

# Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

August 1999

## 100th Anniversary of KTLC

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Kansas was among the pioneers in the adoption of traveling libraries to furnish books to communities without local public libraries. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kansas Traveling Library Commission (KTLC).

In May of 1897, members of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs organized a traveling library. Book donations were accepted from all over the state and traveling libraries (at the time, 50 books was considered a library) were sent to rural areas of the state. Initial distributions were made in May 1898 under the supervision of the Kansas Social Science Federation.

At the urging of Kansas clubwomen, the Kansas legislature passed a measure that established the Kansas Traveling Library Commission on July 1, 1899. Materials of the

Social Science Federation were transferred to the Commission.

In 1949, the KTLC was authorized to enter into agreements with federal agencies for funds to be made available for library services or demonstration projects. In 1957 the KTLC was granted authority to establish area, branch, or service centers to facilitate rural library service.

On July 1, 1963 the KTLC was abolished, and all its holdings transferred to the State Library. When the Commission was abolished, the Legislature created a new commission, the State Library Advisory Commission. But the influence of Kansas clubwomen did not die with the KTLC. One of the provisions of the law that created the Advisory Commission is that one member of that body is to be a member of a Kansas federated women's club, appointed by the governor (K.S.A. 75-2546).



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

## In Memoriam Joan Johnson

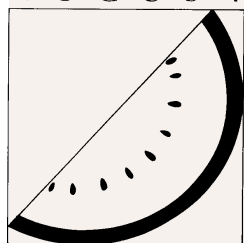
Joan Johnson, 62, former library director and board member, died on Tuesday, July 13, 1999.

Johnson was born July 15, 1936 in Wichita. She lived in McPherson from 1952 until 1958 and again from 1970 until 1988.

Johnson graduated from McPherson High School in 1954 and from McPherson College in 1958. She earned a master's degree in library science from Emporia State University in 1979. She moved from McPherson to Moscow in 1988 and to Liberal in 1991, where she lived until 1998.

She was director of the Liberal Memorial Library from 1991-1996. In 1993 and 1994 she was Board Chair of the Southwest Kansas Library System.

AUGUST



## KLOA nominations

KLOA invites nominations for the Outstanding Library Paraprofessional Employee Award. The award will be presented at the annual KLOA Conference, which will be held this year in Topeka on November 4th and 5th.

If you know someone deserving this award, please submit a written nomination with the name of the person you're nominating, where they work, and why you think they are an outstanding library paraprofessional. Nominations must be submitted by September 1st, and may be sent to: Lori Hein, Bethel College, lhein@bethelks.edu. Questions regarding the award may be sent to Pat Fine, KLOA Chair, Emporia State University, finepatr@emporia.edu, or call 316/341-5057.

## Duane Johnson recognized by ALTA

—by Ellen Miller

It was a proud Kansas moment when State Librarian Duane Johnson stood at the podium in New Orleans. He had been invited to attend the Association of Library Trustees and Advocates' (ALTA) opening session in recognition of his role in launching the new Kansas Library Trustee Association (KLTA).

"It is due to the hard work of you and others that there is a new statewide trustee association in Kansas to help get needed resources for libraries," ALTA's President-elect E. Victor Johnson stated in his introduction.

Over 175 attendees heard Duane Johnson speak of the many people involved in planning and launching KLTA, a section of the Kansas Library Association. "Starting this trustee association took active people who cared," he said, "and they included trustees from across the state, regional directors and librarians." He mentioned the leadership of Ellen Miller, KLTA president. Miller is also ALTA's 2nd Vice President.

"Our job now is to help local boards get the resources they need," Johnson concluded. "Now we have the entire team—librarians, trustees and Friends—on the playing field in Kansas."

## SLIM announces new program



In order to provide a "pro-active" response to the critical shortage of school library media specialists, the School of Library and Information Management has launched a new program—one especially designed to facilitate the certification process for talented, people-oriented, energetic teachers willing to seek new challenges by entering the field of school librarianship.

