

Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

April 1996

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Kansas Libraries is now available on Blue Skyways, the Kansas library community's World Wide Web service. To use the online version, point your Web browser to http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/KSL/admin/kansas_libraries.html.

Now you can read the online version of *Kansas Libraries* before your printed copy arrives. And now you can choose the format that's best for you.

Since many of you will prefer the online version of the newsletter, we're updating our mailing list. Beginning with the July 1996 issue, we'll be sending printed copies of *Kansas Libraries* only to those who return this subscription form. Though there's no charge for either the printed or the online version, you'll need to return this form to continue your library's subscription for the printed newsletter.

If you want to continue receiving a paper copy of *Kansas Libraries*, please return the enclosed form to us by 30 June 1996. To conserve resources, please request only one subscription per library.

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Yes, our library wants to continue receiving a printed version of *Kansas Libraries*. Please include us on the *Kansas Libraries* mailing list.

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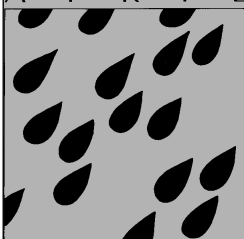
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A P R I L



National book award for young people's literature

For the first time in its history, the National Book Foundation will present the National Book Award for Young People's Literature at the 46th annual National Book Awards Ceremony to be held November 6 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in Manhattan.

Books representing all genres, written for children and young adults by American citizens, will be eligible for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, which will carry a \$10,000 cash prize. The first winner of the award will be chosen from among five finalists to be named in October by a five-member, independent judging panel. The panel will select the finalists and the winner by assessing the literary merits of the texts submitted for consideration.

Detailed guidelines for the 1996 National Book Award for Young People's Literature, including rules for eligibility, will be sent by the Foundation to publishers across the country in early June, along with entry rules for the awards in fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.

Between 1969 and 1983, several National Book Awards for children's books were presented to authors including awards for children's nonfiction titles, picture books, and fiction. Many of these authors have participated in the Foundation's educational programs, which annually serve thousands of children and teenagers in schools, libraries, settlement houses and Native American reservations nationwide. This spring the Foundation again sponsors outreach programs in New York City, including a week-long residency by renowned illustrator and National Book Award Finalist Tom Feelings at the Family Academy in Harlem, and a reading featuring alumni of the Foundation's Summer Writing Camp.

For additional information about the Foundation's educational literary outreach initiatives for young people, or to be placed on the mailing list for guidelines for the 1996 National Book Award for Young People's Literature, please call the Foundation at 212/685-0261.

1996 national children's book week

"Oh, The Places You'll Go" is the theme chosen by the Children's Book Council for the 77th annual observance of National Children's Book Week, November 18—24, 1996.

Each November, during the week before Thanksgiving, Book Week is celebrated nationally. This year, the Council is offering a terrific variety of Book Week materials created by well-known authors and illustrators in the field of children's books.

Jan Brett, whose *Armadillo Rodeo* is winning over young readers, interprets this year's theme with a fun poster rendered in her exquisitely detailed style. G. Brian Kara, creator of *A Dog Named Sam*, *The Best Teacher in the World*, and *The Flute Player*, offers a clever frieze of the endless possibilities that await those who follow his very different kind of yellow brick road.

Denise Fleming's hungry mouse scales his way up what may well be the world's tallest ice cream sundae in quest of new places to conquer. Fleming is the creator of *In The Tall, Tall Grass* and *Count!* Richard McGuire, author of *Night Before Day* portrays people and animals off on wacky journeys by land, air, and sea. Susan Meddaugh is "mom" to the beloved dog *Martha* who, as the streamer proclaims is a great dog, who dreams of glory in various settings.

Also available for 1996 Book Week are a bookmark, and a play. Ashley Bryan's original poetic bookmark exhorts readers to travel the globe without spending a fortune or leaving their seats. The poem is accompanied by Bryan's own delightful illustration. In the play, Suzy Kline introduces Herbie, Ray and Annabelle to Ms. Reed, the new librarian at their school, who has a fondness for spiders and a devout dislike for late library books.

All of the items may be purchased separately or at a 23% discount when purchasing the complete 1996 Book Week Kit for only \$30. To order any of the 1996 Book Week materials, contact: Order Department, 568 Broadway, Suite 404, New York, NY 10012.

Catalyst

by Michael Piper

This month in Catalyst: a brief report on the Kansas Library Network Board's Winter 1996 meeting. A complete summary of the Network Board's Winter meeting is available on Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/KSL/KLNB/KLNB296.html>.

KLNB and system directors map plans for Blue Skyways

Blue Skyways, the Kansas library community's World Wide Web information service, began operations on 18 December. Now that the service has been launched, the KLNB set directions for the next phase of establishing Skyways as an ongoing service.

