



KLA/MPLA JOINT CONFERENCE 2009

In case you haven't heard, the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is coming to Kansas in April for a joint conference. MPLA has a long history with Kansas. Most years, Kansas is near the top of membership numbers in MPLA compared to other states and we have had several presidents from Kansas over the years. Some from recent memory would be Duane Johnson, retired State Librarian, Jean Hatfield, Wichita Public Library System and me, this year. It is a special treat to have the joint conference in my home state as President. I'm very excited about the work done between KLA and MPLA and think we will have a great conference this year!

Another popular program from MPLA is the Leadership Institute. Due to financial considerations, the institute was put on hiatus until we could make some changes. While we are still working on some of these issues, we have been excited to sign a contract with YMCA of the Rockies for April 1-3, 2010. Additional information will be announced as soon as it is available.

MPLA has just opened a new portal on the website www.mpla.us. Visit the site and let us know what you think and contribute. We are still getting this all figured out, so welcome the input from everyone.

If you haven't joined MPLA and are interested information is available on the website. This is a great time to consider membership with the 2009 conference in Kansas and the 2010 conference in Oklahoma.

Rob Banks
MPLA President 2008-2009

SAVE THE DATE!

February 19, 2009
Legislative Day at the Capitol

This year more than ever library supporters are needed to talk with Legislators about the importance of continued funding of libraries in a rocky economy. Join us on Thursday, February 19, for a day of action. Briefings will be held at 8:30 and 10:30 followed by delivery of lunches to Legislators midday and

visitation to Legislators. Due to renovation activity in the Capitol, all events will be held in the Kansas State Library. If you plan to attend, let the KLA Office know by sending an email to: kansaslibraryassociation@yahoo.com

Donna Lauffer and Roger Carswell, Co-Chairs KLA Governmental Affairs Committee

This month's issue focuses on KLA Legislative day and the KLA/MPLA 2009 Joint conference.

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ENJOY!



Donna Lauffer and Roger Carswell

KLA 2009 LEGISLATIVE PUSHCARD

“Working For You”

WELCOME TO THE
KANSAS LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER!

Send submissions for
inclusion in the Spring
2009 issue to
Royce Kitts at :
roycekitts@gmail.com

Have fun!
Royce Kitts
Editor
Andrew Evans
Assistant Editor

When times are bad economically, people depend on library services more than ever!

Historically, library usage rises during difficult economic times. People depend on libraries as a source of:

- Free reading material
- Free recreational materials:
 DVDs, audio books, and more
- Free programs and classes
- Free help and assistance with:
 Job searches
 Resumé writing
 Information on new career paths
 Educational opportunities
 Money management

Libraries can help get communities through the tough times.
Continued support of libraries will help Kansans help themselves!

2009 Legislative Priorities

- Maintain current levels of state aid to libraries. State aid to libraries provides modest support of library services in over 400 towns and cities in Kansas. The loss of every dollar is felt in the community. Current levels still reflect the severe cut from the last budget crisis in 2002-2003. Not a dime of these cuts were ever restored during better economic years.
- Maintain statewide library services essential to local library users.
- Fully fund Kan-Ed from the Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF). This will restore the funding basis intended when the Kan-Ed statute was enacted. The decision to partially fund Kan-Ed from the state general fund came later, and the extension of KUSF collection to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) eliminates one of the main reasons for doing so. Funding from the KUSF will relieve pressure on the state general fund, while the difference in KUSF funding will amount to pennies on a telephone bill.

A printable pdf of the pushcard that includes graphics can be found at:
<http://www.whatsthesite.com/>

Libraries: Dynamic People, Places, and Ideas

Start your New Year off right by registering for the KLA/MPLA joint conference today. Many dedicated people have devoted their time and energy to planning one of the best conventions ever. Different tracks have been added to feature the best proposed topics and presenters from many dynamic libraries in the MPLA area.

Conference highlights are Keynote Speaker Will Manley, longtime Will's World & Manley Arts columnist, Keynote Speaker Brad Meltzer, #1 bestselling author, and KLA Luncheon Speaker Roland Smith, award winning YA author.

