

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

June 2004

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Handling LEEP records in a changing profession

—by Shannon Roy
Director, Local Library Development

For many years the Kansas State Library has kept a large database of continuing education records for Kansas library personnel. These records list a wide variety of formal education, continuing education and in-service training events. These accomplishments are recognized with a series of certificates as LEEP hours are gained.

In the years since the Library Employee Education Project was started, library education has changed completely:

- College training has become more available to working librarians.
- More librarians are attending a wide variety of out-of-state workshops, training programs and conferences.
- Distance education and web-based training have developed.

- While use of commercial training has not grown a great deal because of its cost, librarians have attended many more community-based training events on a wide variety of subjects.
- Many large and midsize libraries have started in-house staff development programs.
- The Kansas regional library systems have offered more and more training events.

If you are a strong supporter of the lifelong learning philosophy, all of this is wonderful news. If you are

trying to maintain accurate LEEP records, it can be somewhat frustrating. But the Library Employee Education Project remains a high priority because Kansas librarians value the record of their training and the recognition of their achievements in staff development.

If you want to maintain an accurate and up-to-date LEEP record, these are some things to keep in mind:

- You are responsible for placing training and education events on your LEEP record, unless you have confirmed that your system or library is submitting the LEEP credit for you.
- In order to have any training event placed on a LEEP record, the state library staff must have: the name of the event, the date(s) of the event, the sponsor of the event, the number of hours you were actually in session and some documentation that confirms your attendance. This is usually a certificate of attendance but could also be a copy of the registration or the program. For a system or library event, the signature of the consultant or staff coordinator is considered confirmation.
- If you teach a program or workshop you can get LEEP credit for the event, but please submit only your presentation time, not your preparation time.
- If you attend a teleconference or a web class, the state library needs exactly the same information and documentation that is needed for a regular training event. You must obtain some documentation that confirms your attendance at the event before we can place the event on your LEEP record.
- If you attend a pre-conference to Tri-Conference, that is considered a regular workshop. If you can submit the requested information, plus documentation, you will receive listed credit for the pre-conference event. We do not attempt to record every individual session at Tri-Conference, but we will record the total number of hours that you were in sessions. In the future, there should be a form in your Tri-Conference packet that you can use to submit LEEP credit.
- If you want LEEP credit for a college course, we need to have a copy of your college transcript. Translate the name of the course, if it isn't completely clear what it was. The LEEP project has a policy that gives 15 contact hours for each hour of college credit.
- If you change your name for any reason, please notify the state library so we can change your LEEP record. If



you have had two or more names in recent years, please tell us what they are when you request your LEEP record so we can corral and consolidate your LEEP records.

- If you move to a different Kansas library to take a new position, please notify the state library so we can make the change in your LEEP record. If you leave Kansas, you are welcome to take your LEEP record with you.
- You are welcome to request your LEEP record at any time. We don't have an easy way to send them by e-mail, so we usually fax them or send them through the mail. You can also update your LEEP record.
- If you have any questions about what qualifies for LEEP credit, please feel free to call 785/296-3296 or to send e-mail to shanroy@kslib.info.
- If having your LEEP certificates has helped you in any way, we would appreciate knowing about that. It is always a pleasure to award a high level LEEP certificate. It represents a very genuine achievement.

New Skyways lead developer

*—by Jameson Watkins
Director, Internet Development
University of Kansas Medical Center*

I'm happy to announce that Josh Motsinger is the new Blue Skyways lead developer at the KU Medical Center. A bit about Josh's background: he has a BS in English from Emporia State University, and a master's in English from the University of Nebraska. Josh spent several years laying out print magazines and most recently has managed the web site for the KU Hospital Authority (www.kumed.com).

Josh can be reached at jmotsinger3@kumc.edu, and by phone at 913/588-4801.

We're excited to have Josh on our team. Please give him a warm welcome as we get him up to speed as quickly as we can with all your web projects.

Kansas Health Care Commission has approved library participation

*—by Duane Johnson
State Librarian*

The Kansas Health Care Commission has authorized library staff group participation in the state employee health insurance plan.

This means that when a library board takes action to join the state employee health insurance plan and provides the employer share of the group health insurance cost, library staff may share the cost and have access to the statewide employee pool group health insurance. The registration process can begin as soon as a library board makes the policy decision to join the health plan and provides for the related expense.

A document that will help you and your library board evaluate the possibility of participation can be printed from <http://da.state.ks.us/hcc/documents/nonstatepackrev.pdf>.

This document also identifies Health Commission staff who can answer your questions. Health Commission staff also are willing to participate in regional meetings to discuss the health plan in detail.

