solicited
for LSTA Technology,
Training grants.....1

In Memoriam.....1

The Anniversary Class
Graduates From
KPLACE.....2

Kansas libraries... forty
years ago.....3

National Library Week
Activities.....4

TSCPL receives Wilson
award.....4

Correction.....4

Library partnership
promotes early
reading.....5

News from the KLTA.....6

Kansas books.....7

An invitation.....7

Howell's receive Huck
Boyd award.....8

Letters of intent solicited for LSTA Technology, Training grants

Letters of intent to apply for FY 2000 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, July 26, 1999. 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 2000 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.

Libraries of any type wishing to apply for grants to provide technology development and technology training need to submit a letter of intent to Roy Bird, Federal Projects Coordinator, Kansas State Library, 300 S.W. 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612.

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 2000, submit your letter of intent by July 26. Grant awards will be determined at the October 8 joint meeting of the LSTA Advisory Council and the State Library Advisory Commission.

In Memoriam

Lynette Krehbiel, head librarian at the Moundridge Public Library and a retired teacher at Moundridge Rural High School, died on Wednesday morning, June 16, at Halstead Hospital. She was 68.

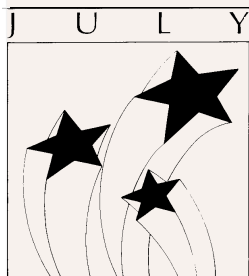
Krehbiel succumbed to cancer after surviving the disease twice before, in 1984 and again in the late 1980s.

Krehbiel taught English in schools in Pretty Prairie, Partridge, Moundridge and Lindsborg before returning to Moundridge in 1969. She also taught composition, drama and humanities.

Krehbiel began working in the library in 1975 while still employed as a full-time teacher. She retired from teaching in 1992 and devoted all her energies to improving the library.

Under her directorship the library, at 220 South Christian in Moundridge, acquired more than \$50,000 in assets, expanded into the building next door, and increased its circulation to 4,000 items per month.

Lynette Krehbiel was a tireless advocate for the library. She will be greatly missed.



The Anniversary Class Graduates From KPLACE

—by Shannon Roy, Library Development

KPLACE 1999 had a well designed program presented by excellent instructors. The KPLACE One class studied community networking, customized service and developing technology with Marty Hale, Jeff Hixon and Eric Hansen. KPLACE Two talked about “the human side of libraries” with a wide variety of staff from Johnson County, Manhattan, Coffey County, Ottawa, Newton, McPherson and the state library.

The graduating class worked with collection management, technology and interpersonal skills with staff from Emporia, NEKLS and Kansas City. A brand new one day workshop on marketing and public relations sparked a very lively discussion. It was taught by Joe McKenzie, Marty Hale, Susan Marchant, Harry Willems and Jeannie McPhail.

Toni Boyles, who has worked with KPLACERs more than any other commercial trainer, facilitated an excellent discussion of life skills and stress management for KPLACE alumni in a program called “We are Always Under Construction.”

Cindi Hickey, Dave Mills, Jeannie McPhail and Vikki Jo Stewart acted as the 1999 technical and administrative coordinators for KPLACE.

KPLACE graduation was combined with a celebration of the tenth anniversary of KPLACE. The KPLACE anniversary was commemorated with a special shirt designed by the KPLACERs and a special publication put out by the state library.

The graduating class of 1999 wore cream colored polo shirts to the graduation ceremony and was cheered enthusiastically by the first KPLACE classes of the 21st century. In her tribute to this class, Shannon Roy commented, “They are fun to work with, fun to talk to. Their discussions reveal them as dedicated and caring. They will produce their share of library leaders as they have already produced their share of community leaders.”

Graduating in 1999 were Joyce Armstrong, Wilson Blow, Lois Karen Brown, Patty Collins, Dixie Conklin, Michelle Francis, Patricia Gaddie, Nidia Gallegos, Carolyn Guernsey, Carol Heinemann, Gee Gee Helm, Deborah Herbison, Cindy Jack, Sandy Kearns, Ginger Kraft, Debbie Landers, Holly Mathes, Jane Meyers, Richard Miller, Barbara Ramirez, Mary Roberts, Susan Sanny, Nancy Schiffelbein and Karen Socha.



