

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

February 1996

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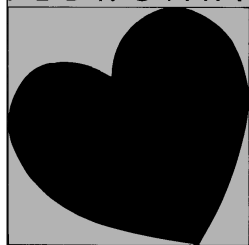
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F E B R U A R Y



Blue Skyways offers fingertip access to global information

On December 18, in a ceremony at the State Capitol, Lieutenant Governor Sheila Frahm logged on as the first official user of Blue Skyways, the Kansas library community's World Wide Web service. In announcing this new service, Ms. Frahm said "Blue Skyways represents the kind of cooperation that makes Kansas a great place to live. Using the Internet, Kansas librarians are collaborating in new ways to serve Kansans better."

State Librarian Duane Johnson gave thanks to the many librarians from across Kansas who have contributed to Blue Skyways. He noted that Blue Skyways is just getting underway, and the State Library looks forward to working with partners across the state to develop the service in the future.

In his remarks, Kansas Interim Education Commissioner Dale Dennis commented on the power of global networking and its impact on education. Mr. Dennis also noted that the Board of Education and the State Library are cooperating to develop effective strategies to extend the benefits of the Internet statewide.

As the audience of press, government and library representatives looked on, Network Board Chair Jim Bingham demonstrated Blue Skyways

on a 67" LiveBoard video conferencing unit provided by Xerox.

Blue Skyways is part of the World Wide Web, a global network of linked information resources. Blue Skyways includes unique Kansas resources such as an online version of the Kansas Constitution, state publications such as Fiscal Facts, home pages for legislators and other government officials, a database of community service agencies throughout the state and a directory of Internet service providers.

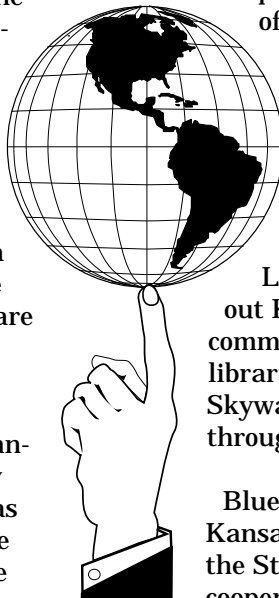
Librarians from across the state are implementing Blue Skyways, under the leadership of the Kansas State Library in Topeka. The State Library is training librarians throughout Kansas to develop home pages for their communities. Beginning in mid-1996, librarians will post these home pages on Blue Skyways, making them accessible worldwide through the Internet.

Blue Skyways is funded by a grant from the Kansas Library Network Board, a division of the State Library. It is being implemented in cooperation with the University of Kansas Medical Center Library in Kansas City. Blue Skyways is available 24 hours a day at <<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/>>.

Coming soon to Blue Skyways: a new online KLC

Patti Mersmann, Director of the State Library's Library Information Technology Division, has announced that a new version of the Kansas Library Catalog will be available on Skyways by February 29, 1996. This new version of the online KLC will provide access to holdings in more than 700 Kansas libraries, and will be updated weekly.

Watch KANLIB-L, the Kansas library community's listserv, for upcoming announcements concerning the KLC on Skyways.



Children and Youth issues

Fire truck bookshelf attracts children

The Silver Lake Library has a new attraction for children. The attraction is a bookshelf shaped like a fire truck that was donated to the library by the Silver Lake Fire Department. The formal presentation was made Friday, November 24, as a memorial to the late Richard L. Beuchat, fire chief from 1979-92.

The art work on the fire truck bookshelf was done by Beuchat's son, Shawn. It was built by Ray Bailey and Carl Smith of Silver Lake, using partly donated materials. Receiving the donation for the library was librarian Jeannie McPhail. The bookshelf was placed in the children's department.

The bookshelf is big enough to hold two seats for children to sit and read, and a shelf for the 25 books and two videos on firefighting that also were donated by the firefighters.