In a discussion with the Board, the regional library system directors pledged to work with the KLNB to establish Skyways as a permanent service. To accomplish this objective, the system directors voiced support for including Skyways as a key item on the agenda of the Kansas Library Association's Legislative Committee next year.

Since it could take several years to gain permanent state funding for Skyways, the Network Board's immediate priority is to recruit grant support for the service. KLNB members Jim Bingham, Duane Johnson, Barbara Paschke and Greg Zuck will work with a grant writer to develop grant proposals. In preparing these proposals, the Network Board will market Blue Skyways as "the home page for Kansas."

Network Board Awards TeleCommunities Partnerships Grants

In August 1995, the KLNB allotted \$27,000 for grants to highlight the benefits of shared purchase arrangements for community-wide Internet access. These "TeleCommunity Partnerships" grants are intended to promote alliances for shared high-speed Internet connections.

With these demonstration grants, the KLNB wants to establish models other Kansas communities can emulate. The Network Board expects these local networks to continue operations and become self-supporting after their KLNB grants are completed.

Five applicants responded to the Board's request for grant proposals. Based on recommendations from the TeleCommunities Grant Team, the Network Board awarded:

- **\$10,000** to fund the **Goodland Internet Project**. With six partners, the Goodland High School Library will use a KLNB grant to buy a router, equipment and other items related to acquiring a high-speed connection that will be shared among the project participants. Project coordinator: Jo Ann Wahrman, Goodland High School. Email address: wahrman@goodland.ixks.com.
- **\$4,800** for the **Topeka CableNet Project**. KLNB funds will support a partnership involving Washburn University, the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, USD 501, the City of Topeka and TCI, the cable television provider in Topeka. This will lead to the establishment of cable modem demonstration sites in Topeka libraries and city offices. Cable modems offer the promise of transmission speeds hundreds of times faster than conventional modems. Project coordinator: John Christensen, Washburn Law Library. Email address: zzchri@acc.wuacc.edu.

Note: Within two weeks after each KLNB meeting, I post a complete meeting summary on KANLIB-L, the Kansas library community's listserv. For information about subscribing to KANLIB-L, or for more about the Network Board or Blue Skyways, send me email at ksstl2lb@ink.org.

Social studies conference to be held in Topeka

The Kansas Council for the Social Studies is pleased to announce that their 1996 annual conference will be held on October 20—21, 1996 at the Kansas History Center in Topeka. The theme for the conference is "Ad Astra Per Aspera: Social Studies for the 21st Century."

A wide range of activities and presentations are planned for the conference which is open to educators of all disciplines and grade levels.

The two keynote speakers for the event are Jim Hoy from Emporia State University and Tom Averill from Washburn University. Dr. Hoy will lead the program on Sunday, October 20 at 7:00 pm. Mr. Averill will make his presentation at 11:30 am on Monday, October 21.

A series of tours will be available on Sunday, including a behind the scenes look at the Kansas Museum of History: a tour of the Potwin Historic District, a tour of Topeka Cemetery, and tours of the museum gallery will also be available.

During the conference the special exhibit at the museum, "Just Add Water: Kansans Meet the American Desert" will be on display. The exhibit offers a look back at the Cretaceous era, ending about seventy million years ago, with Kansas fossils on loan from Sternberg Museum in Hays.

Concurrent sessions will take place on Monday, October 21, dealing with social studies issues of today in the following subject areas: History, Geography, Economics, Civics, Government, Law-Related Education, and Kansas Studies.

For more information contact Mark Adams at 913/272-8681 x 264.

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*.

Free Internet and WWW workshops in Belleville

The Belleville Public Library has been offering free workshops throughout February and March on how to utilize the Internet and World Wide Web. Billed as "Driver's Ed for the Information Superhighway," the workshops are non-technical introductions to the Internet. "The demand has far exceeded our expectations," says librarian Leah Krotz. "We originally scheduled two workshops, then we added six more, and we still have a waiting list."

Citizens in Belleville and Republic County are very interested in learning more about the Internet. Participants in the workshops have ranged from elementary students to Senior Citizens, and Krotz estimates that half of those attending have been over 60. "The level of expertise has also varied from those who already have Internet connections in their homes to those who have just heard about it in the news media and have no idea what the Internet is."

So far, residents in Republic County have no options for local Internet access, but the workshops have proven that there is a great deal of interest. "An interesting sideline of the workshops has been that the library is now perceived as a major player in plans for obtaining local Internet access," says Krotz. "I have been asked to demonstrate the Web for the school board and to host a meeting of city, county and school officials to discuss local Internet access."

