

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

September 1999

## This month in Kansas Libraries

<i>KU online catalog available.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>In Memoriam Glenda Leonard.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>1998 stats available.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>CATALYST.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Great Plains/Great Books.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Journey to a simpler time.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>SIRSI establishes leader in library technology grant.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Kansas books.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Centennial quilt approved.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>1999 White award luncheon announcement.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>An invitation.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Getting online to be distributed.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>YALSA collection to be given away.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>So you're thinking about volunteers.....</i>	<i>7</i>

## *KU online catalog available*

Some changes took place in August in the operations of the University of Kansas libraries. The university libraries' new Endeavor Voyager online catalog is available on the Web at <http://catalog.lib.ukans.edu/>. The catalog will also be available via Telnet at a future date.

All borrowers must present a KU CARD in order to borrow materials from the Libraries. KU faculty, staff and students may obtain a card from the KU Card Center, which is located in the Kansas Union.

Resident borrowers are now able to obtain a KU Library Borrower Card from the Watson Library Circulation Department and the Regents Center Library at the Edwards Campus. Cost of the card for this group will be \$5.00/year.

For details about circulation policy changes, point your browser to [http://www.lib.ukans.edu/news/circ\\_policy.html](http://www.lib.ukans.edu/news/circ_policy.html).

## *In Memoriam Glenda Leonard*

Glenda Leonard, library aid and sole library staff person for the Valley Heights Elementary School in Blue Rapids, was killed in an automobile accident on August 14, 1999, north of Wichita. Her husband Dan was also killed. She is survived by three children, Stacy and Tucker of Blue Rapids, and Stephanie who is a teacher in Wichita.

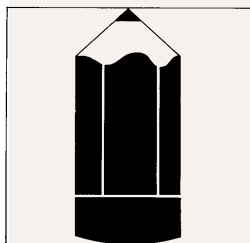
Glenda was instrumental in starting the Accelerated Reader program in the Blue Rapids elementary schools in 1990. Self-taught in library work, she operated on the principle that libraries exist to benefit students. She worked to increase students' reading skills and love of reading. She will be greatly missed by the Blue Rapids schools.

Memorials are being accepted by the schools for use in reading programs, and can be sent to David Walters, Superintendent of Schools, 121 E. Commercial, Waterville, KS 66548.

## *1998 stats available*

The 1998 Kansas public library statistics are now available online at [http://www.lrs.org/html/kansas\\_public\\_library\\_statistics.html](http://www.lrs.org/html/kansas_public_library_statistics.html). The statistics files can be opened and read or printed using Adobe Acrobat Reader or Microsoft Excel.

SEPTEMBER



# Catalyst

*by Eric Hansen,  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board*

The Network Board met in Dodge City on August 19 and 20 for decisions about how some of its federal funds will be spent in FY 2000. Events and activities the board chose to subsidize include Kansas on the Net, the Kansas Digital Library, a 2000 Tri-Conference preconference about eBooks proposed by Chris Rippel (see photo), a competitive digitization grant, and possible video recording of portions of the 2000 Tri-Conference. The board will continue to support the ILDP program as before.



Chris Rippel listens to a question from the KLN Board

I want to express my gratitude to Rosanne Goble and the staffs of the Southwest Kansas Library System and the Dodge City Public Library, especially Paula Etrick, for the splendid hospitality they showed to the board during its time in Dodge City. We were taken across the street for a very informative visit to the Kansas Heritage Center, we were each presented with a Dodge City Public Library Lariat Award, and we were even invited to join the staff for a 50th birthday banana split party (see photo). It was indeed a memorable trip.



Greg Zuck and Duane Johnson discuss fine points of banana split construction

*Position announcements are available on the KLA portion of Blue Skyways at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/helpwanted/index.html>.*

## Great Plains/Great Books

The Emporia Public Library and the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University will jointly sponsor a five-part book discussion series entitled "Great Plains/Great Books." The programs will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at the library. Each session will feature an area scholar to provide background information and to facilitate the exchange of information.

The first session will be September 1 and will feature James Hoy, ESU English Professor, leading a discussion of the book *Great Plains* by Ian Frazier. Copies of the book are available for checkout from the library.

Other sessions are planned for September 29 (*Pioneers* by Willa Cather), October 13 (*Touching the Fire: Buffalo Dancers, the Sky Bundle, and Other Tales* by Roger L. Welseh), November 10 (*Bones of Plenty* by Lois Hudson), and December 8 (*Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder). Brochures with the book list and the facilitators are available at the library.