The program provides an introduction to school librarianship for certified teachers who are taking on library duties in districts that file waivers with the State Board of Education. Since these new "pre-library certified" teachers are likely to need basic information related to running the library, managing technology, and providing information skills instruction, our "Library Media Mentorships" approach will provide direct, hands-on assistance with these basic tasks *first*.

The initial phase of the program will consist of a 12-hour package that offers courses directly related to professional practice. These courses are among those already required for the School Library Media endorsement. For this reason, the School Library Media Mentorships Program can be folded into the "regular" 30-hour school library media certification program offered at ESU. The entire 30 hours can be taken within the three years that the state requires when it issues a library waiver.

In summary, the Library Media Mentorship Program will provide:

- A hands-on introduction to School Librarianship
- A plan for attainment of a 12-hour Level I Certificate in School Library Media through specially selected course offerings
- A schedule for achieving Level II of full "certification" and endorsement (30 hours) in School Media within 3 years.

Questions about this new program can be addressed to Cathy Hoy at hoycathy@emporia.edu, or Nancy Thomas at thomasna@emporia.edu, or call 316/341-5062.

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# Catalyst

by Eric Hansen,  
Executive Director  
Kansas Library Network Board

The Kansas Library Network Board will meet at Dodge City Public Library on Thursday and Friday, August 19 and 20. Likely hours for the meetings are 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Details will be available on the Blue Skyways calendar of events page at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/events/cal99b.html#august>. The principal topic will be the determination of the Board's budget for FY 2000. For the complete agenda, see <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/meetings.html#agenda> on Blue Skyways.

Your Board's Executive Director was pleased to trade his presenter hat for that of a conference attendee at the 1999 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans during the last week of June. The conference was made manageable by schedules and descriptions in the printed program, which is about the size of the Topeka phone directory. A highpoint was the keynote address by retired general Colin Powell, in which he proved to be every bit as adept politically as he used to be militarily.

Please note that the Network Board's web site has been redesigned for easier navigation and more visual appeal. Point your browser to <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/KLNB/klnb.html> to see for yourself.

I'm pleased to report that Blue Skyways is now hosting the web presence of the Heartland Chapter of Reforma at <http://www.skyways.org/orgs/reforma/hearthom.html>. Reforma is the national association to promote library and information

services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking. The Heartland Chapter (Kansas and Missouri) was founded in 1997 and is open to all interested library staff, sustainers, supporters, and students.



## Author told trolley tale

The Friends of the Library in KCK hosted a book talk by Robert Collins, author of *The Electric Way*, on July 13 at the West Wyandotte Library.

Collins, who has written about Kansas railroads and the opening of the "Wild West," this time turns his attention to a more interurban topic. In his latest book, the author of *Ghost Railroads of Kansas* and *Kansas Pacific - An Illustrated History* tells the story of the Arkansas Valley Interurban, a trolley line that ran between the Kansas cities of Wichita, Newton and Hutchinson in the 1910s and 1920s.

In *The Electric Way*, Collins sees the AVI as an early sign of the rise of suburbia in America, long before the post-World War II flight from the inner cities began.

According to Collins, the trolley, which carried visitors to the Kansas State Fair, high school teams to sporting events, and shoppers to big city stores, paved the way for the suburbs much as the Kansas Pacific helped usher in the "Wild West" era.



Collins, who lives in Andover, Kansas, is a member of and promotions director for the Kansas Writers Association. He wrote and published the "Touring Kansas Counties" book series from 1992 to 1995, and *A Railfan's Guide to Kansas Attractions* in 1996.

### 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*.**

## Grolier National Library Week Grant

The Grolier Publishing Company has sponsored the Grolier National Library Week Grant every year since 1975. The award is presented to a library or library association for a proposal for a public awareness campaign that best supports the theme and goals of National Library Week. All types of libraries and library associations may apply. Guidelines address issues of inter-agency cooperation and mechanics of grantsmanship, but creativity, originality, clarity of planning and potential for generating widespread public visibility and support for libraries are also considered. Proposals are due October 15, 1999. More information and an application form are available on the Web at <http://www.ala.org/pio/grolierapp.html>.

## Computer catalog upgrade

During the week of August 30, the Wichita Public library's Dynix computer system will be down to facilitate the upgrade of computer hardware. The library must upgrade the computer hardware to make it Y2K compliant.