"Like every librarian I know, it's hard to find the time to do one more thing, and I did have to spend time online to learn the World Wide Web. But it has definitely paid off in increased visibility for the library."

Emporia declares poetry month

April 1996 has been declared as the First Annual National Poetry Month and a number of national events will highlight it in order to draw the attention of national and local media, as well as spotlight poetry and its vital place in American culture.

The library at Emporia Middle School will sponsor a poetry contest as a special part of this month's celebration and in conjunction with National Library Week, which is also in April. Only Emporia Middle School students will be able to participate in this contest and the guidelines are as follows:

- Entries must have at least ten lines
- Entries must be about a book that is available in the EMS Library
- Entries are due back by the end of the day on April 26, 1996

The winner will receive a t-shirt which reads:
No One Else Is Quite Like Me.

Emporia receives Eagles grant

On March 4, 1996 Marleyne Farr, president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, presented \$500 to Library Director Sue Blechl and Katharine Commerford, library assistant. The Eagles have given money to the Emporia Public Library annually since 1984.

The contribution will be used to purchase large print materials. According to Ms. Blechl, community donations for books and other library materials are very important because they supplement the library's budget. Collections that might be "good" with tax funding can become "excellent" with the extra monies. Blechl also noted "Senior citizens and users of our home-bound delivery service depend heavily on large print books. Published for people with reduced or limited vision, the books include bestsellers, biographies, history, and more, covering many of the same topics as the regular collection."

Garden City boosts literacy

The Finney County Public Library and a local television station, KUPK, have teamed up to boost literacy.

A Literacy Open House at the library April 16 from 2:00—4:00 and a KUPK Telethon April 21 benefit Garden City's Project Open Door.

Open Door is a community service that pairs volunteer tutors one-on-one with adults who want to improve their reading. The service is provided without charge and is co-sponsored by the library and Garden City Community College.

The public was invited to participate in both events, according to Cheryl Sweley, coordinator for Project Open Door. At the Open House, the library offered free information on literacy.

On April 21, KUPK broadcast the Sixth Annual Kansas Literacy Telethon from 1:00—5:00 pm via KAKE TV-10, Wichita.

"Any pledge made for Project Open Door will be used to purchase materials for our local program," Sweley said. For information about either event, persons may call Sweley at 316/276-7600.

Library promotes family reading

Studies show that children who are read to at an early age learn to read more easily and tend to remain good readers throughout their school years. To help get the next generation off to the best possible start, the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library and the Friends of the Library in KCK are teaming up with two local medical centers to present first books to newborns and their parents. The program is called FLARE, which stands for Family Learning and Reading Exploration.

Parents of infants born at Bethany and Providence medical centers receive a gift bag prepared by library staff. The bag contains a first book for the baby, and useful information for the parents about the importance of reading, early childhood education and parental involvement in the learning process. There is also information on area adult education opportunities, library services, and a coupon to redeem at the library for the baby's first library card.

FLARE is a pilot program drafted by Youth Services and bookmobile staff at the Main, Argentine and West Wyandotte branches of the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library. The program is designed to help combat the high

rates of illiteracy and under-education in Wyandotte County.

The Friends of the Library provided the funds for the purchase of the gift bags and baby books. The Friends of the Library work to promote public use of library services and facilities, and to raise public awareness of the library and its value to the community as a lifelong learning center.

Staff introduction

Greetings. This is **Julie Jarvis** live from the Talking Books Division of the Kansas State Library. This is not up close and personal, but so you can get to know me, here are a few facts.

I am not married, have no children and do not own any pets, so that takes care of the basics. This January marked my first year anniversary here at the Regional Library in Emporia. I keep busy here serving patrons with descriptive videos and subregional libraries with recorded books, machines and supplies.

After hours you may find me in the following places: eating out, at the library, the movies, a play, or a musical event, at the park, camping, swimming, playing racquetball or just out driving not going anywhere in particular. I enjoy very much spending time alone writing and reflecting on life—one of those introspective behaviors. Someday when I am wealthy and talented I would like to travel around the world and record a couple of songs with Michael Bolton.

Library positions

Chair of Bibliographic Control/Acquisitions Kansas State University Libraries

Kansas State University Libraries is seeking an energetic, creative leader for the position of Chair, Bibliographic Control/Acquisitions (including serials and binding) Department. The successful candidate will play a pivotal role in the creation of this new department formed by the merging of bibliographic control and acquisitions (staff of 25-30). Reports to the Associate Dean. Management of KSU Libraries is based on collaboration in a team environment.

