

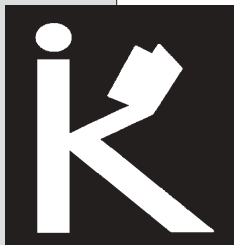
Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

September 2005

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Talking Books has new recording studio

—by Toni Harrell
Director, Talking Book Service

Earlier this year, the Talking Book Service of the State Library of Kansas began recording its own books at its Emporia regional office. The purchase of digital recording equipment and a soundproof recording booth was made possible through a private donation.

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) provides the majority of titles available through the talking book program. However, many locally published books and authors are

usually unavailable for distribution on cassette tape. Selected titles, read by volunteer readers in the Emporia area, will expand the collection in a unique way.

In His Brother's Shadow, written by Roy

Bird, was the first book recorded in the new booth. Read by its author, the book is a biography of Tom Custer, the younger brother of General George Armstrong Custer. The book is currently in the tape editing process and should be available to talking book patrons this fall.

Special recording projects at this time include children's literature, such as the annual nominees for the William Allen White Children's Book Award, plus books and magazines that have a Kansas focus. Talking

Books also records several quarterly newsletters for various organizations.

Book recommendations are encouraged. Titles for consideration cannot be currently available through NLS or other talking book centers. The Director of Talking Books ultimately determines the choice of material. Assignments are based on the volunteer's interests, reading skills, schedule, and by the needs of the program. Most reading material is furnished by Talking Books.

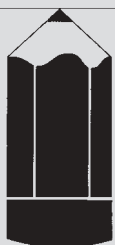


Steve Rinker, Talking Book staff person

This summer, eight retired teachers have volunteered their time to record books for the program. Readers are required to commit to the completion of an assignment. Recording dates are scheduled by appointment. Most reading sessions are limited to less than one hour at a time. Recording times may be scheduled as often as the volunteer wants, be it once a week or daily. The Talking Book office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and closed on holidays.

The Talking Books regional office and recording studio is located on the lower level of the Memorial Union on the Emporia State University campus. The regional office may be contacted by telephone at 620/343-7124.

SEPTEMBER





Thoughts from the State Librarian

Dear Friends,

I had a once-in-a-lifetime experience this past June when I was among the guests at a White House breakfast hosted by First Lady Laura Bush. The event was held in honor of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization—was founded after World War II



To Christie Brandau
With best wishes,
Laura Bush

to contribute to peace and security. UNESCO promotes collaboration among nations through education, science and culture as a cornerstone of a peaceful world. The founders of UNESCO believed that the rule of law, respect for human rights, and freedom of expression would be strengthened through international cooperation. As Commissioners, our task while in Washington was to advise the UNESCO ambassador on ways to promote world peace. You'll never guess our number one recommendation: creation of a global digital library! After much discussion, it was determined that a global digital library would promote education and understanding among nations and foster interest in other cultures. What a great idea!

We've always known that libraries play a large role in education and the freedom of expression, but have we thought of libraries as major contributors to the nation's understanding of ideas and cultures? There's another reason to promote and believe in the work that we do and the libraries that we serve!

Best,

Christie Brandau

LSTA Council meets

—by Roy Bird
Director, Kansas Center for the Book

The Kansas LSTA Council met on Thursday, July 28, at the SCKLS headquarters in South Hutchinson to consider new directions for the future of LSTA. Council members heard State Librarian Christie Brandau's vision for statewide library services in Kansas by the year 2010. This vision moves use of federal LSTA funds in Kansas toward statewide information resources that Kansas residents can access at school, home or work. "Rather than funding stand alone projects, I encouraged the Council to consider projects that enhance library service as a whole in the state, and that benefit all Kansans," Brandau said.

The LSTA Council discussed current granting procedures and future changes to make this vision reality in preparation for the upcoming LSTA five year evaluation and changes for the next LSTA five-year state plan.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



Network Board to meet with State Library Advisory Commission

—by Eric Hansen
Director, Division of Statewide Resource Sharing

The Network Board is scheduled to meet with the State Library Advisory Commission (SLAC) on September 1, 2005 at Butler Community College in El Dorado. At the meeting the Network Board will review my draft annual report for 2005, and will consider recommendations of the ILDPFY 2006 application evaluation committee. The Board and SLAC will consider the draft proposal to merge the two boards that came out of work by a task force appointed from representatives of the Board and the Commission.

