

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

January 2004

This month in Kansas Libraries

LSTA Special Populations Grants.....1

Public library annual statistics available January 1.....2

Kangaroo.....2

N O T E S.....3

"On the Same Page" reading program...4

Kansas State Library 100 years old.....4

Book review for *Serving Seniors: A How-to-Do-It Manual for Librarians*.....5

An invitation...5

MPLA Youth Services Award6

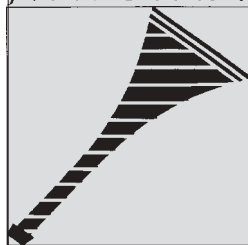
ALA re-releases updated "Libraries & the Internet Toolkit"...6

Library position.....6

Kansas books.....7

Kansas libraries.... 40 years ago.....8

JANUARY



LSTA Special Populations Grants

—by Roy Bird

Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

The Kansas State Library is now accepting letters of intent to apply for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Special Populations grants. The deadline for letters of intent for FY 2004 awards is Monday, March 1, 2004. Letters of intent should be word-processed or typed on library, agency, or institution letterhead.

LSTA Special Populations grants are open to libraries of all types. To apply, submit a letter of intent to Roy Bird, Federal Projects Coordinator,

Kansas State Library,
300 SW 10th, Room
343N, Topeka, KS
66612-1593, fax to 785/
368-7291, ore-mail to
royb@kslib.info.

The letter of intent is the first step in the application process for a grant from the LSTA allotment to Kansas for underserved special populations. Libraries that submit a letter of intent will receive a copy of the application and the LSTA Special Populations grant guidelines. To view the application and guidelines online or download these documents, go to www.skyways.org/KSL/admin/lsta/lsta.htm.

A total of \$50,000 has been budgeted for FY 2004 LSTA Special Populations grants. If your library is interested in federal funds to support

a project serving an underserved special population during FY 2004 submit your letter of intent by March 1.

Application packets will be mailed March 3, 2004. Completed applications are due back no later than Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Grant awards will be determined at the April 30, 2004, joint meeting of the LSTA Council and the State Library Commission. Funds will be distributed in May 2004, and evaluations will be due November 1, 2005, for an 18-month rather than a 12-month project.

For additional information about LSTA Special Populations grants, contact your regional system consultant or Roy Bird at the State Library.

The LSTA Special Populations grants are funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal grant-making agency located in Washington, DC, that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

Public library annual statistics available January 1

—by Roy Bird

Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

That time for public library statistics is upon us again. Individual online forms for each Kansas public library are available once more on January 1, 2004 on Bibliostat Collect, the web-based electronic data collection system provided through Informata.com. Packets have been mailed from the State Library to all legally established public libraries required to report statistics each year. The packets contain a cover letter, an interlibrary loan annual report form, a Civil Rights form, and a blank copy of the Bibliostat Collect form which can be used to determine what statistics are due and for penciling in responses before going to the electronic version on your computer.

The user IDs and passwords have not changed from previous years and new ones have been added for the new libraries created during 2003. There are a few minor changes and improvements from last year's survey.

Several regional library systems have scheduled workshops at which Roy Bird, consultant from the Kansas State Library, will discuss additions, deletions and changes to the Bibliostat Collect data collection tool. These workshops will include an update of Bibliostat Collect and an item-by-item discussion of what statistics are collected, why and how. Watch for information about these workshops from your system headquarters, as well as the packet from the State Library.

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.



Kanguard

—by Jeff Hixon

Director, Library Information Technology

Public libraries in Kansas that have made the decision to filter public access computers in response to the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act now have the option of using Kanguard. In cooperation with the Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS), and with assistance from technical staff of Kansas Regional Library Systems, the Kansas State Library is providing an Internet filter that is:

- reliable
- low maintenance
- easily disabled or reactivated by library staff
- minimally disruptive to the user's online work
- available to the library at no charge

and that:

- has no negative effect on the performance of the library's computer
- uses decisions on site blocking made by Kansas librarians
- meets the technology protection measure requirement of CIPA

Find out more by visiting the Kanguard website: <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/libtech/kanguard/>.

Public libraries can participate by completing the online form at the Kanguard website. The form will go to your regional system office and to the Kanguard administrator. System staff will contact you to be sure you understand what Kanguard will and will not do, and arrange Kanguard setup for your library.



