

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

May 1996

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## Partial state aid distributed

The State share of the Federal-State Grants-In-Aid was distributed late in April so those eligible should by now have received an electronic fund transfer or a warrant.

This was the State share only. Because Congress had not yet agreed on the F.Y. 1996 budget, no federal funds were available. In the interests of funding State Aid, the grants are funded in two payments. The federal share will be paid as soon as possible after the budget is approved.

Those libraries receiving warrants received postcards to return assuring the State Library that the first payment is received. Similar postcards will accompany the federal share. No action is necessary by libraries receiving an electronic fund transfer.

Despite the two payments, there will still be only one final report for both payments in the fall. The closing date when funds must be spent or encumbered remains September 30, 1996.

Since this year's State Aid contains no EDIF funds, reporting will be only legal obligations as expenditures of federal and state funds. You also will still be asked for the percentage of federal and state funds being used for children's services.

## Older Americans Month

On April 13, 1963 President Kennedy signed a proclamation naming May 1963 as Senior Americans Month. Now, 33 years later, the name is Older Americans Month, but the intent remains the same. Make this month a time to honor the wisdom, experience and leadership provided by our Kansas older citizens.

The State Library, in close cooperation with other state and local agencies and organizations in Kansas last year hosted "Information for the Future of Aging: 1995 and Beyond." This conference encouraged collaborative efforts to provide information and referral for older Kansans. Progress is presently underway for a follow-up activity to that July 1995 conference. The State Library encourages other libraries to reach out cooperatively to reduce duplication of effort and enhance all community services. Some thoughts to remember during Older Americans Month are:

How old would you be if you didn't know how old you was?  
*-Satchel Paige*

The great thing about getting older is that you don't lose all the other ages you've been.  
*-Madeleine L'Engle*

To grow older is a new venture in itself. *-Goethe*

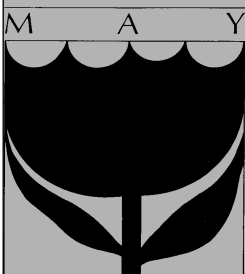
Now that I'm over sixty, I'm veering toward respectability.  
*-Shelley Winters*

I believe that one has to be seventy before one is full of courage. The young are always half-hearted.  
*-D.H. Lawrence*  
*(Selected Letters of D.H. Lawrence)*

For the unlearned old age is winter; for the learned it is the season of harvest.  
*-The Talmud*

The first forty years of life give us the test; the next thirty supply the commentary on it.  
*-Arthur Schopenhauer*

Read Kansas Libraries on  
Blue Skyways at  
<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/>



## Kansas Libraries—*print or nonprint?*

In March and again in April, 1996 the newsletter appeared on Blue Skyways before the print edition reached many libraries—at least in those two months you could read it online sooner than in paper format. Do you want to continue to receive a paper copy?

### *Do you want to continue your subscription to Kansas Libraries?*

*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](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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## ***Kansas Libraries Subscription Form***

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

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To save resources, only one subscription per library, please. Send your completed form by 30 June 1996 to:

Bonnie Keim, Library Assistant  
Kansas State Library  
300 S.W. 10th Avenue, Room 343-N  
Topeka, KS 66612-1593

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# Catalyst

by Michael Piper  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board

## Blue Skyways email directory saves time

When was the last time you tried to find someone's electronic mail address? Chances are, you ended up phoning them to get their email address.

In most cases, that's the best way to locate someone's email address. But it's time-consuming, particularly when you find yourself playing telephone tag.

Now, thanks to Blue Skyways, there's an easier way. EMAD, the Email Address Directory, provides information about librarians across Kansas. You can access EMAD 24 hours a day from the "Libraries and Library Resources" page on Blue Skyways. The complete address for the email directory is <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/sekls/emad/index.html>.

Once you find the individual you're seeking in EMAD, all you have to do is click once on their name to pull up a complete listing of their title, mailing address, phone and fax numbers, along with their email address.

Want to send them an email message on the spot? Just click once on their email address, and a message box appears quick as a wink. Enter your message in the box, click "send," and EMAD delivers the message in minutes. It's that easy!

## **EMAD is produced by Brig McCoy**

Our email directory is a good example of the resources available on Skyways. Like many Skyways resources, it was developed by a volunteer. Brig McCoy, Automation Consultant at the Southeast Kansas Library System in Iola, designed and implemented EMAD.

## **Adding your name to EMAD is a snap**

EMAD provides a convenient form that makes it easy for you to contribute your listing online in minutes. EMAD can accommodate information from text-based browsers such as Lynx, or from graphical browsers like Netscape.

From the EMAD home page, click on the appropriate link for your browser, then fill out the blanks online. Be sure to use the tab key to advance from one field to the next.