Roy Bird (royb@kslib.info) and Duane Johnson (duanej@kslib.info) at 800/432-3919 also will respond to your questions.

Kansas Libraries is published monthly by the Kansas State Library, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 343-N, Topeka, KS 66612-1593 (785/296-3296; 800/432-3919).

ISSN 0889-2709 Page layout: *Ruth Appelhanz*

Editor: *Eric Hansen*. Contributing editors: *Roy Bird, Rhonda Machlan, Shannon Roy, and Vikki Jo Stewart*.

Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.





NOTES

—by Eric Hansen
Executive Director

Network Board meeting

The Kansas Library Network Board met on May 13, 2004 at the Goodland Public Library. The board made several decisions that will affect Kansas libraries. ILDP competitive funds for FY 2005 will include \$4000 reserved for purchase of netLibrary's community college collection of ebooks for access with the Kansas Library Card. Western Trails digitization applications by the Kinsley Public Library, Kansas State Historical Society, and the University of Kansas were all approved. Supplemental funds from the IMLS that were restored to the KLNb for FY 2004 will be applied to a one-year license for Groves Dictionary of Art and Music for access with the Kansas Library Card, and a proposal by Wichita State University to create an online Kansas inventors database was approved.

Finally, the continual increase in Materials Replacement Fund claims every year since FY 2000 caused the board to approve a policy that MRF claims will be paid out for the amount of actual replacement cost. More details of the meeting are in the minutes available at <http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/KLNB0504.html> on Blue Skyways.

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



Use of our state-wide online chat reference service has picked up recently. During the six month pilot project (January 31—July 31, 2003) the service averaged about 150 chats per month. For the next six-month period, the average rose to 173, even though the service was closed for 10 working days in December. Recent months have seen increases in use beyond that (Feb. 2004 = 376, Mar. 2004 = 665, Apr. 2004 = 527). I'm grateful to everyone who's helped spread the word about this valuable service.



Kansas Library Card

From the time that KSLC users gained access to the KAN-ED databases, we have had calls from users who have had difficulty accessing Heritage Quest with the card. Most times this has been due to personal firewall configuration issues. To help with this, Jerry Ward of ProQuest sent instructions to Marc

Galbraith at the State Library on how to configure Norton Internet Security 2004 to permit KSLC user access to Heritage Quest. Jameson Watkins added those instructions to the KSLC Web site Frequent Questions page (see <http://www.kslc.org/faq.jsp>). Look under the header **Firewall Use and Browser Security Settings** for the instructions.

KPLACE III

I was very pleased to present a technology lecture demo to the very lively members of the KPLACE III class at Emporia State University on May 19. "Be a WMD (Worker of Much Distinction): Library Technology as a Tool for Performance" demonstrated the benefits of computer technology to library patrons and workers beyond the traditional online catalog. I placed special emphasis on KANAnswer, the Western Trails project, and the new administrative functions of the Kansas Library Card.



FoKL news

—by Vikki Jo Stewart
Literacy and Volunteer Management
Coordinator

Friends of Kansas Libraries (FoKL) is pleased to announce that Susan Moyer, Director of the Dorothy Bramlage Library, Junction City, chairs the FoKL Program Committee for the 2005 Tri-Conference in Overland Park! Susan is a volunteer working on a FoKL board committee. Her responsibility is to partner with KLTA (Kansas Library Trustee Association) to plan Friends/Trustee Day programs and events Wednesday, March 30. Great things will happen at Friends/Trustee Day!

Southeast Kansas Library System (SEKLS) sponsors another Friends/Trustees Conference on August 7, 2004 at Pittsburg State University in the Student Union. Please call me (620/331-8218) or SEKLS (620/365-5136) for more information.

Check out the FoKL website: Upcoming book sales!
(<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/fokl>)

Free videos from the MacArthur Library

—by Mary Kirby
Executive Director
Library Media Project

The Library Media Project is now giving free videos to any library who orders 5 or more Visual Arts titles or 5 or more Cinema Classics DVD titles.

These free videos are from The MacArthur Library collection that was given to public libraries by the MacArthur Foundation in 1989.

We have had these tapes in our warehouse for the past 15 years. Over the past years, many libraries have ordered and used these award-winning videotapes with very few problems.

We believe these documentaries should be in a library, not our warehouse, as they might be of interest to the communities your library serves.

Please visit our website (www.librarymedia.org) to read more about them.