The programs are free and are open to all. No registration is required. For more information call 316/342-6524.

This book discussion series is made possible through funding from the Kansas Humanities Council Resource Center.

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



## Journey to a simpler time

October is the perfect time to join the Friends of the Kansas City, Kansas Library for a delightful fall outing to Arrow Rock, one of the oldest cities in Missouri History was made at Arrow Rock. Native Americans long ago gathered flint for arrowheads from the Arrow Rock bluff above the Missouri River. Lewis and Clark noted the bluff and nearby salt licks on their journey in 1804. Westbound explorers and traders paused at Arrow Rock Spring, and in 1829 some settled and founded a town.

The Friends of the Library will host a day trip to Arrow Rock on Wednesday, October 13. The deluxe air-conditioned motor coach will depart from the West Wyandotte Library, 1737 N. 82nd Street, at 7:45 am and return by 7:00 pm.

The first stop will be the air-conditioned Visitors Center to view exhibits and slides explaining Arrow Rock's past. Then there will be plenty of time to browse the quaint shops on the boardwalk, visit some of the historic sites, or even enjoy a good game of checkers.

Lunch will be at the Old Tavern, which dates back to 1834 and features numerous early to mid-19th century pieces. A tasty meal will be served family style. Then, on to the Lyceum Theatre, housed in a Baptist church built in 1872. There a cast of nationally-known professionals will present "Voice of the Prairie."

The cost is \$58 for Friends members, and \$60 for non-members. The deadline for reservations is Friday, September 10. Space is limited, so reserve early. Make checks payable to the Friends of the Library, and mail to Friends of the Library, P0 Box 12802, Kansas City, KS, 66112. Call Jan Pack at 596-5800 for more information.

woodboatman by frontier artist George Caleb Bingham, who used Arrow Rock as the backdrop for some of his best known paintings.



## SIRSI establishes leader in library technology grant

Sirsi Corporation, developer of the Unicorn Library Management System, has established an annual \$10,000 grant to be administered by the American Library Association (ALA) as part of the ALA Awards Program.

The goal of SIRSI's Leader in Library Technology Grant is to encourage and enable continued advancements in high quality library services. The funds will provide monetary assistance to a library for projects that make creative or groundbreaking use of technology to deliver services to the library's community. The winning library will also receive a citation and plaque.

"At SIRSI, we have observed that libraries' visions of service often exceed their financial resources. With this grant, we hope to enable more libraries to fulfill their visions with innovative, local technology programs that broaden their users' access to knowledge," says Jacky Young, president and chief operating officer, Sirsi Corporation.



Public, academic, special and school libraries are eligible to receive the grant. Criteria include the potential for impact on the community served by the library; evidence that the project can serve as a model for other libraries and that the scope and duration is sufficient to effect change beyond the life of the grant; and objectively measurable results.

An online application will be available at [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org) in September. The application deadline is December 1, 1999. For more information, call Cheryl Malden at 800-545-2433 x3247 or send e-mail to [cmalden@ala.org](mailto:cmalden@ala.org).



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

## Kansas books

—by Roy Bird

***Jesse: A Novel of the Outlaw Jesse James***, by Max McCoy. New York: Bantom, 1999. Paperback, \$4.99.

Although this column generally is reserved for books by small presses or self-published works to inform library staff about how to acquire books by Kansans or about Kansas, and typically those by major publishers receive plenty of promotion, occasionally a work of special note comes out. Such is the case with Max McCoy's ***Jesse: A Novel of the Outlaw Jesse James***.

Max certainly fills the bill as a Kansas author—a novelist, journalist and now adjunct college professor in Pittsburg. His literary skill of writing Westerns and adventures lies first in the unique perspectives he takes and secondly how he weaves tidbits of Kansas history into all his books—even the series of Indiana Jones novels he completed not long ago!

However, ***Jesse*** is a valuable addition not only to the Western fiction collection or the Kansas collection, but also to the heritage of the Kansas library community. Even if you don't read Westerns or don't have an interest in Jesse James, the seven-page "Word of Explanation" is a must-read. In it Max incorporates the late Gene DeGruson (to whom the book is dedicated), the highly respected special collections librarian at Pittsburg State University who until his passing contributed greatly to the fields of history and literature.

The reminder of ***Jesse*** lives up to the author's usual quality—a fast-paced, highly interesting and accurate fictional work with a twist. In this case, it represents a first-person account of the outlaw's life, as told to contemporary Missourian and author Mark Twain. Recommended for Western fiction or Kansas collections, and for all Kansas libraries.