## **Help us make EMAD the best it can be**

The next time you need someone's email address, check EMAD before you pick up the phone to call them. And if their name is not listed in the directory, invite them to join the hundreds of librarians across Kansas who have contributed their names to the directory.

If you spot any outdated or inaccurate listings on EMAD, be sure to notify Brig McCoy at the address listed in the directory. With your help, we want to make EMAD as complete and accurate as possible.

*Are you listed in the Email Address Directory on Blue Skyways? Join the growing list of Kansas librarians who have contributed to this critical resource. Point your Web browser to: <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/sekls/emad/index.html>.*

*Blue Skyways is the Kansas library community's World Wide Web service. It provides convenient global access to information on Kansas communities, education, government and libraries.*

*Librarians across Kansas are implementing Skyways, under the leadership of the State Library in Topeka. For more on Blue Skyways, email me at [KSSTL2LB@INK.ORG](mailto:KSSTL2LB@INK.ORG).*

## *New NEKLS director*

In action at a joint meeting of the State Library Advisory Commission and the L.S.C.A. Advisory Council in Topeka on Friday, April 19, Jim Minges received Commission certification as the system librarian of the Northeast Kansas Library System. Jim came to NEKLS from the Nebraska State Library, but certification by the Commission is required under Kansas Administrative Regulation 54-1-7.

In related action, the meeting attendees heard a summary of library issues during the current state legislative session, a status report on Congressional action on the authorization of the new Library Services and Technology Act slated to replace L.S.C.A. as early as 1997 and brief acknowledgment of the KLA President's Awards received by Patti Mersmann and Michael Piper of the State library staff at the recent Tri-conference.

## *Education department issues conference proceedings*

"Public Libraries and Community-Based Education: Making the Connection for Lifelong Learning" is the title recently released by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education. This document is a summary of the conference proceedings sponsored by the National Institute on Postsecondary Education, Libraries, and Lifelong Learning.

Leading American educators met for two days to discuss the role of public libraries in community-based education, rural and small libraries, adult literacy and adult education, older adults, and cooperative extension. The document is published by the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20208-5531 or can be obtained through interlibrary loan.

### *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*.**

## *High School debate question 1996—97*

Resolved: That the federal government should establish a program to substantially reduce juvenile crime in the United States.

Les Kuhns, U.S.D. 501 debate coach, says the key issues of concern will be:

- 1) What is juvenile crime?
- 2) How much is there?
- 3) What is the trend?
- 4) What are the states doing?
- 5) Why should the federal government be involved?

## *Call for sharing*

At the suggestion of a library patron, who invested much of her time in a 1980s Kansas construction project, the State Library is exploring interest in a resource of "What worked, what didn't." In order to determine statewide interest, staff are seeking input or feedback regarding construction or automation projects. Such a resource might be valuable if maintained by consultants in the Library Development division of the State Library and should through the regional system consultants. It could be used to benchmark architectural and/or automation quality issues such as politics, process and product in order to make the path easier for those who are planning a future project.

If you have interesting experience, insight, advice or anecdotes regarding a construction or automation project in which you have participated, please share them with Roy Bird by either phone: 800/432-3919, fax: 913/296-6650, or email: KSSTL8LB@INK.ORG.

## *Haysville host cowboy poets*

A benefit for the Haysville Friends of the Library called "An Evening With Cowboy Poets" was held Thursday, April 25, 6:30 pm at the Haysville Middle School auditorium. Admission was \$6, which was part of the Friends group's fundraising event.

Featured were Jack DeWerff, Cowboy Philosophy in Rhyme, Ellinwood; Dr. Jim Hoy, Singer, Teacher & Poet, Emporia; Steve West, Youngster of the group, Colwich; and Max Kirkes, Retired Teacher & Whittler, Haysville.

### ***Antioch Library open includes literacy center, book store***

The Antioch Library, 8700 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Merriam, reopened on Tuesday, March 26. Antioch, which served as the headquarters for the Johnson County Library system for 40 years, was renovated after staff and materials were transferred to the Central Resource Library in August 1995. The building will now serve northeast Johnson County as a large regional library.

Library users will notice a new interior layout and design as well as a brand new collection of 60,000 items. There will be new InfoCat terminals, PCs and typewriters for public use, CD ROM and electronic resource areas, listening stations for audio materials, a reading room two study rooms and a 200 person meeting room for library events and community use. Some materials including shelving and staff area furniture have been reutilized. Both children's and adult programming will be offered at the Antioch Library.

Improvements to the roof, heating-cooling system and parking lot have been made with the addition of a drive-up book return.