Shifting and sharing: Social technologies and Kansas libraries

—by Brenda Hough
Technology Coordinator, Northeast Kansas Library System

When home computers started to gain popularity, there was concern about the isolation they might cause. Instead, we have seen that some of the most popular ways to use computers are actually social. I use e-mail to keep in touch with family in Minnesota. I make dinner plans with friends using instant messaging. I collaborate on projects using online chat. Initially, many libraries did not see the fit between those social technologies and library services. Now, however, most libraries not only allow patron access to email, instant messaging, and chat, but use those technologies to communicate with patrons and with other library personnel.

In the August 2005 issue of the Kansas Libraries newsletter, state librarian Christie Brandau wrote about the concept of the “shifted librarian” and the need for libraries to become more portable and to meet the user where he or she is. She expressed admiration for Jenny Levine, author of *The Shifted Librarian*. What is a shifted librarian? There has been a change from pursuing information to receiving information and a “shifted librarian” is one who understands the need to shift in order to provide services that meet the needs of users in this new environment.

Jenny Levine was the keynote speaker at the Northeast Kansas Library System’s (NEKLS) Tech Day 2005. She talked about social technologies and their implications for libraries. Social technologies are tools and mediums that facilitate communication and sharing between people. I’ve already mentioned e-mail, instant messaging, and chat. The proliferation of social technologies continues. Blogs are an increasingly popular means of communication. Wikis, like Wikipedia, allow collaborative editing of web content. People share their web bookmarks/favorites with one another using del.icio.us or furl. Flickr is a popular way to share photographs with others.

Shifted librarians are finding innovative ways to take advantage of social technologies to meet patron needs. For example, many library websites now include a blog to promote current events and highlight new materials. A library may even choose to allow user comments on the blog. Check out Blogger to get started. It’s free and relatively easy to use. Patrons can then use an RSS-aggregator (try Bloglines) to stay on top of updates to the library blog. Another idea—instead of requiring special virtual reference software, some shifted libraries are simply using instant messaging (MSN Messenger, Yahoo messenger, and AIM are popular) to assist patrons with reference questions and online research. Encourage patrons to add you to their instant messaging “buddy lists.”

It’s hard not to feel a little overwhelmed sometimes. There is so much that is new and so much to learn. I think the key to meeting patrons where they are at is to know where they are at. Try chat. Try blogging. Yes, there will be something new tomorrow. We can’t let that keep us from the fun and benefits we can reap from exploring today.

Resources referred to in this article:
Jenny Levine’s presentation @ NEKLS Tech Day 2005 - <http://tech.nekls.org/techday05.htm>
Jenny Levine’s Shifted Librarian blog - <http://www.theshiftedlibrarian.com>
Christie Brandau’s Travels with the State Librarian blog - <http://ksstatelibrarian.blogspot.com/>

Social technologies referred to in this article:
Blogger - <http://www.blogger.com>
Bloglines - <http://www.bloglines.com>
del.icio.us - <http://del.icio.us>
Flickr - <http://www.flickr.com>
Furl - <http://www.furl.net>
Wikipedia - <http://en.wikipedia.org>

Kansas libraries love kids, No Matter What!

—by Vikki Jo Stewart
Special Projects Coordinator

The State Library's first One Book project is off to a wonderful start! Committees are working to collect money and recruit sponsors and partners, to create sample letters and press releases as well as sample proclamations and to produce a website. The webmaster is Tammie Benham, Coordinator of Early Childhood Resource Center, Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS). She designed the website with input from Jean Hatfield and her committee as well as PR pieces from Cathy Newland. Pat Gaunce and her committee have raised over \$7,000, recruiting sponsors such as the Sac & Fox, Coleman Company, AFL-CIO, Kansas Library Trustee Association, Grant County Library Friends and the Kansas Department of Education. Check the website often for a complete list. The site is updated continuously.

Programs for Children's Book Week and the Kansas Reads project take place November 14-20, 2005. They are in various stages of planning by libraries and Early Childhood centers all over Kansas. You can check the website blog for what's being planned at local libraries at <http://kansasreads-nomatterwhat.blogspot.com/>. If you would like to add your event, the username is Kansasreads and password 1book1state.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius is the 2005 Honorary Chair and has included reading the book *No Matter What* on several tours around Kansas with the State Librarian, Christie Brandau.

The big news is that the author/illustrator, Debi Gliori, is coming to Kansas for part of Children's Book Week. Gliori lives outside of Edinburgh, Scotland with her five children. She says she is "honoured" to come to Kansas and "honoured" that we've chosen her book, *No Matter What*, as the first One Book for Kansas children. She told me that her knowledge of Kansas is that we have corn, tornadoes, and a wizard. A box of Kansas goodies has been sent to the Gliori home. I really like the sunflower seed cookies in a tin so that was the first to go into the box. I asked for advice on books to include in the box on KANLIB-L and received many suggestions. I included a copy of *Climbing Kansas Mountains* by George Shannon and illustrated by Thomas B. Allen. I also received an autographed copy with a personal message to Gliori of *Kansas Day by Day* by Roy Bird. The 2006 Kansas calen-

dar published by *KANSAS! Magazine* contains some unusually beautiful pictures of Kansas that I hope will give Gliori some ideas about Kansas. To complete the box I've included an assortment of Kansas foods.