Although there will be no access to the library's computer catalog that week, the library's 12 locations will be open regular hours and customers will still be able to check out materials, obtain library cards, gain access to the Internet and research subjects. "The computer catalog will be missed that week, but Library staff will be able

to direct you to your favorite author's new book and reference librarians will be able to guide you in your research," said Cynthia Berner Harris, Administrative Services Coordinator and the library's Y2K Project Leader.

## Art Quilts



Over the years the Wichita Public Library has had a tradition of extraordinary quilt exhibits—quilts make a dramatic return to the Library when ten unique quilted wall hangings by talented artist Jill Rumoshosky Werner will be on display at the Wichita Public Library from August 2-30 at 223 S. Main.

Jill Rumoshosky Werner is an award-winning quilt artist known for her pictorial quilts and her creative use of fabrics. Her quilts come in many sizes and styles from traditional to "very unusual," but her hallmark is her attention to detail.

Werner's wall hangings are often decorated with surface ornamentation to achieve a realistic, three-dimensional look. Some of the embellishments include antique beads, buttons, laces and trims that previously belonged to her mother, great-grandmother, great aunt, and a favorite neighbor lady.

## HCCI announces revisions

Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc., (HCCI) a not-for-profit agency in Topeka, announces the latest revisions in tenant/landlord publications. The 4th revision (1998) of the ***Kansas Tenants Handbook***, the 1st revision (1999) of the ***Kansas Landlords Handbook*** and the latest revision (1998) of the ***Screening and Fair Housing Booklet with Model Application*** are available to order. A postcard to place an order will be mailed approximately August 15th. A complete publication list will be forwarded with the order.

Since 1972, HCCI has sought to facilitate adequate, safe, affordable and equitable housing situations for all people, especially those of low and moderate incomes. HCCI offers tenant/landlord counseling and programs, prepurchase programs, money management counseling, referral services, and educational literature and seminars. HCCI is a HUD Certified Housing Counseling Agency.

## Muth receives award

Thomas J. Muth, retired Deputy Director of the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library is the recipient of the RUSA Genealogical Publishing Co./History Section award for 1999. The award consists of \$1,000 and a citation donated by The Genealogical Publishing Company. It is given to encourage, recognize and commend professional achievement in historical reference and research librarianship.

Muth has been an active participant in the History Section for more than 25 years. He has served as section chair and member of the History Executive Committee, the Isadore Mudge-R.R. Bowker Award Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Awards Coordinating Committee.

RUSA (Reference and User Services Association of the American Library Association) is responsible for stimulating and supporting in every type of library the delivery of reference/information services to all groups, regardless of age, and of general library services and materials to adults (<http://www.ala.org/rusa/>).

The History Section represents the subject interests of reference librarians, archivists, bibliographers, genealogists, historians, and others engaged in historical reference or research. It brings together representatives of history collections in all formats from all types of libraries, archives, and historical societies (<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~mudrock/HIST/>).

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



## Liberal receives award

The Liberal Memorial Library has been named one of 30 winners in the 1999 Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults Recognition Project. The award, sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), includes a \$200 stipend, inclusion in the third edition of "Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults," to be published by ALA Editions in the Spring of 2000, and participation in a poster session at the ALA annual conference in Chicago in 2000.

Applications were judged on the degree to which the program/service meets the needs of its community, particularly the young adult audience it serves; originality; the degree to which the program or service reflects the concepts identified in *Directions for Library Service to Young Adults*; the degree to which it impacts and improves service to young adults; and quality.

For more information about the project, point your browser to <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/excellence/index.html>, call YALSA at 800/545-2433, ext. 4390, or send E-mail to [YALSA@ala.org](mailto:YALSA@ala.org).

## Touring exhibit at KCKPL

"The Art of Russian Children," a touring exhibit sponsored by the Friends of Kansas Libraries, has been touring Kansas libraries for the past seven years. The exhibit will hang in the Main Library of the Kansas City, Kansas Library, 625 Minnesota Avenue, from August 14 through September 15.