The CULS Luncheon Speaker is Kansas's own Lori Goetsch, Dean of K-State's Hale Library and ACRL Vice President. For Friends and Trustees, attend the Library Celebration Luncheon sponsored by Friends of Kansas Libraries and Kansas Library Trustee Section of KLA.

Mark your registration form for such great events as Pre-Conference Speaker Warren Graham, the Black Belt Librarian, and the Third Annual State Librarian's Luncheon, The Library: Jewel of the Community (it's all about jewelry this year!). New to the program this year is the

DYNAMIC People Awards Banquet, featuring the KLA Presidential Award winners and MPLA Board Choice Award winners. Join us for an evening of awards and entertainment.

The KLA Educational Foundation is planning another fun evening of entertainment to be held right after the ever popular Exhibitors Bash. There are over 100 programs to choose from. Register now to get the early bird rates! This conference is all about you.

Libraries: Dynamic People, Places, and Ideas, April 1-3 2009, Wichita, KS.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR THE WORKPLACE

by Jenny Spiker, North Carolina Center for Nonprofits

You spend more hours in the office (and then with work at home from the office) than anywhere else, so why not make New Year's resolutions for your work, too? These may inspire your own list:

Control email overload. Email can be addictive. Control your addiction by denying the pull of that mesmerizing screen for certain periods of the day. And tell yourself it is OK not to answer all you messages immediately.

Talk to the people you serve. Have more regular conversations with the people you serve: clients, audience members, new association members, children, and seniors – you know who they are.

Expand your network. Identify at least one organization you have been meaning to contact or one community colleague you have always wanted to know better. Make a lunch or coffee date or invite them to see your operation.

Mentor a coworker or colleague. Whatever your age, you have something to offer someone learning the ropes. If you've been out of college a few years, find someone in a local college or high school who may be interested in your field. Helping someone else learn from your ups and downs may help you avoid burnout. Start looking in your own organization.

Stop something. We all continue tasks that have out-lived their usefulness. How can you do new things if you do not drop the old?

Re-evaluate meetings. Sure, you think meetings should be shorter, than look for ways to do that. But, also examine why you have meetings. Meetings are often not about accomplishing tasks. Sometimes they are about sharing goals and enthusiasms to reinforce the vital culture that moves your mission forward.

Thank someone for something routine. What are the essential regular tasks that are the glue of your operations? Everyone does some of those. Catch people doing them and thank them then and there!

(This article is reprinted with permission from the North Carolina Center for Nonprofits: www.ncnonprofits.org)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Ready to participate in a new type of conference?

Think some of the most valuable and most productive sessions at conferences are the hallway and dinner conversations?

Want to get to know some of your forward-thinking Kansas library colleagues better?

Join us at Library Camp Kansas: an unconference for people interested in customer-friendly libraries, library 2.0, and thinking

about how we can all improve our services and organizations to meet the needs of our communities.

This is not a conference with experts behind a podium. It is an opportunity for dialogue and conversation. Sound good to you? Join us on Wednesday, March 18, at K-State's Hale Library!

Details:

Wednesday, March 18, 2009, time to be determined
Hale Library, Hemisphere Room
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

For more information contact:

Josh Neff
Web Content Developer
Johnson County Library
joshuamneff@gmail.com
(913) 495-2449

On the web:

<http://librarycampks.wetpaint.com/>

Hope to see you there!

Intrinsic Motivation as a Key to Student Employee Retention

by Barbara M. Pope, MALS, Periodicals/Reference Librarian, Axe Library, Pittsburg State University

Student employees are essential to academic library operations. Due to increasing demand, technology, costs, and shrinking budgets, the roles of all library staff have evolved. Student employees are no exception and their roles have become increasingly important in many libraries. Retaining them is important to library operations, and while many factors include training, work conditions, and compensation are important in retention, intrinsic motivation is crucial. There is a link between the desire to do something and doing it well.

Since I started to work in academic libraries over a decade ago, I have supervised student employees off and on and have come to realize they all have their own agendas for wanting employment, as well as skills and attributes they bring to the job. What they don't all have is intrinsic motivation, a desire to do something that comes from within rather than for some kind of reward. This seems to be a rare quality, I am sad to say, and difficult to spot. However, the ability to hire a student employee who has intrinsic motivation makes for a more sane and less stressful work environment and provides greater productivity.

