

ST-3

April 21, 2001

TO: MPLA Executive Board

FROM: Patti Butcher, Kansas Representative

Kansas Library Association

Kent Oliver, Branch Services Manager for Johnson County Library, has been elected to the Executive Committee of ALA. Kent has served as KLA's Councilor to ALA for a number of years.

The KLA Council adopted a resolution supporting ALA's legal action against CIPA. In addition, the Council pledged \$500 to the CIPA Legal Defense Fund.

The annual tri-conference was held in Topeka April 4-6, with one of the largest registrations ever. Over 1,000 attendees (including trustees) came to one or more days of the conference.

Election of officers was held and results announced during the conference. The new MPLA representative from Kansas is Susan Moyer, director of Dorothy Bramlage Library in Junction City. Susan was the recipient of the Board Choice Award from Kansas for 2000. She has chaired the membership committee of KLA for the past several years, and guided the organization through a successful membership drive.

A new roundtable has been formed: the Independent Information Workers Round Table (IIWRT). The group sponsored its first program at tri-conference in April, "Elements of Information Brokering." Cindi Hickey (library consultant, Lawrence) is the force behind the new group. The web site can be found at <http://www.sunflower.com/~chickey/IIWRT/> [.]

Kansas State Library

Jeff Hixon, director of Library Information Technology, has announced that the Gates Foundation has put Kansas libraries on the schedule for 2002. Public libraries will be eligible for computers and software through an application process.

The state library is using Bibliostat Collect to gather annual statistical data from public libraries. This information has previously been collected on paper, and is now being entered online by libraries.

The summer reading program theme for 2001 is "Reading Roadtrip USA". Materials and workshops are provided by the state library and the regional library systems to support local library efforts.

News from around the State

Topeka Shawnee County Public Library opened the doors of its new addition on January 27 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. This marked the completion of Phase II of a construction and renovation project that began in 1997. Phase III involves the main library moving into the addition while renovation takes place in the older part.