Give-a-Kid-a-Book program

The Emporia Public Library conducted a special program called "Give-a-Kid-a-Book" throughout November and December. Emporians were encouraged to give the gift of reading to area children by donating books appropriate for ages 1—14, preschool through eighth grade, to be distributed to area agencies, including S.O.S., the Salvation Army, La Esperanza (Hispanic Mission), The Farm, Inc., and Emporia Child Care Centers, I and II.

On December 21, Library Director Sue Blechl delivered 216 books to the local agencies. She said, "I was happy the library and the people of Emporia recognized a need, and put books into the hands of children who might not otherwise have them. Due to the success of the program and the support we received from the community, we hope to conduct the program again."

Rites of passage discussion series during Black history month

The Emporia Public Library has been offering the Rites of Passage discussion series for African-American young women 12—18 years of age in January and February. Conducted by Nadine Terry, Placement Coordinator at The Farm, Inc., and member of the Emporia Public Library Board of Trustees, programs are held each Monday and Wednesday from 4:00—5:30 pm. The series began on Monday, January 15, 1996 and will run through Monday, February 26, 1996.

Topics include positive self-esteem, peer pressure, dealing with racism, positive role models, self-determination, sexuality/relationships and responsibilities, parenthood responsibilities, addictions-drug/alcohol, employment opportunities, teen pregnancy, Black female leaders, education and experience with God.

The first Rites of Passage program was named one of the top 50 library programs in the United States by the American Library Association.

For additional information, please call Sue Blechl at 316/342-6524 or fax 316/342-2633.

Catalyst

by Michael Piper

Blue Skyways FAQ

Blue Skyways, the Kansas library community's World Wide Web information service, is available at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/>. This month's Catalyst addresses frequently asked questions about Skyways.

Background about Blue Skyways

Blue Skyways offers easy access to non-commercial resources of value to the Kansas library community. These include:

- * Home pages for libraries, organizations, individuals, and/or communities whose services and/or resources are of distinctive relevance to Kansas libraries.

- * Directories, Internet training resources, and other materials that offer the promise of improving library services statewide.

Skyways focuses on communities, education, government and libraries. Blue Skyways is a balanced information resource, not an advocacy platform or an advertising medium. No resources with significant commercial or marketing content may be incorporated into Blue Skyways.

Skyways content guidelines

To make Skyways easy to use, content providers must adhere to the Content Guidelines, which are available at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/content.html>.

These guidelines were developed by the Web Development Team, and approved by the Kansas

Library Network Board. For more on the Web Development Team, go to <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/webteam.html>.

Questions and answers about Skyways

- * Who is responsible for loading community home pages on Skyways? The Network Board's vision is for libraries across Kansas to post pages on Skyways. Librarians may also post community home pages on Blue Skyways.

The KLNb has sponsored Web training sessions for regional library system personnel, with the understanding that systems are responsible for training their client librarians to develop and maintain documents on Skyways. Once they have the requisite skills, local librarians may maintain documents on the Blue Skyways server without charge.

- * What elements should be incorporated in Skyways documents? For help in designing Web pages, please refer to the Skyways template (http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/template_info.html).

- * If I want to post a document on Skyways, who should I contact? The best way is to work through your regional library system. Or you may direct your inquiry to the contacts listed at the close of this document.

- * How can I contribute to the email directory on Skyways? To access the email directory, point your Web browser to <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/sekls/emad/index.html>. It includes a form you can use to submit your email address. Or send email to Brig McCoy, lead developer for the email directory. Brig's email address is brigg@world.std.com.

- * When will the Kansas Library Catalog be available on Skyways? We will make a new version of the KLC available on Skyways by February 29, 1996. This new version of the online KLC will be updated weekly. For more about the KLC on Skyways, watch KANLIB-L, the listserv for Kansas librarians.

- * Where do I go for more about Skyways? Contact your regional library system consultant. Or direct your inquiries to Patti Mersmann (pattim@ink.org) or Michael Piper (ksstl2lb@ink.org) at the State Library.

Online KLC

As many of you are already aware, the State Library has been actively investigating an online catalog. However, that dream has not been fulfilled. We have continued to look at other vendors. Many groups have been involved in this planning process: KLC Advisory Committee, Reference Networking Committee, Kansas Library Network Board, State Library staff, regional system directors, regional system consultants, regional system automation consultants, and State Librarian Duane Johnson.