In addition to its role as a library, Antioch also provides office and classroom space for the Project Finish literacy center, a program which is cosponsored with Johnson County Community College and provides basic adult education, GED preparation and English as a second language courses.

The Friends of the Library will operate a used book store at Antioch Library Monday through Saturday. This will be in addition to their annual book sale which will be held June 6—8 at the Mission Center Mall.

The Antioch Library will also house offices for the Library's youth services, community relations, volunteer services and facilities support departments.

The grand re-opening celebration for Antioch Library occurred Saturday, April 27.

### ***Edgar Wolfe award to KCK native***

The Friends of the Library presented the 7th annual Edgar Wolfe Literary Award to Maxine Clair at 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 21 at the West Wyandotte Library, 1737 N. 82nd Street in Kansas City, KS. The presentation included songs performed by the choir from Schlagle High School. A reception and book signing followed the presentation, and copies of the author's books were available for purchase.

Clair, a KCK native and KU graduate, is the author of *Rattlebone*, a collection of 11 related stories set in a Midwestern town based on Kansas City in the 1950s. *Rattlebone* won the Friends of American Literature Fiction Award, the American Library Association's Black Caucus Award for Fiction, and *The Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Prize for fiction.

Clair's other books include a collection of poems entitled *Coping with Gravity*, and a fiction chapbook entitled *October Brown*, which won Baltimore's Artscape Prize for Maryland writers. Her stories and poems have appeared in *Antietam Review*, *Callaloo*, *Icarus*, *Kenyon Review*, and *Story*.

In 1982, Clair resigned as chief medial technologist at a Washington, D.C. hospital to pursue a writing career. She is currently Associate Professor of English at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

### ***Log on @ KCKPL library***

In celebration of National Library Week (April 15—19), the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library presented beginning Internet programs open to the public. This was a great opportunity to learn what is available on the Internet and how the

KCK Public Library can help patrons experience it! Three sessions were offered at the main branch auditorium. April 15, 16 and 17, all starting at 4:00 pm and lasting for about an hour. For more information about the programs call 913/551-3280 and ask for Kay Tyrrell or Patrick Mahoney.

### *KCK library hosts Smithsonian lectures*

The Kansas City Kansas Public Library was proud to host "Voices of Discovery," a series of lectures coinciding with the exhibit "America's Smithsonian," celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution currently at Bartle Hall in Kansas City. The speakers for the programs are provided by the Smithsonian Institution. Free preregistration was suggested.

**James Bruns**, Director of the National Postal Museum, presented a humorous anecdotal and illustrated history of the Pony Express at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 29, at the Main Library. **Mary Jo Arnoldi**, Curator of African Ethnology and Art at the National Museum of Natural History, gave an illustrated presentation on the rich variety, social context and symbolism of African headwear and hairstyles at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 1, at the West Wyandotte Library. **Roslyn Walker**, Senior Curator at the National Museum of African Art, gave a slide-illustrated talk on foreign faces in African art at 6:30 pm on Monday, May 6, at the Main Library. Walker illustrated how works by traditional African artists testify to their encounters with African, European and other foreigners since the 15th century.

**David Hunt**, Museum Specialist at the National Museum of Natural History, talked about mummies and mummification practices at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 6, at the West Wyandotte Library. Hunt presented mummy artifacts and talked about the process and religious significance of mummification in various cultures. This program was repeated at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 7, at the Main Library.

**Andrew Connors**, Associate Curator at the National Museum of American Art, discussed the revival of Hispanic traditional arts at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, May 7, at the Argentine Library, 2800

Metropolitan Avenue. Connors showed slides to illustrate how earlier Hispanic art forms are being reinterpreted by contemporary artists.

### *Irish genealogy workshop sponsored*

A workshop on Irish Genealogy was sponsored by the Midwest Historical and Genealogical Society and the Celtic Circle Chapter of the Irish American Cultural Institute in Wichita on May 4.

Dr. Brian Trainor, from Belfast Ireland led the workshop. It was presented at the Minisa recreation building, located at 704 W. 13th Street, Wichita, KS. The workshop was from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and cost \$10 per person. Dr. Trainor is the Research Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast. The Ulster Genealogical and Historical Foundation was founded in 1956 to promote Ulster history and genealogy. The workshop was open to the public.

### *Picturing Wichita*

This summer the Wichita Public Library will be offering a fascinating look back at the city of Wichita. A series of slide presentations and walking tours of historical Wichita begin in May and run monthly through October. All the programs are free and open to the public.

These six programs feature slide presentations, lectures, and bus and walking tours on many interesting historical aspects of Wichita; the downtown area, theaters, automobiles and dealerships, the Fairmount district, fun hangouts, and of course aircraft. "The speakers and guides were chosen because of their knowledge and love of Wichita" said Martha Gregg, local historian, Wichita Public Library.