Kansas libraries are set for an exciting week in November. Call or e-mail me for more information about the Kansas Reads project at 620/331-8218 or vikkijo@kslib.info.

Quinter celebrates new library

—by Sharon DuBois
Library Director

The July 30 dedication and open house for the expanded and renovated Jay Johnson Public Library in Quinter drew more than four hundred visits by community members, Quinter High School Alumni and special guests. We were especially grateful that Shannon Roy of the Kansas State Library and Leslie Bell of Northwest Kansas Library System were able to enjoy the day with us. They were both extremely helpful in all phases of the renovation process.

The beautiful new library on the main thoroughfare of Quinter is decorated in sage, earth tones and wine. The building doubled the space available to the library, adding a new Young Adult Room, a greatly expanded Children's Department and a new office for the director. On the day of the celebration, the library's windows were still painted into temporary stained glass by the children and young adults who had participated in "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds." The windows drew as much comment as the new library.

The Board of Trustees had labored over the new Statement of Purpose for the library and it was used as the basis for the dedication program. Ministers and representatives from all the local churches were asked to pray for specific areas of the library's service to the community.

One of the biggest rewards for more than five years of work came on the second day of the new school term. The newly-created youth room was loaded with students doing their homework. They needed various reference tools and their opinion of the new facility was: "This place is awesome!" When both adults and children desire to find resources in this space, we believe that the effort and financial investment were completely worthwhile.

Colorful Summer Reading Program a Great Success

—by Shannon Roy
Director, Local Library Development

The Kansas statewide summer reading theme in 2005 was “Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds.” Kansas was one of thirty states in the Collaborative Summer Library Program, which partners with Highsmith Company to produce high-quality artwork, manuals and summer reading materials that can be used anywhere in the country.

The 2005 theme was very popular with Kansas children of all ages. It appealed to their taste for fantasy, fantastic costumes, fanciful crafts and fairytales. At the same time, libraries were able to use it to share a lot of curious facts about medieval life and to develop a number of themes on courage and adventure. Libraries celebrated the theme with a wild collection of castles, towers, fair booths, painted windows, knights, luminous unicorns and multi-sized, vividly-colored dragons. The beautiful poster by illustrator Steven Kellogg featured a complex, yet delicate, scene that fit the theme beautifully.

The theme for older children was called “Joust Read” and featured slightly wilder artwork that presented the Middle Ages with a whimsical, tongue-in-cheek sense of humor. The young adult manual developed more ideas on heraldry, architecture, weapons, games and sports.

The seven Kansas Library Systems sponsored regional workshops to help Kansas librarians plan the best use of the theme. They were fortunate enough to feature the well-known storyteller Priscilla Howe, who is especially noted for her skillful work with puppets. Priscilla could teach as well as entertain, and many library staff commented that they had learned to make really effective use of puppets in story time and games.

In the past few years, summer reading programs in Kansas libraries have begun to feature many more events for very young children and a variety of events for young adults from 11 to 17. Although the summer reading season is a colorful annual celebration that takes a lot of staff time, there has also been a steady growth of reading programs in other seasons.

In November of 2005, Kansas libraries will be participating in a fall celebration of a new one-book program called “Kansas Reads to Preschoolers.” All over Kansas, parents and caregivers will read *No Matter What*, by Debi Gliori, to young children.

In the summer of 2006, the timeless annual celebration will return with a theme called “Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.” Since the attraction of children to animals is nearly universal, that should also be very successful.

Statewide Resource Sharing

—by Eric Hansen
Director, Statewide Resource Sharing

Thanks to the efforts of Josh Motsinger and Jameson Watkins of the University of Kansas Medical Center, all access to Heritage Quest (HQ) from the Kansas Library Card now passes through EZProxy. This change was tested with selected HQ users over about a week’s time, and was made official on Friday, August 19. I’m more than grateful to Josh and Jameson for their efforts to make this happen, and to Jeff Hixon for his advice throughout the process. I will be interested in any reports from you and your users about this new access to HQ with the card.