The exhibit features two dozen paintings by Russian children between the ages of six and sixteen. The bright and colorful works were done in tempera, pen and ink, and chalk. A variety of subjects are portrayed in the distinctively Russian style.

Call the Main Library at 913/551-3280 for more information.

## **Library positions**

### **Kansas City Kansas Public Library Main Branch Manager**

Responsible for a staff of 26 and an annual budget of \$1,156,994 for a downtown urban location. Works closely as part of library administration with civic and state organizations advocating library related issues. Promotes positive community outreach to service areas. This position requires leadership, vision, teamwork, creative problem-solving skills, ability to implement change, sensitivity to a multi-cultural environment and a sense of humor. The selected individual will face many critical challenges. Among these are continuous provision of services to a diverse population with limited resources. Qualifications: ALA/MLS with significant supervisory/management experience on a division or branch library level with strong leadership and community outreach skills. Fundraising and grant writing abilities beneficial. Salary range: \$34,525- \$53,500. Expected hiring range: \$41,634-\$46,011. Attractive benefits program. Interested and qualified persons should send cover letter, resume and 3 professional references to: Personnel Coordinator, KCKPL, 2nd floor, 625 Minnesota Avenue, KCK 66101. Application deadline: September 1, 1999. EOE. [www.kckpl.lib.ks.us](http://www.kckpl.lib.ks.us).

### **Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library Youth Services Manager**

Youth Services includes 12 creative, dynamic, energetic and innovative staff members serving the Library needs of children through the age of twelve and young adults through the age of 18. Youth Services offers a dynamic Summer Reading program for children as well as innovative programs for all ages at a variety of community sites. Youth Services Outreach Storytellers provide literature-based programming at community child care facilities. The nationally recognized Young Adult Library Summer Program features a theater group and other creative programming. The Youth Services area has 10 public access computers and Internet training opportunities for children and parents. The position of Youth Services Manager reports to the Deputy Director of Operations and

performs the following essential administrative duties: Formulates and oversees implementation of Division goals, procedures, programs and projects; Oversees day to day operation of Division, e.g., monitors schedules, assigns projects, directs committees and focus groups and interviews applicants; Works with staff in the areas of training, scheduling, evaluating and problem solving; Completes work assignments accurately and meets assigned deadlines; Plans and charts staff training and development; Tracks collection evaluation and development assignments of staff; Assists in development of Division goals, procedures and projects; Serves on Management Council, representing the Youth Services Division; Provides clear, well articulated communication to the Deputy Director of Operations. REQUIRED/DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS include Masters of Library Science degree from an ALA accredited college or university and five years progressively responsible administrative experience in public libraries. The applicant must be able to communicate effectively and work cooperatively with colleagues/patrons. Strong service orientation is essential. Knowledge of and familiarity with library technology is required. Good analytical and organizational skills are required. Salary range \$32,050-\$48,418. Excellent benefits, including BCBS health/dental at no cost to single employee (\$50/mo for family plan), retirement and cafeteria plan, 22 days vacation and 12 days sick leave.

### **Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library Automation Manager**

The Automation Manager reports to the Deputy Director of Operations; manages and coordinates the general activities/procedures/policies of the automation unit throughout the Library and performs the following essential administrative duties: Responsible for the overall administration of the Library's integrated automation system and developing technology; Develops and implements annual Division goals, procedures, programs and projects; Annually reviews and updates and/or new equipment throughout the Library; Responsible for development of internal and external scheduling within the Training Center in conjunction with the Staff Development Office, working to maximize the use of the computer training center; Assigns and monitors departmental work flow and special projects of

the automation staff; Communicates information about evolving and new technology and telecommunications that may be beneficial to the Library; Responds in a timely and supportive manner to all concerns from Library staff regarding databases and/or equipment that is not working properly; Oversees daily operation of the Division, including scheduling, training, evaluating and problem solving related to Library technology; Actively participates in and supports staff development and divisional staff participation in professional organization; Responsible for the development of the Strategic Plan for Library automation and technology development, reviewing and updating annually. **REQUIRED/DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS** include: Bachelor's degree with extensive experience in automation, management and supervision; Knowledge of system technology; Good analytical, organizational, and problem-solving skills; Ability to communicate effectively with co-workers and patrons; Work in cooperative situations. Salary range \$32,050-\$48,418. Excellent benefits, including BCBS health/dental at no cost to single employee (\$50/mo. for family plan), retirement and cafeteria plan, 22 days vacation and 12 days sick leave. **SEND RESUME** with three professional references to Human Resources, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 S.W. 10th, Topeka, KS 66604-1374. <http://www.tscpl.org>. EOE. (Applications accepted until position is filled.)