Jeff Hixon of the Kansas State Library presents to KPLACE I



Catalyst

by Eric Hansen,
Executive Director
Kansas Library Network Board

At its May meeting, the Kansas Library Network Board awarded \$20,000 to the Kansas Digital Library (KDL) project for the purpose of completing a working prototype by December of 1999. Originally an initiative of the Regents institutions and others, the KDL has come to include representatives of the community colleges, State Historical Society, K-12 community and more. It exists to deliver information of or about Kansas in digital form.

On Friday, June 4 I was pleased to present a hands-on Web search engines class called "Effective Web Searches" to Kansas teachers at the 1999 Kansas State Department of Education Integration Institute "Seeing Our Communities with New Eyes." The institute sought to give teachers in secondary schools in Kansas tools that will assist them and their students with researching pertinent information about their communities through a cross-curricular approach that supports state and national standards. In my presentation I chose to highlight the Kansas Communities on the Web page on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/towns/>, as well as discussing different types of search engines and strategies for search formulation. Because we never really know how much or how little we know about a subject until we attempt to present it to a class of professional educators, I look forward to similar opportunities in the future.



Kansas libraries.... forty years ago

Gleanings from the June (i.e. summer) 1959 issue of The Kansas Library Bulletin:

- The William Allen White Children's Book Award goes to a dog book this year, *Old Yeller*, by Fred Gipson.
- Within the last 20 years the Wichita County Library in Leoti has grown from a collection of a few hundred books to more than 7,000 titles. Now the library has a new modern facility built at a cost of approximately \$32,000.
- The Effingham Public Library has moved to a new location in town.
- This year the Hays Public Library celebrated its sixty years of operation and the local newspaper printed a full page of pictures showing the library's services.
- After several years of drought and a major flood the mud under heavy buildings in downtown Lawrence, the Carnegie Library among them, settled and developed faults. A new method of shoring up sinking walls has saved the 1904 Carnegie Library.



National Library Week Activities

—by Eunice Schroeder
Stevens County Library, Hugoton

What do cowboys, football players, and daycare providers all have in common? They were all featured at the Stevens County Library April 11 - 17, 1999 during National Library Week! Several events were planned to promote the Stevens County Library in Hugoton, Kansas.

Daycare providers were given the opportunity to receive in-service training in the library on Tuesday evening. Children and literature and "What We Can Offer You" were stressed in this 1 1/2 hour training. Door prizes and refreshments were provided by the Stevens County Library. Training was provided by Barbara Olivas of the United Methodist Western Kansas Mexican-American Ministries Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Cowboy poets entertained 50 plus people on Thursday evening. Garden City, Kansas poets Leonard Hitz and Keith Downer and Hooker, Oklahoma poet Jack "Trey" Allen shared their own and other's "cowboy" poetry. Laughter was heard throughout the building and not one "shh" was heard from library staff!

Friday morning brought out four Hugoton High School "Eagle" football players to share a favorite children's book. Forty students and four teachers from Hugoton Elementary School and Heritage Christian Academy were entertained by Duane Baughman, Sam Brockert, Nathan Harrison and Jeremy Landis.

To celebrate the Stevens County Library's 85th anniversary and National Library Week, every 85th adult and youth patron to enter the library received a door prize. Nine patrons received door prizes during the week.



TSCPL receives Wilson award

The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library has been named the recipient of the 1999 H.W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant presented by the American Library Association. The award, a citation and \$3,500 donated by H.W. Wilson Company, is given to a library organization whose application demonstrated the greatest merit for a staff development program designed to further the goals and objectives of the library. Jury chair James Mouw said the award jury was impressed with the way in which the library has designed a program that will have an immediate positive impact on the ability of the library staff to provide quality service to its user populations. The award was presented on Tuesday, June 29, in New Orleans at the ALA Awards Reception during the association's annual conference.



Correction

In the June issue of *Kansas Libraries* a picture of the interior of the Pittsburg Public Library appeared with a caption suggesting that the source of the photo was the April 1999 issue of *Library Journal*. The photo appeared in the April 1999 issue of *American Libraries*.

Library partnership promotes early reading

Families and children under age 3 will enjoy a new partnership between the Bright Futures infant/toddler program and the Wellington Public Library. It also features a new facet of the library—boxes of toys for young children—which is funded by a Belle Plaine woman and her coworkers.

Goals of this partnership include developing early readers and attempting to get families who may not otherwise frequent the library to do so as soon as they have children. Angie Lister-Hilt, Shirley Gray and Lisa Martin, Bright Futures staff, present Toddler Storytime on the first and third Wednesday of every month beginning in mid-September and running through May.