Responsibilities: serves as a member of the libraries' administrative team; participates in the ongoing development of the libraries' integrated system, Voyager; selects, trains, and evaluates staff and fosters their professional development; directs budgetary areas including OCLC, materials, and access; initiates collaborative relations with university units. **Required:** ALA-MLS; five years of library experience; two years of successful management and supervisory experience; experience with an integrated library system; experience in one or more of the following: 1) cataloging, 2) acquisitions, and/or 3) serials; knowledge of standards such as AACR2, LC classification, LCSH, MARC formats, data exchange standards; experience with an automated bibliographic utility; excellent interpersonal skills; excellent oral and written communication skills. **Preferred:** academic library experience; budgeting experience; evidence of the ability to develop cooperative and partnership relations within the library and with other university units. **Salary/Benefits:** low-mid \$40's (dependent on experience and qualifications); faculty rank, tenure-track, 12-month contract; 22 annual vacation days; BC/BS; choice of retirement plans. Review of applications will begin May 20, 1996. Anticipate on-campus interviews to begin July. Interviewees will make a presentation to library staff and academic faculty. Send letter of application, resume and names, addresses and phone number of three work-related references to M. Jean McDonald, Director of Administrative Services, Kansas State University Libraries, Manhattan, KS 66506. EEO/AA.
<http://www.lib.ksu.edu/farrell>

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Address comments concerning Kansas Libraries to the editors.

***Chair of Social Science/Humanities
Libraries
Kansas State University Libraries***

Kansas State University Libraries is seeking a creative leader in reference and information management for the position of Chair of Social Science/Humanities Libraries. Reports to the Associate Dean. Interviewees for this position will make a presentation to library staff and academic faculty on trends in access to information in the social sciences and/or humanities. **Responsibilities:** manages personnel and operations in Social Science/Humanities Reference, Government Docs, the Minorities Research and Resource Center, and collaborates with the Weigel Library of Architecture and Design; defines and implements programs and services; works with faculty in the academic departments and serves as an advocate with those faculty and the Social Science/Humanities Libraries staff; is a member of the Cabinet Operations team which serves as the administrative team developing policy and procedure for KSU Libraries; provides leadership in developing programs and services for the interim and the future during the renovation and expansion of the main library; fosters professional development of staff to continuously expand the knowledge base needed for providing a broad range of reference services in an electronic environment. **Required:** ALA-MLS; degree in a social sciences or humanities discipline; minimum of five years of library experience in increasingly responsible positions; management and supervisory experience; reference or public services experience; experience with emerging electronic resources and access systems; excellent oral and written communication skills; excellent interpersonal skills; demonstrated leadership skills. **Preferred:** advanced degree in social sciences or humanities; academic research library experience; experience with grant acquisition; foreign language skills; ability to develop cooperative and partnership relations with academic departments. **Salary:** low mid \$40's; tenure-track; 12 month contract. Faculty rank, tenure eligible. 22 annual vacation days; BC/BS; choice of retirement plans. Review of applications will begin April 20, 1996. Anticipate interviews to begin June 1. Send letter of application, resume

and names, addresses and phone numbers of three work-related references to M. Jean McDonald, Administrative Services, KSU Libraries, Manhattan, KS 66506. EEO/AA. <http://www.lib.ksu.edu/farrell/>

***Reference Librarian, Education
Kansas State University Libraries***

Kansas State University is seeking an individual to fill a tenure track vacancy as Reference Information Specialist with an emphasis in Education. The successful candidate reports to the Chair of Social Science/Humanities Libraries. **Responsibilities:** 1) provide both general and in-depth education reference service including night and weekend desk duty; 2) develop and present library user instruction (classroom and individual) in a fully automated library environment; 3) work cooperatively and in partnership with faculty in the College of Education and other academic departments; 4) collection development in the area of education; 5) demonstrate initiative, flexibility, cooperation in a demanding and rapidly changing environment; 6) develop professionally; 7) foster diversity in the library and on campus. **Required:** 1) ALA-MLS or equivalent, 2) demonstrated ability in the use of current library technology, 3) knowledge of resources in the field of education, and 4) strong interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written). **Preferred:** 1) academic library experience, 2) reference experience, 3) demonstrated ability to develop and conduct instructional programs, 4) an understanding of scholarly research needs, and 5) commitment to providing excellent public service. **Salary and Benefits:** mid-\$20's for 12 month faculty appointment; 22 days of annual leave; 12 days of sick leave; 11 paid holidays; TIAA-CREF and/or other retirements programs; health insurance. Screening begins April 20, 1996 and will continue until the position is filled. Anticipate interviews to begin June 1. Starting date on or after July 1, 1996. Send cover letter, resume, and the names, addresses and phone numbers of three work-related references to M. Jean McDonald, Director of Administrative Services, Kansas State University Libraries, Manhattan, KS 66506-1200. EEO/AA. <http://www.ksu.lib.edu/farrell/>