It is our great pleasure to announce that the Kansas State Library recently signed a letter of intent with Auto-Graphics, the current vendor of our CD-ROM SharePac catalog, to produce and maintain the *KLC/Online* during 1996.

Because of this agreement Auto-Graphics supplied full machine authority control to the Kansas Library Catalog prior to production of the new CD-ROMs. When you receive your new version in early 1996, you should find a cleaner database than we have ever had.

The new agreement provides for two methods of access to utilize and test our online catalog. The first method, using licensed software and Internet telnet access, will be tested by approximately 25 Kansas libraries. Those libraries will be selected based on technical criteria and recommendations of regional library systems to the state library.

All other libraries, and indeed all Kansas citizens, will access the *KLC/Online* via the World Wide Web. During this initial phase we will be closely monitoring and evaluating usage and satisfaction with the two different access methods. We will also be scrutinizing costs related to each method of access.

The *KLC/Online* will be updated on a daily basis as records are entered into the system. The "beta-test" libraries will evaluate the catalog, the interlibrary loan module, and the cataloging module. All other libraries will evaluate the catalog using the Web. Everyone will be viewing and searching the same database; only the method of access will differ.

Our agreement with Auto-Graphics includes transfer of records between OCLC and Auto-Graphics, so libraries currently cataloging on OCLC will find their new records on both databases (OCLC and *KLC/Online*).

A link to the *KLC/Online* will be provided on *Blue Skyways*, the state library web service. A link will also be provided by INK. Libraries will thus have several methods of accessing the catalog during 1996: CD-ROM (listing holdings through mid-June, 1995), *KLC/Online* from *Blue Skyways*, and *KLC/Online* from INK.

If you have any questions or comments about this service, please call Patti Mersmann at the State Library, 800/432-3919, or send e-mail to pattim@ink.org.

SLIM announces additional class

The School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) at Emporia State University has announced that it will offer two weekend intensive classes on "Training the Trainer". For librarians who are engaged in training others, or who would like to develop skills in this area, this class is designed for you.

SLIM has been working with post-MLS professionals to develop this course in response

to an emerging emphasis on skills for conducting training and developing workshops in many positions in the field. The first weekend is scheduled for May 31—June 2, 1996 and will focus on general training skills. The second weekend, which is optional, will be June 28—30, 1996 and will probably focus on training for technology.

Steve Matthews, current GTA at SLIM, will be the primary instructor. For more information contact the SLIM office at 316/341-5203.

Name change for a leading consumer organization in Kansas

Kansans for Improvement of Nursing Homes, Inc. (KINH) changed its name to Kansas Advocates for Better Care, Inc. effective November 1995. It is a consumer advocacy organization with over 800 members statewide.

Margaret Farley, Executive Director, said the not-for-profit organization was founded in 1975 by a small group of concerned citizens who investigated Kansas nursing homes and found rampant poor care and neglect.

"A bill passed during the 1995 legislative session permits licensure of a wide variety of facilities which are very close cousins to, but different from, the traditional nursing home" Farley said. A short list of these new facilities includes assisted living, personal care homes, residential health care and home plus. Kansas Advocates for Better Care represents the consumer interests of individuals who live in all of these facilities as well as the residents of nursing homes.

Farley said "*Consumer Reports* magazine recently completed a nationwide investigative study of the nursing home industry and listed the organization in its September 1995 issue as an information resource center for people in Kansas." She encourages individuals and families who have questions about any aspect of long term care to write Kansas Advocates for Better Care, 913 Tennessee, #2, Lawrence, KS 66044-6904 or call 913/842-3088.

Public libraries received KDOA Legal Guide

The Kansas Department on Aging has revised the KDOA Legal Guide for 1995. Copies are now available in limited quantities. With the major changes in Medicare and Medicaid being anticipated from Congress this year, large quantities will not be distributed. Please use the copies you get on an "as needed" basis. There will not be quantities available for information booths or general distribution. However, copies have been distributed to all area agencies, *public libraries*,

nutrition sites, case managers, OKIRSA members, and legal service providers so that it was accessible to as many people as possible. Feel free to copy any sections of the booklet that individual clients may need.