NOTES

—by Eric Hansen
Executive Director



In December of 2003, the State Library renewed its contract with LivePerson, Inc. for another year of service to KANAnswer, the statewide virtual reference library collaborative. This was accomplished in such a way that service to the public continued without interruption.

To the left of this column you see a reduced image of the new KANAnswer bookmark. The bookmarks are now available to the public from participating libraries. See <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/KANAnswerWeb/institutions.htm> for a list of those libraries. Bookmarks are also available from the State Library (call 800/432-3919 and ask for Ruth, or e-mail rutha@kslib.info) or on the

Web for printout in sheets of five at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/KANAnswerWeb/KANAnswerBookmark.pdf>.

I'm very grateful to all the libraries and staff that have made KANAnswer a success during its first year of service to the people of Kansas.



The Kansas State Historical Society Western Trails Web site is now up and functioning at <http://www.ksks.org/research/collections/documents/online/westerntrails/>.



Kanguard, the Internet content filtering service, made its public debut in December 2003. The State Library sponsors this free service to public libraries in the state as a low-cost option to help them comply with the Children's Online Protection Act (CIPA). As chair of the Kanguard Review Committee, I look forward to your input on this new service to Kansas libraries.

ICE Presentation

I traveled with colleague Marc Galbraith from the State Library to present information to an Institute for Continuous Education class at SLIM on Friday, December 5. Marc gave a very thorough and complete discussion of electronic database contract negotiation, and I discussed the Western Trails and KANAnswer projects.

State Library Holiday Open House

The State Library hosted a very successful holiday open house on December 15. As the volunteer staff photographer, I captured some of the attendees, and put some snapshots up in a Web page at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/openhouse2003.html>. Thanks to all the State Library staff who helped make the event a memorable one, and thanks to all our colleagues and friends who attended.

CPM Graduation

During the year 2003 I attended classes in Topeka required for the State of Kansas Certified Public Managers (CPM) program. I graduated with others in the Topeka, Salina, and Kansas City classes on December 19. The course was informative, challenging, and rewarding, and I recommend it to others in state employ who want to increase their management knowledge and skills.

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

"On the Same Page" reading program

—Office of the Governor

Governor Kathleen Sebelius encouraged state employees in Topeka and Shawnee County to participate in the countywide reading program, "On the Same Page" sponsored by the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. State employees were community partners in this project. The Governor thanked State Librarian Duane



I. to r., Marc Galbraith, Cindy Roupe, Governor Kathleen Sebelius and State Librarian Duane Johnson

Johnson and his staff for agreeing to lead the state employee partnership. Governor Sebelius said, "I have always enjoyed reading and am very excited to see 'On the Same Page' get under way in Shawnee County."

Kansas State Library 100 years old

—by Roy Bird
Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

It was a quiet opening, all things considered. In March, 1903, the state of Kansas announced that it had paid its final voucher for the "completed statehouse." The last portion of the capitol building in Topeka was open to the public, even though parts of it had been occupied much earlier. Even with the payment of the completed capitol building, work continued on the north portico right outside the Kansas State Library's windows until the summer, 1906. Today work again proceeds outside those windows, this time to complete an underground parking garage. In 1903, concern was already being expressed about repairs that were even then needed to be done on various portions of the capitol—a century later similar concerns are being addressed.

The State Library had been moved into the north wing in September, 1900. James Levi King had been state librarian from 1894 until 1898. He had observed the work progress on the library portion of the statehouse—until that time it had been housed in several places in the statehouse, once in the fourth floor corridors and once in the cloakroom of the Supreme Court room on the third floor, among other places. But King stepped down as State Librarian with a change of political parties in control of state government, and in his place was appointed Annie LaPorte Diggs, nationally known for her leadership in the Populist Party in the early 1890s. She oversaw the move from cramped quarters to the new facilities in the north wing of the as yet incomplete third floor—the same location which the State Library occupies today. Before that first year was out, the Kansas Library Association was organized in Mrs. Diggs's office in the State Library, with James King as president.

King had just been reinstated as state librarian again when the Republican Party returned to power in 1902. He was present in the State Library when Kansas celebrated its first year in the "completed statehouse" one century ago.

Book review for *Serving Seniors: A How-to-Do-It Manual for Librarians*

—by Shannon Roy
Director of Local Library Development

Serving Seniors: A How-to-do-It Manual for Librarians, by RoseMary Honnold and Saralyn Mesaros, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2004.