## 1999 White award luncheon announcement

The 1999 William Allen White Children's Book Award Luncheon will be held in the Kansas Expocentre in Topeka, Kansas on Saturday, November 20 at 12 Noon. The Kansas Association of School Librarians will host the 1999 White Award Luncheon. The forty-seventh annual White Award Medal will be presented to Andrew Clements for his book, *Frindle*, which is the winner of the 1999 White Award.

Reservation forms for the luncheon are available from Mary E. Bogan, Executive Secretary, White Award Program, William Allen White Library, Box 4051, Emporia; KS 66801-5092, telephone 316/341-5037 or 5038, e-mail boganmar@emporia.edu, fax 316/341-5997. Adult tickets will be \$17. Tickets are \$15 for boys and girls through the ninth grade. The deadline for reservations is November 1. Early reservations are recommended.

There will be a sale of Andrew Clements' books by the Friends of the William Allen White Book Award Board and autographing sessions on November 20 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and immediately following the Luncheon. There will be a limit of two books which will be autographed for each person.

The White Award, which was the first statewide reader's choice award, is directed by Emporia State University. The award program is supported in part by the Trusler Foundation.

More than 46,000 children in the fourth through eighth grades in Kansas schools participated in the voting for this year's award. Since 1952, when the White Award was established, more than 2,562,000 votes have been cast by the children of Kansas to select the annual winner of the William Allen White Children's Book Award. In that year, the White Award Program was founded by Ruth Garver Gagliardo, a specialist in Children's Literature, to honor the memory of one of the state's most distinguished citizens by encouraging the boys and girls of Kansas to read and enjoy good books.

## Centennial quilt approved

A Centennial Quilt has been approved by the Kansas Library Association's Centennial Committee for display at the 2000 Tri-Conference. After the conference the quilt will be available as a traveling exhibit at individual Kansas libraries during KLA's centennial year, after which it will be on display at KLA headquarters. Patti Butcher of the Northeast Kansas Library System developed the quilt design, which consists of a bookcase with bookspines visible on its shelves.

The book spines are available to commemorate participation in the centenary of the KLA. For a \$25 donation, your name, the name of your library, system or department, the name of someone you wish to honor for their contribution to libraries, or the name of an important library supporter can be included on one of the spines.



Spine space is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The members of the Centennial Committee would like to see 100 spines on the quilt filled for the 100th anniversary, and we anticipate them filling fast!

To reserve spine spaces now, send Marcella Kille, KLA Treasurer, 901 N. Main, Hutchinson 67501 a check for \$25 made out to KLA and the words you would like on the book spine on the quilt.

### 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*.**

## *Getting Online to be distributed*

Beginning mid-September, the National Center for Small Communities (NCSC) will distribute 10,000 free copies of "Getting Online: A Guide to the Internet for Small Town Leaders" to interested regional and statewide economic development and technology-related organizations, associations and agencies. In trade, these organizations must put the guidebook into the hands of small town leaders. Requests may be made until September 13.

Among the 171 million Internet users are local government officials and community leaders. Getting Online, NCSC's newest publication, is geared to this audience, including beginners and Internet masters. The 80-page guidebook explains, in plain English, the power, organization and tools of the Internet. It demonstrates how local government's use of the Internet can make a major contribution to public information and customer service.

Featured in Getting Online are twenty innovative small town telecommunications case studies. The guidebook was funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service.

### DISTRIBUTION

The guidebooks will be mailed in bulk quantities (minimum order of 200 books) for use at conferences, training seminars and meetings, or for special mailings to organization members. While the books are free, distributing organizations and agencies must cover shipping (\$25 for each set of 100 books, or 25 cents per book).

If your organization or agency is interested in sharing Getting Online with small town leaders in your state or region, please send an e-mail message by Sept. 13 to Nancy Stark, Director, Community and Economic Development, hn4404@handsnet.org.

Your message should briefly explain:

- How many books you need (min. order 200 books; additional copies in increments of 40).
- To whom, in general, the books will be distributed.

- How the distribution will occur (e.g., at a conference on X date; through a membership mailing).
- What outcomes you expect to achieve by sharing this information with small town leaders. Please be as specific as possible.

Single copies of Getting Online will also be available for purchase: \$14.95/NCSC members; \$19.95/non-members. For more information visit the NCSC Web site at <http://www.natat.org/ncsc> or contact Nancy Stark, Director, Community and Economic Development, NCSC, hn4404@handsnet.org, 202-624-3556.