Part of the process of moving the State Library forward involves making a single access point to library resources on the Web. As one small part of that initiative and at the request of State Librarian Christie Brandau, I produced a cleaned up, simplified version of the KanFind databases page on Blue Skyways. The idea is to make access to our databases simpler and easier for our users. See <http://www.skyways.org/library/databases.html> to judge for yourself.

Chairs of the statewide task forces on content, delivery and interface met at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library on August 25. Task force chairs are: Stella Bentley (content), Jim Minges (delivery), and Micaela Ayers (interface). With State Librarian Christie Brandau and me, the chairs set the general direction of their task forces, with goals, objectives, and timelines to accomplish it all. A call will go out very shortly for volunteers to participate on the task forces.

Lately, our access to ABI/Inform changed from OCLC to Proquest. Here is information about the version of ABI/Inform that we now have from Proquest.

ABI/INFORM Complete gives you access to over 3,780 journals, with more than 2,810 available in full-text. Major publishers involved include:

- Springer Verlag
- Sloan Management Review
- Sage Publications
- Palgrave Macmillan
- Oxford University Press
- MCBUP Limited (Emerald)
- Kluwer Academic Publishers

And to further the scope of its content, ABI/INFORM has expanded to include non-periodical content like:

- EIU ViewsWire—Coverage of business and economic events from across the globe
- Going Global Career Guides—Comprehensive overview for evaluating, selecting, and transitioning into a successful career in a foreign country
- ProQuest Business Dissertations—Access to 14,000 full-text doctoral dissertations and master's theses
- Author Profiles from Scholar Universe—Broad range of author and institution information, with links to articles found in Proquest Company
- *Wall Street Journal*, Eastern Edition—Full text access to the premier business newspaper in North America, with backfile coverage 1984
- Business Cases—Documents have been added to ABI/INFORM to enhance the connection between library research collections and the classroom. Users can identify business cases relevant to their interests in the context of related journal and reference material. There are over 5,200 documents available in ABI/INFORM from the following publishers: Ivey, Thunderbird, Idea Group, and Darden.

Searching capabilities make it easy for both novice and expert searchers to find the information they want:

- Powered by ProQuest Smart Search™, ABI/INFORM now displays suggested topics at the top of the user's search results to aid in directing or narrowing a search for quick, optimal results
- E-mail alerts notify users when new content of interest becomes available
- Over 35 searchable fields ensure powerful search capabilities
- "My Research" records your marked articles, previous searches, and publications visited all in one easy-to-find location. This summary can be emailed or saved as a webpage
- Topics can be browsed by subject, publication title, person, company, and geographic location
- Find something you like? The "More like this" option displays related information on the same topic

- Citations are automatically formatted in your choice of citation styles: AMA, APA, Chicago/Turabian: Author-Date, Chicago/Turabian: Humanities, Harvard, MLA, ProQuest Standard, and Vancouver.

ABI/INFORM is available in abstract and index, full text, full image, or unique Text+Graphics™ format. Full-image content provides complete page facsimiles, similar to photocopies. Users can view articles exactly as they appear in its original publication.

September 14, 2005: Kansas Center for the Book Grand Opening!

—by Roy Bird
Director, Kansas Center for the Book

Since the Kansas Center for the Book's (KCFB) move from Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library to the State Library of Kansas, events have occurred rapidly. Every initiative that the KCFB has undertaken has been extraordinarily well received, and progress has been nothing but phenomenal!

The public is invited to the official ribbon cutting of the KCFB at its new home at the State Library at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 14, 2005. The ribbon cutting will take place beginning on the 3rd floor rotunda of the state Capitol Building. Governor Kathleen Sebelius will officially cut the ribbon, and guests will include John Y. Cole of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, and Kansas State Poet Laureate Jonathan Holden. A reception with refreshments will follow in the State Library.

On July 1, 2005, the KCFB launched its Affiliates and Fellows campaigns. In just six weeks, 17 Library and System Affiliates and four Commercial Affiliates have joined to promote the Kansas book community. In addition, 44 librarians, authors, book sellers, publisher employees and others interested in books, literature, and literacy have become Fellows of the KCFB. More Affiliates and Fellows applications arrive nearly every day!

The KCFB implemented the national Letters About Literature project in August, 2005. This program, sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and Target, invites students grades 4-12 to write letters to authors about how books have impacted their lives and send them to the national Center for the Book. The top essays will be returned to Kansas for determination of

state winners. Judges will be selected from among the Fellows will make the decisions, and cash prizes of a minimum of \$250 plus a \$50 Target gift card will be awarded to the state winners in elementary, middle, and high school levels. Deadline for entry is December 1, but the Center for the Book already has its first entry—and it's from Kansas! State winners will be announced at Tri-Conference in Wichita in April, 2006.