Library Media Specialist Endorsement

—by Shelia K. Blume
Management Courses Instructor
Fort Hays State University

For those of you who might be interested in library media specialist endorsement:

Fort Hays State University has an endorsement program that will lead to a Masters in Education. The summer courses are the only ones taught on campus. It is possible to get 13 hours towards the endorsement and Masters program during the summer session. The summer session begins on June 8 this year. If you know of someone who is interested in this endorsement, please pass this information on to them or use it yourself. For more information please call Linda Garner, FHSU education secretary, at 785/628-4204 or Shelia K. Blume, management courses instructor, at 913/723-3831. Please leave a message and I will return the call. You can also e-mail me at libraryx2@hotmail.com.

Wichita Public Library to Unveil World's Largest Book

—by Cynthia Berner Harris
Director, Wichita Public Library

Through the generosity of the DeVore Foundation of Wichita, Kansas, the Wichita Public Library unveiled its newest acquisition, *Bhutan*, the world's largest book, in a special ceremony on May 4. Measuring 5x7 feet when open and weighing in at 133 pounds, the book was jointly produced by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Friendly Planet, a nonprofit corporation. Using advanced photographic technologies developed specifically for this project, the book draws from an archive of 40,000 images of Bhutan assembled by Bhutanese students and MIT personnel.

The "big book" is now on permanent display in a specially built case on the third floor of the Central Library at



Wichita Public Library Coordinator of Collection Development Mary K Bird-Guilliams (in gloves) explains an image from Bhutan to Wichita Mayor Carlos Mayans and Bhutan donors Richard and Ginny DeVore. To the left of Ms. Bird-Guilliams are Wichita Library Board members Barbara Baker and Evelyn Neier.

223 S. Main. During the month of May, a special photographic exhibit featuring images of Bhutan taken by Paula and Barry Downing will be on display in the Central Auditorium at the library.

According to *Bhutan's* author, Michael Hawley, capturing these images required four expeditions over several

years. "We thought we could allow readers to literally step into this beautiful corner of the world—one which so few people will be blessed to visit." A limited edition of 500 books are being produced and a large amount of the purchase price will be donated to an educational charity that will benefit Bhutanese schools, scholars and educational programs.

Hawley observes that opening this book is a totally visual experience, like an IMAX movie. "We pushed technology hard, and for a higher purpose, and the images give a taste of an inspiring way of life in a truly special part of the world. All of us feel fortunate to have had the chance to work on this, and the fact that the funds raised will help young students gain an education makes us awfully happy."

Cynthia Berner Harris, Director of Libraries, thinks the "big book" will make a big impression on the thousands of children who visit the library each year. "The Wichita Public Library is lucky to be one of a handful of public libraries in the nation to acquire this unique book. We have placed the display near the entrance to our Children's Center where it will help to make the library visits of our youngest customers even more special."

The book and photo exhibit are available for viewing during the library's regular hours: Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. For more information, please call 316/261-8500.

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*.

eBook of the month

netLibrary's eBook of the month campaign is a monthly content promotion designed to showcase new and noteworthy titles available from netLibrary and encourage patrons to visit library eBook collections. Each month, netLibrary selects a new featured title and provides free, unlimited access through the authenticated homepages of more than 8,700 public, academic and special libraries.

Throughout the year, netLibrary will work with leading publishers to identify titles that educate, illuminate and inform. The goal is to target contemporary best-sellers, award winners and other notable titles that demonstrate the breadth and scope of the netLibrary collection. In many cases, selected titles may support industry-wide literacy and awareness initiatives, including Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Women's History Month and National Poetry month.

The Recurrent Crisis in Corporate Governance is the eBook of the month through June 30. Written by renowned corporate governance experts Paul MacAvoy and Ira M. Millstein, the book argues that two major crises have overtaken governance of the American corporation—the loss of competitiveness in the 1980s and the loss of investor trust in financial management in the late 1990s. The authors use a scholar-practitioner approach to show what is missing in today's corporate governance and to support a case for activating the board of directors, with leadership from an independent chair, to put new controls on management and take responsibility for the result.

Kansas Library Card users can easily access the eBook of the Month. After logging in to your Kansas Library Card account, click on the link "connect to NetLibrary eBooks," then login to your netLibrary account. Kansas Library Card users who do not already have a netLibrary account can click on the link "How to create a netLibrary account" for instructions on how to do so.

Library positions

Adult Services Supervisor

The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, located in the capital city of Kansas, is seeking applications for a dynamic, energetic, and creative Adult Services Supervisor.

This position requires a Masters of Library Science degree from an ALA-accredited university, one year of supervisory/management experience and three years experience in a related library setting. Desired qualifications include: strong knowledge and/or experience with reference sources and periodicals, knowledge of readers' advisory and reference techniques, knowledge of collection development principles and practices and excellent reference skills and have a strong public service orientation.

Interested candidates should visit TSCPL's website at <http://www.tscpl.org/jobs.asp> for a detailed job posting, and the application process. Position closes June 18, 2004.