### ***South Central Kansas Library System Automation Consultant***

The South Central Kansas Library System is seeking an automation consultant. The individual selected will provide advice and assistance in the areas of automation and the use of technology. Areas would include advice on selection of hardware and software, assistance with program proposals and advice on equipment maintenance and repair. Other areas of expertise should include online networks and services, such as Internet/HTML and CD-ROM Technology and products. MLS from and ALA accredited program, library automation experience and strong communication skills are required. Send letter of application to Leroy M. Gattin, Director South Central Kansas Library System 901 N. Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501. Salary range \$31,000 to \$33,000. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

## ***Kansas books***

—by Roy Bird

### ***The Prison Called Hohenasperg: An American Boy Betrayed by his Government During World War II***, by Arthur D. Jacobs.

Order from: UPUBLISH.COM, 7525 N.W. 61 Terrace, Suite 2603, Parkland, FL 33067-2421. Fax: 954/755-4059. 5¼ x 8½ paper, 1999, \$19.95 + \$4.90 p/h.

Unknown to most Americans, more than 10,000 Germans and German-Americans were interned in the U.S. during the Second World War. ***The Prison Called Hohenasperg*** is the story of one interned German-American family, told by the son, an American citizen born on American soil. Jacobs relates a first-hand account of how as a young boy he and his family were taken from their home in Brooklyn, NY, to internment at Ellis Island and then to Crystal City Texas, and finally to a prison in Hohenasperg, Germany. In a frank and wrenching style, Jacobs describes events beginning in 1943 when the FBI ransacked the family home until October 1947 when they set sail for the return to America. The story is akin to terrifying POW survival stories of that war.

Jacobs' connection to Kansas came when the wife of an American official in Germany told of her years as a southwest Kansas school teacher and offered to send the author and his brother to live with friends in Morton County who would sponsor them. Jacobs finished school in Richfield and Elkhart and attended Kansas State University in 1951. His true tale of this American tragedy is great reading and an important addition to adult collections about WWII, German-Americans or Kansas.



### Kansas libraries.... thirty years ago

—by Bill Sowers, Kansas Documents Librarian/  
Tech Services Librarian

Gleanings from the Summer 1969 issue of  
**The Kansas Library Bulletin:**

- The Extension Reference Service Unit at the State Library completed 4,197 reference questions from all over Kansas during its first year of operation.
- Mrs. Helen Pihl has accepted the position of librarian at the Lindsborg Community Library. She replaces Mrs. Ethel Palmquist.
- Miss Elaine Miller began her duties as Documents Librarian at Fort Hays State College this summer.
- The State Library with the cooperation of the system centers and contractual members of the Kansas Information Circuit is preparing a Union List of Serials.

### Viewers guides available

Viewer's guides are now available for the 1999 season of the locally produced public television series "Sunflower Journeys." Produced by KTWU/ Channel 11 in Topeka, these half-hour programs follow a "blue highways" route around Kansas, presenting a diverse array of stories about the historic and contemporary sites and citizens encountered along the way. One of these stories explores the history of Carnegie libraries in Kansas. This popular series is available on video-cassette from various sources, including a number of public libraries, the Kansas Heritage Center, and the Kansas State Historical Society as well as from KTWU.

For a free copy of the viewer's guide, contact KTWU at Washburn University, Topeka, 66621; call 785/231-1111; email the series producer Dave Kendall at [kendall@washburn.edu](mailto:kendall@washburn.edu). For more information, consult the "Sunflower Journeys" website at <http://ktwu.washburn.edu/journeys>.



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**Please route to**

*Library Director*

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