KDOA appreciates your patience in waiting for publication of the revised issue and asks that you understand that major changes could change much of the information in the *Legal Guide* and therefore, does not make it feasible to print and distribute large quantities at this time.

Plan for services

The Emporia Public Library Board and staff are working on a plan for services and programs for the next few years. Community ideas and comments are needed to make better decisions on the kind of library services available in the years to come.

A survey is being distributed through the *Emporia Gazette*, *The Shopper*, and the Emporia Public Library. Patrons are asked to take the time to complete the survey and share what services they feel are needed and return it to Sue Blechl, Emporia Public Library, 110 E. Sixth Avenue, Emporia, KS 66801.

Library opens

The new Johnson County Central Resource Library, 9875 W. 87th Street, Overland Park, KS is an 86,000 sq. ft. facility with a complete collection, electronic resources and services.

The new full service library and headquarters for the Johnson County Library system was constructed from the former Best Products Show-room Warehouse building after a \$12 million bond issue was passed by 72% of the voters in 1992. Approximately 6,000 sq. ft. was added to the front of the 80,000 sq. ft. building which was extensively renovated. It is estimated the use of an existing building and site saved taxpayers approximately \$2 million.

The Central Resource Library opened to the public August 29. In the first three months of operation, the new library was popular with new

and regular library users. In September, October and November a total of 292,782 items were checked out from Central, representing a 34% increase over the 218,944 items checked out in 1994. Central Resource Library staff answered 60,401 reference questions and issued 4,855 new library cards during the first three months the facility was open to the public.

Kingman receives grant

The Kingman Library recently was awarded a \$400 grant from the Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Inc. in New York. The grant enabled the library to offer children's books in Spanish. Last year at this time, Kingman had six Spanish-speaking families. All of the family members have library cards and were inquiring about the availability of Spanish books. The books purchased with the grant monies are for K—3rd, 3rd—6th, and 6th—9th grades.

Lois Lenski (Covey) was an illustrator and author of children's books. She wrote "regional" American books for "middle-aged" children. The library owns ten of her books: *Bayou Suzette*, *Blue Ridge Billy*, *Corn-Farm Boy*, *Cotton In My Sack*, *Little Sioux Girl*, *Prairie School*, *Lois Lenski's Christmas Stories*, *Shoo-Fly Girl*, *Strawberry Girl*, and *Texas Tomboy*. Her writings and illustrations have won many awards including the Ohioana Medal, Newberry Medal, and the Children's Book Committee of Child Study Association Award.

Funding technology

The South Central Kansas Library System, in cooperation with Butler County Community College, U.S.D. 259, Wichita Public Schools and the Wichita Area Library Association (WALA) presented a special workshop on Thursday, February 1.

The "Funding Educational Technology Videoconference" was a two-hour, live videoconference providing a timely update on federal programs such as the Education Department's Technology Challenge grants and a number of corporate and private foundations such as IBM that offer grants for technology. Attendees got

recent information on public and private funding sources for library automation and technology. At a time when as many questions are asked about how to afford technology as are asked about how to use it, this workshop was very welcome and enlightening.

Wichita public library on the internet

Now you can reach Wichita Public Library on your personal computer via the World Wide Web at: <<http://www.southwind.net/~wplops/>>.

The Wichita Public Library's home page, designed by Amy Stahl, library staff member, and Rex Cornelius, Library Automation Specialist, contains information about the library system, branch hours and pictures, EXCERPTS (the library newsletter), a calendar of upcoming events, and links to other interesting sites on the Internet. The goal for the near future is to connect the library's catalog to the home page.

Staff introductions

The other Vicky...Hi. I'm "the other Vicky" in the State Library. By day, I'm that little cog that helps the bigger gears of interlibrary loan and state documents to go. To the local patrons, I'm often that still, small voice that makes them say "Oh, no? I must have an overdue interlibrary loan book!" I'm also the not-so-quiet kid in the back corner who boogies to Ray Stevens as she stamps documents for shelving or piles up another depository shipment to send out.