Two years ago, a group of Kansas librarians started the Older Kansans Information Forum with the premise that Kansas was shortly going to have a very large population of older Kansans with very diverse needs for information and entertainment and that Kansas public libraries, for a variety of reasons, should make service to older Kansans a high priority. There is a lot of valuable information that can be accessed through our website, which you will find at <http://www.skyways.org/okif/>.

We have gotten a variety of responses to this priority. One common response that was perfectly reasonable was: "If this is so important, we could use some ideas." The ideas have arrived. *Serving Seniors: A How-to-do-it Manual for Librarians* has very recently been published by Neal Schuman. The authors are RoseMary Honnold and Saralyn Mesaros, two librarians who work for the Coshocton Public Library in Ohio.

Serving Seniors takes a commendably comprehensive approach to serving older library users. The first chapter is called "Develop a Comprehensive Senior Services Plan." It offers very valuable information on getting to know the community's seniors, finding out what seniors want, building collections and services that will serve them well and marketing those services to the target audiences.

Too many librarians take their older patrons for granted and don't invest time in getting to know them. The authors make the point that getting to know community seniors is particularly important because they have varied abilities and interests, suffer from cultural stereotypes and absolutely loathe being patronized.

The second chapter is "Build a Collection to Serve Senior Adults." It offers good advice on both subject areas and formats that should be strengthened to serve seniors.

Additional chapters offer ideas for discussion groups, information programs, entertaining programs, intergenerational programs, residential facility programs and programs that can be implemented in partnership with other agencies.

There is a good chapter on helping seniors learn to use and enjoy the Internet, plus a good list of sites that have been popular with older Americans. This is an area where a number of Kansas libraries have already done some wonderful work.

There is a short but useful chapter on serving the homebound. Serving the homebound can be very important in rural communities where there is little public transportation. Many surprisingly small libraries have managed to offer this service, though only with the help of dedicated volunteers. The book also contains a chapter called "Groom Great Volunteers," though this is one subject that could have been covered more extensively.

Serving Seniors is loaded with ideas, many of which can be adapted by small libraries or expanded by large ones. In view of the dramatically rising population of older Kansans, this book is recommended for purchase for many Kansas 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*.

MPLA Youth Services Award

—by *Kaite Mediatore*
MPLA Awards Chair

At the joint MPLA/NLA Conference in Incline Village, Nevada, November 5-8, 2003, the Public Libraries Serving Sedgwick County Kansas were among the 2003 award recipients for MPLA. They were honored at the joint MPLA/NLA President's Banquet held Friday, November 7, at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe.

The MPLA Youth Services Award was presented to the Public Libraries Serving Sedgwick County Kansas. The Youth Services Award is given to a library that exemplifies excellence in library services to youth.

For the summer of 2003, thirteen public libraries in Sedgwick County, Kansas pooled their resources and talents to expand and enhance library services to children and teens throughout the county. With help from the Leonard and Celia Levand Trust, libraries were able to expand existing summer reading services from weeks to months; teen reading programs were created where they did not previously exist. Activities, special events and programs were offered with greater frequency and variety. As a result of these efforts, the number of children and teens participating in the 2003 summer reading programs reached record levels for Sedgwick County and finishing rates hovered at the 50% mark.

ALA releases updated "Libraries & the Internet Toolkit"

—*Keith Michael Fiels*
Executive Director, American Library Association

The American Library Association (ALA) today released a revised and updated version of the popular "Libraries & the Internet Toolkit." The toolkit is the most recent addition to the resources available to assist libraries making decisions about Internet filtering in response to the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The new toolkit can be found online at www.ala.org/oif/iftoolkits/internet or from the CIPA home page, www.ala.org/cipa.

"ALA encourages all libraries to implement policies that protect both children and public access to information and to take an active role in educating their communities about this important resource," said Judith Krug, director, ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom.

The toolkit includes:

- Checklist for creating an Internet-use policy and examples of various library policies;
- Tips for parents;
- Information about what makes a great Web site for children;
- Outreach suggestions;
- Fast facts; and
- An extensive list of additional helpful resources.

Internet use in libraries also will be the topic of the ALA President's Program at the Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, January 9-14. Entitled "Living in a Post-CIPA World," a panel of distinguished speakers from the private and public sectors will discuss the impact this far-reaching Supreme Court decision has had on libraries and information and its implications for equity in the Information Age. The panel takes place Sunday, January 11, 3 to 5 p.m., at the San Diego Marriott (333 West Harbor Drive), Marina BRD-F.