Children between 24 and 36 months of age are encouraged to attend. Parents or a caregiver are asked to accompany the child and are expected to stay. Toddler Storytime meets from 10:00-10:30 am. During this time the children are introduced to several age appropriate stories.

Some of the stories have visuals to go with them, such as flannel board pieces or pictures. Besides reading, participants sing songs, do fingerplays, read nursery rhymes and sing movement or action songs.

Bright Futures staff members have also prepared toy boxes for checking out at the library. There are 30 boxes which are designed specifically for families and children under age 3. The boxes may be checked out for four weeks and a library card is the only requirement for checking them out. A card can be easily obtained by filling out a small bit of information at the library. There is no cost involved.

As each box is returned to the library the children's librarian, Sue Abbey, calls the Bright Futures staff who go get the box, wash and sanitize the toys and return the box to the library ready for the next family to check it out.

Parents are not the only ones who could benefit from the toy boxes. It has been suggested that grandparents who have grandchildren coming for the weekend can check out a box. Babysitters may benefit from checking out a toy box for an evening. An inventory list and a picture of the contents of each box are included in the notebooks.

These boxes were funded by the generosity of the friends and coworkers of Vicky Burris of Belle Plaine who works at Raytheon in Wichita. At each pay period a portion of the check is donated to United Way.

Burris spearheaded a push for her donation to be sent to the infant/toddler program of Futures Unlimited, Inc. Bright Futures is a program of Futures Unlimited.

Burris shared what she was doing with her coworkers and many of them followed suit. Burris also had previously been of assistance in helping to obtain a grant for a toy lending library of smaller scale. This was for the benefit of special needs children who participated in the countywide infant/toddler program.

For more information on any of the programs, contact Bright Futures at 316/326-8909 or the Wellington Public Library at 316/326-2011.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.

News from the KLTA

—by Ellen Miller, KLTA President

It's official! The Kansas Library Trustee Association is up and running. Its first-ever annual membership meeting mixed a rousing keynote speech on censorship with suggestions on future KLTA services.

At the April 8, 1999 meeting, nationally-known children's author and trustee Lois Ruby, Wichita, discussed "Challenged materials challenge trustees: Local sensitivities, censorship and library boards." Potential conflicts Ruby discussed included the right to freedom vs. community standards and taxpayers' rights vs. library responsibility. The audience enthusiastically applauded Ruby's thoughtful keynote speech. Attendees included Association for Library Trustees and Advocates' Regional Vice President Jim McPherson and Elizabeth Pinter, past president of the California Trustees Association.

Special recognition was given to the "Inaugural 200" members at the meeting. They received a frameable certificate, courtesy of the Kansas State Library. As of mid-May, KLTA had 216 members. All KLTA members as of mid-March, 2000 will be included in a plaque to be presented to KLA officers at the 2000 Tri-Conference.



KLTA's inaugural officers (left to right): Ellen Miller, President; Melva Barlow, Vice President; Byron Warta, Treasurer; Midge Jones, Secretary.

1999 board/officers

KLTA's board members are:

- Urban Four Libraries - Nancy Tush, Wichita
- Central Kansas Library System - Verdel Krug, LaCrosse
- North Central Kansas Library System - Robert L. Welch, Marysville
- Northeast Kansas Library System - Kenneth Woods, Ottawa
- Northwest Kansas Library System - Barbara Ebgert, WaKeeney
- South Central Kansas Library System - Rebah Hubbard, Derby
- Southeast Kansas Library System - Jacque Oakes, Independence
- Southwest Kansas Library System - Pam McElvain, Liberal
- Kansas State Library - Duane Johnson, Advisor
- FoKL liaison - Hans Fischer, President

Officers are:

- President - Ellen Miller, Lenexa
- Vice President - Melva Barlow, Holcomb
- Secretary - Midge Jones, Manhattan
- Treasurer - Byron Warta, Newton

The KLTA board held its first meeting on May 1. A 1999-2000 plan of action was sketched out. Board members agreed to visit 3-6 local libraries in their area annually plus speak at regional assemblies and workshops. At its next board meeting, teams will present recommendations on training, including a day-long joint Friends-KLTA program at 2000 Tri-Conference as well as regional workshops; a survey of all 2,1000 Kansas trustees; the KLTA newsletter; and the KLTA database.

The seven regional system directors and State Library received special appreciation for their ideas and support of KLTA. In addition to the joint 2000 Tri-Conference program, the board supported other partnership steps with FoKL, such as a joint database for faster, more effective local and state legislative action. And that's what KLTA is all about—action that gets more resources for our libraries and our customers.