Kansas will have a KCFB table in the Pavilion of the States at the National Book Festival in Washington, DC, on Saturday, September 24, 2005. Affiliates and Fellows who are authors have been invited to submit flyers, brochures, bookmarks and other promotional materials for distribution from this table. We are anticipating shipping about 10 boxes of information for distribution at this day long, national event. Last year 85,000 persons attended the National Book Festival and from 3,000-5,000 passed by the Kansas booth.

If you would like more information about becoming an Affiliate or a Fellow, about the ribbon cutting on September 14, about the Letters About Literature project, or about the National Book Festival contact Roy Bird, Director, Kansas Center for the Book at 800/432-3919 or royb@kslib.info.

Librarians in the News

—by Shannon Roy
Editor

Emily Sitz becomes new Director at Southwest System

Emily Sitz is the new system director at the Southwest Kansas Library System. Emily has seven years of experience in the Southwest System, since she has served as the director of the Finney County Library and the Liberal Memorial Library. Prior to returning to her native Southwest Kansas, Emily was a librarian at the Fort Worth Public Library. Emily began her new duties on August 29th. The Southwest System member librarians are delighted with this “native daughter” choice. Emily will continue to live in Holcomb with her two daughters, aged seven and nine.

Carol Barta is new Consultant at North Central System

Carol Barta has become the new Assistant Director for NCKL at the North Central System in Manhattan, replacing Kay Russell. Carol brings a wealth of varied library experience to the position. Carol was the system consult-

ant at the Northwest System in Norton before moving to Manhattan. Fred Atchison, the NCKL System Director, has commented: “We are simply delighted to have someone with Carol’s varied work experience in different library fields. We are especially pleased with her strong background in rural libraries. The NCKL librarians are really looking forward to working with her.”

Mickey Coalwell is new Library Development Coordinator at Northeast System

Mickey Coalwell is the new Library Development Coordinator at the Northeast System in Lawrence. Mickey was formerly the Adult Services Supervisor at the North Kansas City Public Library. Before that, he worked at the Kansas City, Missouri Library while obtaining his MLS degree from the University of Missouri—Columbia. He also has a Master of Liberal Arts from Baker University.

Before entering the library profession, Mickey had a varied career that included management training responsibilities at the Padgett-Thompson Division of the American Management Association and a retail management position with Borders Books and Music. He also worked as a radio broadcaster for many years. The Northeast System is certain to utilize every part of Mickey’s wide experience.

Kim Harp joins State Library staff

Kim Harp recently joined the staff of the State Library of Kansas as the Legislative Reference Librarian. She will also be doing public relations for the State Library. Kim received her MLS from the School of Library and Information Management at ESU in August 2005. Kim worked as a Graduate Assistant for SLIM throughout her degree program. Before obtaining her library degree, Kim was a special educator in the school districts in Kansas City, Kansas and Emporia. Kim reports that she is thrilled to become a part of the State Library staff and is looking forward to working with librarians, legislators and a variety of Kansas citizens.

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*.

Kansas Libraries..... 70 years ago

—by Bill Sowers
Cataloging/Kansas Government Documents

Gleanings from Kansas Library Bulletin, vol. 4, no. 3, 1935

- Talking book records are now to be had from any of the distributing libraries for books for the blind. These records are postage-free, as are the books in Braille, to those who cannot see well enough to read print.
- Miss Marie Bower, librarian at Ellsworth, reports that the J. H. Robbins Memorial Library is now filled to capacity with books. A large basement room does duty as a reading and reference room. Through federal aid the building was entirely redecorated inside and out last spring which added to its attractiveness.
- A book-mending project is currently under way in the Hugoton County Library. Mrs. Gertrude Manlove, assistant librarian, is supervising the work. Mrs. Gladys Wilson, County Superintendent, acts as librarian.

- Downing P. O’Harra, Southwestern University Library, Winfield, has been appointed librarian of the University of the City of Wichita.
- The Pratt Public Library celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary this spring. The library has appointed Miss Frances Sullivan as children’s librarian, a position which has newly been created. Miss Sullivan is a graduate of the School of Library Science of Western Reserve University and for several years has been on the staff of the Wichita City Library.
- Mrs. Verna Owen has recently been made librarian at Haven. This library contains 2,500 volumes and is open two afternoons a week.
- The Kansas City, Kansas, Public Library has recently appointed Donald W. Kohlstedt as librarian.
- Miss Blanche Allison, School of Library Science, Emporia, 1933, succeeded retiring Mrs. Ella R. Cox, at the city library in Concordia. Miss Allison is from Great Bend.



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