Among those students, I have had my share of student employees who did not turn out to be shining stars, and I had to let them go. However, I also had those who actually inspire me to reconsider the problems of my life as small and petty in comparison to the problems of others. Their ability and drive to change their circumstances is astounding when the odds are so weighed against them.

In addition, whereas some students have actually complained to me about library work being boring, those who actually seem to be motivated find it to be interesting and a break from their studies. This difference in attitude also shows up in the quality and quantity of their work. Those who are not motivated may have difficulty getting to work on time even if they only live ten minutes away. This is in sharp contrast to another student I had who lived in another city and in two years was only late once.

While some students have difficulty in learning tasks, others seem to get them right the first time. I acknowledge that not everyone learns at the same speed and in the same way, but some seem driven to learn and do things right.

In my opinion, the difference between those who are retained and those who are not is intrinsic motivation, a desire to do something without external stimulus. While training, feedback, and recognition do contribute to retention, I believe that intrinsic motivation is crucial. After all, a supervisor can train someone to do something but not to do it well.

CENTRAL KANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM AND GREAT BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY NAME NEW DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

The Great Bend Public Library Board and the Executive Committee of Central Kansas Library System have hired Harry Willems to be the new Director/Administrator of the Library and the System. He succeeds James Swan, who held the post since October 1977.

Willems comes to Great Bend from Park City, Kansas, where he has been the director of the public library for the past three years. Before that Willems served for 12 years as the Assistant Administrator of the Southeast Kansas Library System in Iola. He has also worked as a college librarian and taught school. Willems has a Master's Degree in History and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science.

Willems' first day on the job will be January 26. James Swan will work with him for a week to help facilitate a smooth transition.

James Swan, 67, will retire February 1, after 31 years on the job. Swan leaves behind a legacy of customer service, punctuated by his personal motto: "My job is to give the people what they want when they come to the library." His career has been dedicated to encouraging parents to read to their children and helping librarians sharpen their skills.

(submitted by Gail Santy, CKLS)



Harry Willems

Library Laughs

How many librarians does it take to change a lightbulb?

Change?!

FIND US ONLINE AT WWW.KANSASLIBRARYASSOCIATION.ORG

NEWS FROM JOHNSON COUNTY (KS) LIBRARY

Singing along as Hank Green performed his favorite literature-inspired songs, an overflow crowd of more than 150 teens and adults attended the **Great American Tour de Nerdfighters 2008** at the Johnson County Library (KS). His brother John Green read excerpts from his newest book for teens, *Paper Towns*. Participants traveled from as far as Topeka and Springfield to this event, and audiences in Wichita and Hays Public Libraries were connected via the Lifesize/Elmer virtual conferencing system. JCL collaborated with 20 other libraries to host the Green brothers' national tour.

Tripling last year's attendance, the Second Annual **GovFest** for small business owners and would-be entrepreneurs drew 329 attendees. Coinciding with Global Entrepreneurship Week, GovFest was co-hosted by the Johnson County Library (KS) and Kansas Small Development Business Center and featured 60 exhibitors representing 39 local, state, and national government agencies and nonprofits.

Following the afternoon's information fair, attendees were invited to a reception from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. with light hors d'oeuvres and networking provided by FastTrac®, a program of the Kauffman Foundation and the sponsoring agencies.

A special seminar, "Success Right from the Start," by the Kansas Small Development Business Center, was held immediately following the reception. This seminar was targeted to would-be entrepreneurs considering starting their own businesses and provided an overview of useful business information covering government requirements, forms of business organization, record keeping, and financial planning

Benefits of KLA Membership:

Advocacy!

KLA actively supports legislation affecting all types of libraries.

Get Connected!

KLA offers you opportunities to meet fellow librarians, exchange ideas, and establish contact with your peers.

Get Credit!

KLA offers continuing education opportunities through workshops and annual conferences.

Get Discounts!

KLA members receive discounts on workshops and conference fees.

Get a Grant!

Financial assistance is available for members to defray conference and continuing education costs.

Get Informed!

KLA members receive the association's online newsletter, emails on pending library legislation, and information materials produced by KLA sections and roundtables.