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird

Ten Years of KPLACers: Memories and Gratitude, by KPLACE graduates, faculty and staff. 8 1/2" x 11", 41 pp., 1999. Available from Shannon Roy, Kansas State Library, 300 S.W. 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612. Toll-free in Kansas 800/432-3919, or 785/296-3296, fax: 785/296-6650.

In 1989, Kansas Public Library Annual Continuing Education (KPLACE) came into existence. At first a dream of Ernestine Voss, the Library Development officer of the Kansas State Library, the program not only survived but also flourished. A decade later, 1999, the acronym KPLACE stands for Kansas Progressive Librarians Acquiring Continuing Education. But what it *really* stands for is in this small booklet.

Broken into an Introduction, thank-yous, a year-by-year history, memories written by participants, and songs from some of the classes, this booklet reminds KPLACE graduates of the education, self-confidence and camaraderie they have experienced during and since their classes at Emporia State University. For those who have not yet attended KPLACE, reading this booklet will provide plenty of reasons to attend as the institute starts its second decade. Recommended for all librarians in Kansas!

Legacy of the Santa Fe Trail, paintings by Gil Rumsey, text by Dr. William S. Worley. Order from: Legacy Publications, 7924 Santa Fe Drive, Overland Park, KS 66204, 913/341-0128 or 816/531-6746. Hardcover, limited edition, 100 pp. 120 color plates and 30 drawings, 9 1/2" x 13 1/4", 1999. \$58.50 includes postage/handling.

From St. Louis to Kansas City to Taos and Santa Fe, this new art book explores the connections between the Trail of yesterday and the Trail today. Its oversized format presents the work of well-known Kansas artist Gil Rumsey in a broader way than ever before. Dr. William Worley's text provides insightful information about how the Trail developed and how it can be

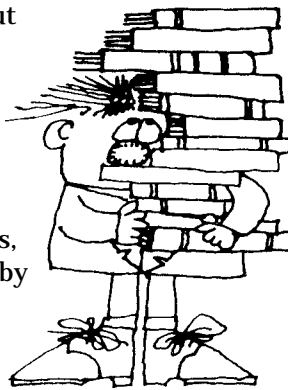
seen from an auto now. Rumsey is a graduate of Kansas State University and operates his own gallery and antique shop in Overland Park. Bill Worley also attended KSU and is now research associate for Kansas City regional history at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). Fraternity brothers since their K-State days in the 1960s, Rumsey and Worley have combined their talents to produce a highly entertaining art book about the past and present. Limited edition, numbered and signed. Recommended for adult art or Kansas collections.

Corncocks and Skunkskins: An Autobiography, by John Colyn. 75 pp., 6" x 9" paper, 1998. \$9.95 + \$2 S/H. Order from: John Colyn, 428 Harrison, Sabetha, KS 66534. 913/284-2269.

At first glance, **Corncocks and Skunkskins** seems like just another story about a young boy growing up on the farm during the Great Depression and World War II. Reading beyond that, however, one finds the life story of a born high school teacher. Author John Colyn truly enjoyed teaching and made the most of every event of his life. What Colyn planned to be an autobiography—his life story—turned into something more: something inspirational. He writes about the typical topics one would expect of a memoir of rural America of the 1930s and 1940s—the “dust bowl,” butchering and milking, the 3-hole privy, threshing and others. Yet Colyn demonstrates at the very end of this little book how he used his many life experiences to demonstrate how to accept retirement and how, ultimately, faith has supported his life. Colyn spent many years as a teacher and coach in McPherson, Kansas, so this is recommended for all libraries there and for biography collections in all types of libraries.

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*.



Howell's receive Huck Boyd award

John and Susan Howell of Kansas On the Net were among those honored as 1999 Huck Boyd Leaders of the Year. The Howells were presented with a plaque at a luncheon/ceremony in Linn on June 2. The award commemorates the Howells' outstanding contribution to the development of Kansas communities through their work in web site development. To date they have assisted in the creation of more than 200 Kansas community web sites under the sponsorship of the Boeing Corporation and the Kansas State Library. The pages can be accessed from the Kansas Communities on the



Web page on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/towns/>.

The Huck Boyd Foundation was established after the death of McDill "Huck" Boyd in 1987 to continue his legacy of promoting rural economic development in Kansas. The foundation sponsors the McDill "Huck" Boyd Community Center in Phillipsburg, the Huck Boyd National Center for Community Media, and the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

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