But by night, I'm Victoria Wolf, soprano. I'm also a single parent from Texas, raising a handsome 9-year old son named Stephen, who is a major part of my life. Together, we're the "Were" Wolfs who stand and howl at the full moon. So listen close some night, when the full moon shines bright, and see if you can tell which howl is the "leader of the pack."



Kansas books

by Roy Bird

Johnny Whistletrigger: Civil War Songs from the Western Border (audiocassette \$10, CD \$15 + \$2 postage) 1993. *Rebel in the Woods: Civil War Songs from the Western Border, Volume II.* (audiocassette \$10, CD \$15 + \$2 postage) 1995. Order from Big Canoe Records, 513 High Street, Boonville, MO 65233.

Two recent sound recordings have not yet found a strong Kansas audience but certainly deserve a listen. *Johnny Whistletrigger*, the first volume released in the summer of 1993, consists of 3 original compositions, 17 historical 19th century songs and 3 readings. *Rebel in the Woods*, the second volume, contains 4 original compositions and 13 traditional songs from the Civil War period.

Few, if any, of these songs have been recorded or even compiled before. Cathy Barton, Dave Para and Bob Dyer, all professional artists, have broken new ground with these lively and thoroughly fascinating tunes accompanied by a 32-page illustrated booklet with song lyrics and background information. Recommended for Kansas collections, and highly recommended if you have any Civil War buffs among your patrons. This is the first compilation and re-

recording of songs specifically focused on the Civil War on the Kansas border, and they are a delight to listen to as well!

Rock Chalk Dreams

Margaret Hill McCarter's *Cuddy's Baby*, a story written in 1907 about the University of Kansas and a young boy's love for the Rock Chant, has been republished by a KU alumnus through Historic Adventures Publishing in Kansas City as *Rock Chalk Dreams*.

It is a classic tale of a boy, his mother, and their collective desire to survive on the Kansas prairie; their love for each other; and their hope that the youth can one day attend the University.

Rock Chalk Dreams (ISBN 0-9649023-0-3) is available through Historic Adventures Publishing, 2826 Glenrose Lane, Kansas City, KS 66106 or by calling 913/384-2938. Cost is \$14.95.

-NEKLS News



Library positions

Director of Learning Resources/ Instructional Technology Pratt Community College

Supervise and direct all library functions (cataloging, reference services, circulation, and other traditional library services); schedule, coordinate, and maintain audiovisual equipment in support of the instructional mission; provide leadership in the successful integration of current and emerging instructional and information technologies with the

teaching mission of the college (ITGV, ISDN, Internet, satellite downlink systems). MS from ALA accredited school in library science, instructional technology, or a combination (BLS with 3—5 years experience and graduate work in instructional technology or related area will be considered). Previous experience in an educational setting and supervisory experience a plus. Send letter of application, resume (including list of references), and copies of transcripts to Personnel Director, Pratt Community College, 348 N.E. SR 61, Pratt, KS 67124-8317 or call 316/672-5641 x 139. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. AA/EOE.

LEEP certificates received

The following individuals have received LEEP award certificates so far this winter:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Amanda Dunn	Betty Adams	Carolyn Chase	Sharon Ailslieger
Corinne Herndon	Corinne Herndon	Esther Cox	Ida Eatmon
Donna Little	Marilyn Miller	Dawnon Cummings	Nancy Finch-Folkerts
Marilyn Miller	Julie O'Brien	Virginia Dierrich	Elida Franco
Julie O'Brien	Edna Ringwald	Elaine Scheuerman	Cindy Hittle
Vonda Raney	Wanda Williams	Marlene Thomas	Cindy Rodenbaugh
Johanna Schibbelhut			Denise Schulte
			Cindy Shipley
			Sam Shipley

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Kansas Libraries
 Kansas State Library
 300 SW 10th Street, Room 343
 Topeka, KS 66612-1593
 913/296-3296
 Toll Free in Kansas 800/432-3919