For more information or resources, please contact the ALA at 800/545-2433 or online at www.ala.org.

Library position

A number of changes are occurring at the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS), Hutchinson, as part of recommendations from its long-range plan that was adopted in July 2002. Among the changes is the hiring of a full-time regional library system director. Previously the director of the Hutchinson Public Library (HPL) also served as the director of SCKLS. As the director of HPL, Leroy Gattin has devoted many uncompensated hours providing leadership for the system. SCKLS is very appreciative of his time and to the commitment from the Hutchinson Public Library Board to SCKLS.

A job description for the position is available on the SCKLS website. SCKLS is looking forward to improving consulting, continuing education and other services to its 145 member libraries. Questions about the director's search should be directed to Tresia Dodson, Chair, SCKLS Executive Committee, c/o Winfield Public Library, 605 College, Winfield, KS 67156 or by e-mail: tdodson@wpl.org.

You can view this message and the complete job description at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/sckls/job/>.

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird
Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

Adeline and Julia: Growing up in Michigan and on the Kansas Frontier. Janet L. Coryell and Robert C. Myers, eds. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2000. Softcover, 6" x 9", 265 pp., ISBN 0-87013-513-9, \$24.95.

Some things about Kansas are not well marketed in our state. A case in point is *Adeline and Julia: Growing up in Michigan and on the Kansas Frontier*, a book published in Michigan almost four years ago. Only because a Kansas librarian is the sister of one of the editors did I learn of this very special primary source. This scholarly book contributes to Kansas heritage by unveiling a diary about pioneering not located in the state; by demonstrating that many women as well as men and families homesteaded in Kansas; and by sharing some of the tribulations and successes of a young female homesteader on the 1880s Kansas frontier.

Micaela Ayers, director of the L.W. Nixon Library at Butler County Community College, interlibrary loaned a copy of *Adeline and Julia*. Her sister, Janet Coryell, is associate professor of history at Western Michigan University and co-editor of the book. The contribution of this work to Kansas history is the second half of the book, which consists of the diary of Julia Graham, an adventurous young woman from Michigan who decided for unknown reasons to homestead in western Kansas with three other single women in 1885-86.

Arriving in Independence on September 15, 1885, she and the others spent the next two months crossing southern Kansas before reaching Greeley County where they homesteaded in November. There the "Greeley girls" as they called themselves, set up housekeeping in a dugout dubbed "the Palace Hotel," endured the terrible blizzard of January 1886, extremely dirty and primitive living conditions, and by the tone of the diary enjoyed much of their pioneering experience. Julia's diary ends in August 1886. The first half of the book contains the diary of Julia's sister, Adeline, who remained in Michigan during the same period.

Recommended for all academic, public and secondary school library Kansas collections.

Saba: Under the Hyena's Foot, by Jane Kurtz. Middleton, WI: American Girl (Girls of Many Lands series), 2003. Softcover, 5" x 7", 210 pp., ISBN 1-58485-747-1.

Kansas welcomes an experienced and accomplished young adult novelist, Jane Kurtz, to its ranks of authors. Although her setting of choice is Ethiopia—she spent her childhood there and has written both fiction and nonfiction about that east African country—not Kansas, her exciting fast-paced writing style and skillful characterization will certainly make her as popular here as she is nationally, and even internationally.

Her latest work is *Saba: Under the Hyena's Foot*. It is part of American Girl's series called Girls of Many Lands, many of which are historical fiction. *Saba* is set in Ethiopia in 1846. The title is also the main character's name. The young African girl who grew up in a remote farming village is abducted along with her brother. When she is brought to the city of Gondar, she marvels at the difference between her rustic home and this impressive metropolis, she speculates about why she has been brought there and then separated from her brother, and she discovers she is a pawn in a political intrigue and a descendant of Ethiopian royalty with the blood of King Solomon and Queen Saba (Sheba) in her veins.

After many adventures and rescuing her brother, Saba escapes to join a father she has never known, much wiser and more aware of her past and her homeland. Through Jane Kurtz's masterful story, readers become acquainted with these things as well. With Saba's family tree, a glossary and a special section called Ethiopia Then and Now, *Saba* is not only great historical fiction but also a valuable learning experience.

Saba: Under the Hyena's Foot can be acquired through education wholesalers or Amazon.com. Recommended for upper elementary, middle school and high school library media centers and young adult collections in public libraries.



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