Technology Specialist, NEKLS

Technology Specialist: (\$30,000–\$35,000). Provide a broad range of computer support services for a regional library system with 100 member libraries in a 14 county area.

Position requires technical skills, including familiarity with Windows and Linux operating systems, LANs, and Internet functions; ability to prioritize multiple tasks; organizational skills, attention to detail and reliability; commitment to customer service and teamwork, and ability to travel within Northeast Kansas. An undergraduate degree in information technology or related field, or equivalent combination of education and experience, is preferred.

Position open until filled. To ensure consideration, apply by June 11, 2004 with resume and references to: Northeast Kansas Library System, 3300 Clinton Parkway Court, Suite 100, Lawrence, KS 66047, or e-mail to dweaver@nekls.org. EOE.

Kansas books

—by Roy Bird
Federal Projects Coordinator/Library Consultant

The Chance, by Dale Vaughn. (2004) Leawood, KS: Leathers Publishing. Order from author, 2907 SE 30th Terrace, Topeka, KS 66605-2107. Hardcover, 6" x 9", \$23.00 p/h included.

The Chance is more than just another story about the American Civil War. Dale Vaughn is a lifelong Kansan and the first author to treat the history of the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry regiment in any book length format. To do so, Vaughn researched the actual locations where the 1st KCVI fought at the same times of the year that the battles occurred. He did a prodigious amount of primary research. Its importance lies in its vivid details and a story hitherto unpublished except among historical articles.

The Chance follows the life of a fictional African American soldier who, after escaping slavery, enlists in Gen. Jim Lane's black regiment. He became part of a unit that should not be confused with Buffalo Soldiers, troops in the 9th and 10th US Cavalry. The 1st KCVI was the first with former slaves to fight Confederates in the Civil War. They fought with distinction at places like Island Mound in Missouri, Cabin Creek and Honey Springs in Indian Territory (Oklahoma), and Jenkins' Ferry in Arkansas—they saw their fellows massacred at Baxter Springs, Kansas, and at Poisoned Springs in Arkansas—the regiment suffered some of the highest battle casualty rates of the war. This makes *The Chance* a work like no other Civil War fiction. It will appeal to adult Civil War buffs, persons with interest in Buffalo Soldiers, and even readers of Westerns. Recommended for all adult fiction and Kansas collections in all libraries.

The Road to El Dorado, by Joan K. McAfee. (2003) Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma, Box 1009, Manhattan, KS, 66505. Softcover, 5" x 9", 186 pp., \$12.95.

In July 2003, I had the pleasure of reading and reviewing *Riddle of the Lost Gold* by Joan McAfee. Now I have the privilege of reading and reviewing the sequel, *The Road to El Dorado*. This is her second novel for young adults through Sunflower University Press. Since reviewing her first book, I have also had the pleasure of visiting with her several times about her writing. She is an extraordinarily knowledgeable author about 19th century Kansas,

but she is equally well versed about the Vietnam era. Using the same historical flashback technique, *The Road to El Dorado* picks up where *Lost Gold* left off. A young Kansas woman in 1970 commits herself and her husband, just returned from the Vietnam War, to a treasure hunt for family gold. Buried in Colorado for a century, the treasure is more than gold—it is the re-establishment of family connections buried along with the wealth. The treasure for young readers that connects with both books is enlightenment about not one but two historical eras—the Kansas frontier of the 1870s and America in 1970, which is the period of young adults' parents and grandparents. Both are history for today's young adults, for whose collections in all Kansas secondary schools and public libraries this is recommended.

Tougher'n a Boot, by Buster Jenkins. (2002) Leawood, KS: Leathers Publishing. Order from author, 1006 Cypress, Ottawa, KS 66067. Softcover, 5" x 9", \$12.95.

If your patrons are country music fans or like down-home, pliantalking autobiographies of plain folk Kansans, they will enjoy *Tougher'n a Boot* by entertainer Buster Jenkins. His is the story of a whole generation of Kansans. Born in 1926, he graduated from Buffalo High School in southeast Kansas, joined the Merchant Marines in 1944, got married back home in Kansas, indulged his interest in music—especially country fiddling—joined the Marines during the Korean conflict, came back to Kansas and won the state fiddling contest, became a professional musical entertainer in Denver and Nashville, and eventually worked with some of the biggest names in country music. The story of Buster Jenkins, member of the Fiddlers Hall of Fame, is a story of promises to himself fulfilled. *Tougher'n a Boot*, has been very popular in bookstores and programs the author has presented. Your patrons of "the greatest generation" will appreciate and enjoy this book, which can find a place in biography or Kansas collections in public libraries.



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