## *YALSA collection to be given away*

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the ALA, has a ton of books to give away. The collection, valued at approximately \$25,000, includes children's, young adult and adult books, and videos, CDs and audiocassettes received from publishers and producers during the past year for review by YALSA selection committees.

Applicants must explain why the collection is needed in their community and institution, and how the collection will help them better serve the young adults in their community. They must also demonstrate the library's commitment to intellectual freedom and equity of access by submitting an up-to-date, board-approved collection development policy with the application.

The winner must agree to accept all the materials received by the YALSA office and pay shipping and handling charges. Previous winners are not eligible. The winner will be announced by the ALA Public Information Office during the 2000 Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio.

For an application form that includes the criteria and guidelines, contact the YALSA office, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611; 800-545-2433 x4390; e-mail: [YALSA@ala.org](mailto:YALSA@ala.org); Fax-On-Demand: 800-545-2433 press 8 and request document 890; or through the web site: [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa).

## So you're thinking about volunteers

—by Vikki Jo Stewart

### **Planning and Evaluation: Are you clear about what you want?**

I've been doing workshops on managing volunteers for many years. The focus this past year or two has been on helping librarians be clear about why they want volunteers. Once they know why they want volunteers there is clarity. Where there is clarity, there is opportunity for planning and evaluation. As you design your "volunteer" project, consider using a grant writing "proposal format." The format can be an excellent tool and a satisfying practice, too!

Here's some "STEPS" to help you plan and evaluate:

#### **THE BIG PICTURE:** an abstract or summary

Have you captured accurately and succinctly the WHO, WHAT, WHY & HOW? Have you written it in 35 words or less? This is important because it is the paradigm upon which all is connected.

**Step ONE:** Did you do the research? Do you know as much as possible about the WHY? Is it enough to say, "I need help because there is not enough staff to do the work"? When you're thinking about the reason WHY (the PROBLEM), consider the following:

- Volunteers or no volunteers: how will it effect the future of the library in the short and long run?
- what part of the library will be affected?
- reality check: what is the nature of the problem?
- how big a problem is it?
- staff, patrons: who does the problem affect?

**Step TWO:** Objectives. When you write an objective, consider how you'd like things to be in the future and include how you'll know you know it was successful!

#### SAMPLE OBJECTIVE

By September 2000 the Mel Gibson Public Library will have among its paid staff 30 people ranging in age from youth to older who have been screened, oriented, trained, evaluated, and recognized and will donate time and skill in the following departments: children, young adult, talking books, literacy, and special projects and this will be accomplished with the support of the staff and library board.

**Step THREE:** You'll have many tactics to think about. Which ones will work best and why? Remember, there can be many ways to approach each part. Never settle on the first idea. Who can help you with this — staff, board, patrons, etc.?

Using the above objective, can you identify how you will get the work done? You have a time line, you have a target number of recruits that includes specific information about the recruits—age, process (orientation, training) where they will volunteer, and that their work will be supported by staff and board.

**REMEMBER,** They are recruits or applicants until they complete the process and are placed. Once placed they are library volunteers. You maintain control from beginning to end.

**Step FOUR:** Getting the game plan ready so that everybody knows what's going on, especially YOU! Who needs to do what by when and how much will it cost? This is not a secret plan, share it with the "world" — staff, board, patrons, public, etc. How do you share it? Never surprise your board, staff OR PATRONS!

Still keeping the above objective in mind, think of all the possible ways to achieve it. Really take a look at all sides of each issue for the best way to implement. Now consider strategies (and alternate strategies) and consider resources (both real dollars and staff time) that will be needed

**Step FIVE:** Decide why and what data will need to be collected and then what to do with the information.

*continues on page 8*

continued from page 7

Think about what "success" means to you? Develop some ways to know concretely using facts, figures, information measurements, stats, conclusions, findings, results, reports, etc. that this project was successful. It's more than answering an objective, "did you recruit 35 people to . . ." What did you learn? What will you do differently in the future? How does this information help further the "volunteer" project plan of the future?

So you've completed the project and gathered the information along the way. Now what do you do with it? Even when it doesn't work out just like you planned, something happened. Was it ultimately helpful? What was learned and who learned it? What part of the plan needs adjustment? Apart from progress reports to the board, consider a progress report to the volunteers and

to the public. Don't miss a real opportunity to use those testimonies as specific EVIDENCE to promote other ideas. It also encourages healthy and future- oriented thinking and dreaming by other staff, board members and patrons.

This article is intended to help your planning and evaluation needs. The principles are the same regardless of the special project. Call me if I can help further at 316-532-1075 or email at vikkijo@ink.org.



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