Get Experience!

KLA members can gain leadership experience as active members in Executive Council, Committee, Section, and Roundtable activities.

Get a Job!

KLA members can look for a job and KLA institutions can post jobs.

Vote!

KLA members have a vote on association matters.

Support!

KLA actively supports intellectual freedom issues and professional rights.

Pride!

Being a part of your state association instills a professional pride that cannot be matched!

Sign up for the Kansas Library Association at

www.kansaslibraryassociation.org

NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES



Amanda McConnell is the new Circulation Coordinator for the Lawrence Public Library. She replaces Carole Dibben, who retired in December 2008. (Carole is also known to many Kansas librarians from her previous employment as a

library director in southeast Kansas.) Amanda will be responsible for all circulation activities. The library circulates over 1.2 million items annually.

Kathleen Morgan is the new Development Director for the Lawrence Public Library Foundation. She will be responsible for generating new private funding to benefit the library through fundraising letters, emails,

community networking, and special events.



Know someone new to Kansas? Send us a picture and a small blurb.

DOROTHY BRAMLAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY NAMED NEW COOPERATING COLLECTION

The Foundation Center has announced that the Dorothy Bramlage Public Library in Junction City has been named a new Cooperating Collection.

Cooperating Collections provide research tools and training information for grant seekers to assist them in identifying funding resources and in preparing successful applications. At locations throughout the country, Cooperating Collections offer free of charge access to the Center's detailed information on grant sources and instruction on applying for grants. The Foundation Center's core collection includes the Foundation Directory Online, which profiles more than 91,000 U.S. grant makers, Foundation Grants to Individuals Online, print directories, and proposal writing guides. Cooperating Collections also hold training sessions on how to effectively use these resources and identify potential funders.

Established in 1956, the Foundation Center is the nation's leading authority on organized philanthropy, serving grant seekers, grant makers, researchers, policy makers, media, and the general public. Thousands of people visit the Center's website each day and are served in its five regional learning centers and its national network of Cooperating Collections. In Kansas, this currently includes Colby, Ellis, Liberal, Ness City, Salina, Topeka, and Wichita. The target date for the launch of the Junction City collection is April 1.

For more information about Foundation Center resources, visit their website at www.foundationcenter.org. For additional information about the upcoming Junction City program, please contact Library Director Susan Moyer at 785-238-4311 or email susanm@jclib.org.



James Swan

"I am going to retire 1 February, 2009. I have been the director of the Great Bend Public Library and the administrator of the Central Kansas Library System since October 1977. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of working with two boards, two staffs, and two budgets for the past 31 years. Working with the librarians across the state has been an honor and a pleasure. It is good to see younger professionals coming to Kansas to take positions of leadership and share their talents. I look forward to seeing all of the exciting changes that will occur in libraries in the next ten to fifteen years."

SWAN SONG

(To the tune "As Time Goes By")

It's time to reminisce
The days of utter bliss
When he was at the helm.
Great Bend has had a fine director
With dear Jim Swan.
He cared about his staff
He praised them for their craft,
He made them realize
Their mission is to serve the public
With excellence.
Numerous programs for the KLA
He set the standard, everyone would say.
Great Bend was lucky, that he choose to stay
Until retirement.
But now's the time for leaving
His staff will all be grieving
Remembering the past.
But they have such a great foundation,
From dear Jim Swan.

Written to honor the retirement of Jim Swan, Library Director for the Great Bend Library, on February 1, 2009, by Jeff Imparato, Poet Laureate of the Kansas Library Association.

KLA PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

We all know people in our profession who contribute greatly to Kansas libraries, and they deserve recognition! Here is your opportunity to nominate that special person or institution for a Kansas Library Association Presidential Award.

The award nomination categories are:

Library Advocates

To be given to an individual or institution in recognition of exemplary leadership or support for growth and development of the Kansas Library Association and/or a library or libraries in Kansas. Such leadership and support may be, for example, in areas of library-related legislation, media coverage, or in writings which further the understanding and appreciation of Kansas and its libraries.

New Professionals

To be given to a Kansas Library Association member who, within the first five years after having earned a professional degree, has made a positive impact on the quality of library service and/or the role of library personnel in Kansas.