This program series is part of the Wichita Public Library's Local Historical Preservation project that also includes cataloging, preservation, and access to the library's extensive historical photograph collection. By late summer many of the photos will be available to view on CD-ROM and even print out at the Central Library Genealogy/Kansas Reference room.

Funding for "Picturing Wichita" has been provided by the Forrest C. Lattner Foundation, the Hyde Foundation, the Ross Foundation and by John and Helen Hyde in memory of George A. Hyde.

### *Wichita hosts storyteller*

Joe Hayes, a nationally recognized storyteller of tales from the Hispanic, Native American and Anglo cultures, was in Wichita April 10–13. During these four days Mr. Hayes told stories for students and families, signed books, taught workshops and participated in a televised call-in interview program.

Joe's bilingual Spanish-English tellings have earned him a distinctive place among American storytellers. "It helps build an appreciation of the richness of other cultures and helps people recognize that other languages aren't that foreign," he says.

Joe Hayes' schedule included a book signing sponsored by Watermark for Kids; a televised call-in interview on cable channel 40; performances for private, parochial and home schooled students, Central Library, 223 S. Main; a story-telling workshop with emphasis on bilingual storytelling techniques, Central Library; and a performance for families—free and open to the public, Central Library.

### *Staff introductions*

Most public librarians already know me, at least as the person to whom they must report statistics, State Aid applications, and federal grant information. However, I am much more than a name to which librarians send reports. I am **Roy Bird**, the coordinator of the Library services and Construction Act and other federal programs in Kansas and public library consultant for the State Library.

As a statewide consultant, you might find me just about anywhere. I am often visiting, consulting or serving on committees. My goal since coming to the State Library a decade ago has been to provide the best possible library service to the people of Kansas.

But some of you know me from my careers outside the State Library. I am an adjunct professor in the Washburn University English department instructing classes in composition and literature. I teach for other agencies and organizations occasionally. I have been teaching college level and adult classes for a dozen years.

In 1974 I sold my first article as a professional writer and have been writing history, reviews and short fiction ever since. My latest book is **Kansas Day-By-Day**, published last month.

But my most important job is being a spouse and father. My wife of 19 years and I are raising three kids, three horses, and numerous dogs, cats and other livestock on 20 acres in rural Shawnee county. During summers we enjoy camping and traveling both to sites and activities in Kansas and to interesting places in other states. So don't be surprised to find me traveling near you soon—you just won't be sure in what guise I'm traveling!

### *Kansas books*

*by Roy Bird*

**Kansas Day-By-Day**, by Roy Bird. Tucson: The Patrice Press, 1996. 288 pp., paperback, \$12.95 + \$3.95 shipping.

Kansas has a rich history, from its fossil beds and Indian trails to Nancy Kassebaum and Bob Dole. **Kansas Day-By-Day** by Roy Bird offers 366 anecdotes relating to our 34th state.

There is adventure—Indian War stories, Civil War stories, the rise of Populism and the coming of the railroad; basketball; floods, fires, tornadoes, and blizzards. Fascinating personalities—Father Juan Padilla, William Allen White, Carrie Nation, John Brown, Osa Johnson, Karl Meninger, Satanta, Sockless Jerry Simpson, Mary "Yellen" Lease, Dwight David Eisenhower, Amelia Earhart, Alf Landon. And memorable places—Blue Earth Village, Octagon City, Fort Riley, Marais des Cygnes, the Santa Fe Trail, and Lawrence.

Historian Roy Bird was born in Herington, and is a graduate of Kansas State and Emporia State universities. He is the author of hundreds of articles and several books about his native state, a consultant for the Kansas State Library and on the faculty of Washburn University.

**Kansas Day-By-Day** will take you into the heart of this great state and give you a rapid-fire, easy-to-digest tour of its past.

*-folio*, the newsletter of *The Patrice Press*

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**Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editors.**

### *Library positions*

#### ***Automation Consultant Northeast Kansas Library System***

Seeking a motivated person who is equally interested in working with people and technology. Lead library automation in 14 county region. Knowledge of management and application of library technology in both public and school libraries, and ability to develop and present training to a broad range of audience. Provide advocacy, training, and technical support for library automation systems, LANS, retrospective conversion, Internet/HTML. Interpersonal skills, commitment to teamwork, and extensive ravel required. ALA accredited M.L.S. degree and three years related experience preferred. Salary: \$30,000—\$32,000. Send resume by May 25th to Northeast Kansas Library System, 3301 Clinton Parkway Court, Suite 6, Lawrence, KS 66047, [jminges@idir.net](mailto:jminges@idir.net). 913/838-4090. EOE.

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