Library Personnel

To be given to a Kansas Library Association member, either individual or institution, who has made notable contributions to the library profession, furthered significant development of libraries in Kansas, or performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. In case of retired individuals, the nominee may be a past member of the Kansas Library Association.

Meritorious Service

To be given to an individual or institution in recognition of exemplary and sustained service to the benefit of Kansas libraries and library users and/or the Kansas Library Association.

Potential recipients may be nominated by members of the Kansas Library Association, either individuals or institutions, by submitting a nomination form BY E-MAIL OR FAX ONLY, with supporting documentation, ON OR BEFORE MARCH 5, 2009, to the following:

KLA Presidential Awards Committee Chair
Cynthia Akers
William Allen White Library
Emporia State University
620-341-5480
Fax: 620-341-5997
cakers@emporia.edu

Recommendations for award recipients will be forwarded from the Committee to the Executive Committee of KLA, who will make the final selection. The award(s) will be presented at the Library Conference Awards Banquet.

Librarians in the News

Every now and then one of us librarians makes the news. Check out these links to two of our favorite librarians. Carol Levers was featured recently on KMBC, and Joshua Neff was a guest on the Walt Bodine radio show.

Carol Levers

<http://www.kmbc.com/video/18510342/index.html>

Joshua Neff

<http://archive.kcur.org/kcurViewDirect.asp?PlaylistID=6263>

Please take the time to check out these links. It will put a smile on your face.

What do you do
if your pet starts
eating your
library book?

Take the words
right out of their
mouth.



Be the change!

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Woo-hoo! Conference registration is now open. Please visit the KLA conference website at <http://www.kansaslibraryassociation.org/displayconvention.cfm> to register early for the conference. Click on Register for Conference and pay by credit card or print an invoice to send with a check. Both KLA and MPLA members will sign in with their username (firstnamelastname with no spaces) and password kla (default password which you will be prompted to change). Non-members will create their own username and password for registration purposes only. Regular registration rates run through March 6, 2009. After March 7th registration rates increase.

KLA or MPLA member \$100
Non-member \$140
Students, Friends, Trustees \$40

Conference highlights:

Keynote Speaker Will Manley, longtime Will's World & Manley Arts columnist
Keynote Speaker Brad Meltzer, #1 bestselling author
KLA Luncheon Speaker Roland Smith, award winning YA author
CULS Luncheon Speaker Lori Goetsch, ACRL Vice President
Library Celebration Luncheon FoKL/KLTA
State Librarian's Luncheon
Pre-Conference Speaker Warren Graham, Black Belt Librarian
KLA/MPLA Awards Banquet
100+ enlightening sessions to choose from!

Be sure to join us for a fabulous joint conference in Wichita April 1-3, 2009!

If you have trouble with registration, please contact Carolyn at kslibassoc@yahoo.com or Laura at love@kckpl.lib.ks.us

Membership information available online: www.kansaslibraryassociation.org

STATE LIBRARIAN'S LUNCHEON AT KANSAS LIBRARY CONFERENCE

Dig out your favorite jewelry including your most audacious faux pieces from your mother and grandmother. For men, grab your best tie tacks and cufflinks and make them sparkle because you need to wear your best bling (slang term in hip hop culture for flashy accessories) to the 2009 State Librarians' Luncheon at the Kansas Library Conference.

State Librarian Christie Brandau will MC the event, *The Library: the Jewel*

of the Community. Highlighting the program will be Kathy Patrick, author of *The Pulpwood Queens' Tiara Wearing, Book Sharing Guide to Life*. Patrick is a native Kansan, hairdresser, and book marketer turned bookstore owner. She grew up in Eureka, attended Kansas State University, and graduated from Crum's Beauty School in Manhattan.

The program will also include an update on the State Library's

programs, an opportunity to enter drawings for donated jewelry and other door prizes, and of course, a wonderful lunch.

Please plan to attend the State Librarian's luncheon on Thursday, April 2, 11:50 a.m. at the Hyatt in Wichita.

Submitted by
Janie Rutherford
Communications Coordinator

Stay tuned for the next issue in Spring 2009!