From your Membership Committee!

Peggy Golden
KASL Membership Chair

KASL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As Chair of the Membership Committee, I would like to invite you to do what you can to help KASL expand its membership numbers. Do you know someone who is not a member? Become their mentor and encourage them to join. As a member you already know the peace of mind that comes from knowing there are many people out there who can give you whatever support you may need. Besides the networking available, there are many other benefits of being a member. Some of these include:

- KASL News on the website (www.KASL.ws) helps to keep you up-to-date on Kansas happenings
- Kansas School Library Professional Journal that will soon be coming out, will help you stay current with research based/educational best practices articles
- A membership directory to help you locate any school media specialist in the state of Kansas
- Opportunities for scholarships to attend library school and AASL conferences
- Fall District Workshops with opportunities for professional and technical growth
- Tri-Conference every Spring that offers more opportunities to learn and network
- Summer Institute for School Library Media Specialists
- A web page (www.KASL.ws) that promotes school library activities and has valuable links to sites such as copyright laws, intellectual freedom concerns, advocacy, etc.
- A List where you can share ideas and ask for help from other media specialists across the state
- A voice at ALA and AASL national conventions through KASL leadership
- An involvement with legislative issues that concern media centers: filtering, Internet software, censorship issues, budget concerns...
- Be an advocate for school library media centers and help promote the important role the media center has in the school setting.

Take advantage of the next few minutes to pick up the phone and call someone you know who is not a member yet and encourage them to join.
From your KASL President…..

As I drove to the last of the Fall Workshops I attended in September (Dist. 6 in Norton), I felt a bit sad when I realized that it would likely be my final autumn trip to school libraries located in districts outside my own. It has been wonderful to visit with so many colleagues throughout the state and now I can also look forward to seeing many of these same members again in the spring at Tri-Conference in my “neck of the woods”, Overland Park. Thanks so much for all the hospitality you have extended to Linda Roberts and to me these last couple of months. It’s energizing to see everything that goes on across Kansas!

September and October have also been filled with opportunities to educate other individuals and organizations about the work of school library media specialists. Our newly formed Issues Response Team, consisting of myself, Susan Ryan, Linda Roberts, Linda Corey, Jackie Lakin, Diane Leupold and Nancy McFarlin have been in communication with one another, with KLA and with Dr. Andy Tompkins to edit the guidelines on school library media programs/personnel posted on the KSDE website. Diane and I have attended meetings of the Kansas Learning First Alliance (of which KASL is a member) in Topeka. Ruth McCauley, our Promotions Chair, recently attended a School Finance Budget Committee meeting. Linda Corey and I have presented the views of both the Blue Valley Library Media Specialists and KASL when our district selection policy was modified in September. During a recent reconsideration process hearing at a private school in Hutchinson last month I was given the opportunity by the town paper to respond on our organization’s behalf. Finally, in addition to presenting at all 6 District Workshops, Nancy McFarlin and her Advocacy Committee have been hard at work on strategies to keep district administrators, staff and the community apprised of our KASL goals and mission. Please continue to keep those of us on KASL Council informed of issues or concerns that you may have in your own situations—we’ll do what we can to help!

As we approach the holiday season, I wish all the best to you and yours.

Ann Schuster
Greetings from your President–Elect . . .

Greetings!!!

What a wonderful experience traveling to District Workshops this fall! It is amazing that we have such a dynamic membership who never allows obstacles or challenges to deter positive attitudes and creative ideas!

First, I want to thank the districts I visited this fall for their hospitality and then to congratulate everyone who took the time to attend any of the District Workshops. For me, it was interesting to see members whom I have known for years in their home settings. Workshops are a way to rejuvenate each of us in our profession as only KASL can do!

It is also exciting that Tri-Conference proposals have been coming in, and it looks like our Tri-Conference will be one to which you can look forward. Programs will be presented by representatives from KASL, KLA and KAECT. Keep in mind that Tri-Conference will be held in Overland Park, March 30 – April 1. We hope that you will stay at the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel. The KASL Showcase and luncheon will feature Eric Rohmann, author of the 2003 Caldecott Medal winner My Friend Rabbit. Keep track of special events and programs for Tri-Conference on our web site at www.kasl.ws. Soon registration and housing information will be found there as well.

This year try to invite and even travel with someone who doesn’t regularly attend Tri-Conference. It’s a great way to make new friends, share your experiences, and become a mentor to someone in the profession.

As the year advances, it is important that we are involved with teachers and students as they work towards meeting Kansas standards. This gives us a perfect opportunity to help develop collaborative units and to provide our colleagues with needed support and expertise. Take the time to become familiar with not only the Library Media standards, but also standards across the curriculum. If you reach out to staff members, they will welcome you and your library media program!

May your holidays be full of joy!

Linda Roberts

William Allen White Award News

The 2005-2006 William Allen White Awards lists are posted on the website: <waw.emporia.edu> under "Master Lists".
Teen Read Week Activities

IT’S ALIVE! @ your library

Teens read for the fun of it at Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library while celebrating Teen Read Week, October 17 – 23, 2004. They joined hundreds of other libraries, schools and bookstores who encouraged teens to celebrate this year’s theme. Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library celebrated “IT’S ALIVE @ your library!” with a variety of programs and events. All through the week junior and senior high students were encouraged to “read for the fun of it” and to check out the horror fiction on display.

**Wednesday October 20**  
CSI: St. John
St. John High School science teacher, Andrea Sayler-Siefkes, set up a crime lab in the community room. Her chemistry, physics, and A&P classes tried to solve a who-dunit by examining fingerprints, hairs and fibers, shoe prints, and bite impressions, handwriting and data supplied about different kinds of accelerants. Mrs. Snyder then treated the classes to a few stories of unsolved mysteries of the supernatural kind.

**Thursday October 21**  
Author Visit - Lois Ruby
St. John Junior High English classes were treated to a one-on-one writing workshop with author Lois Ruby. In several classes she encouraged students to begin writing a story by giving them a picture and involving them in a character interrogation about that picture. Imaginations were given a jump-start! Mrs. Ruby and her husband Tom, as well as the language arts teaching staff, were treated to a soup and salad luncheon provided by the library staff. And the day’s activities ended with a large group session that included St. John High School freshman and sophomores as well as students from both Macksville and Stafford. Mrs. Ruby spoke about writing her book, *Skinheads*, and her soon-to-be released ghost story.

**Friday October 22**  
Mad Scientist Presentation
St. John’s very own Mad Scientist, Mr. Jim Hood, made an appearance to St. John Junior High science classes in the community room of the library. He presented the results of his research leading to the creation of a living being (IT’S ALIVE!) by use of his high voltage, high frequency electrical equipment. Sparks did fly but students weren’t disappointed as Mr. Hood zapped and crackled and showed off the creature he had created. Library staff reportedly expressed relief that the building was still standing!

Christie Snyder, Director  
Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library  
We are a community school that serves both the public and school district  
St. John, KS

See pictures of this Teen Read Week Activity on page 5
IT’S ALIVE! @ your library
Teen Read Week 2004
Mark Your Calendars for 2005

Tri-Conference
Where: Overland Park Convention Center
When: March 30—April 1, 2005

Summer Institute for School Librarians
Title: Building an Information Literate School Managing Resources for Maximum Student Learning
Where: Emporia State University
When: June 15-16, 2005

Member News . . .

Marsha E. Lytle, Library Media Specialist from Spring Hill High School has published her novel, Haggerty’s Curse, a historical fiction novel set in the mid 1800's. It is available thorough Amazon.com. Congratulations Marsha!

Those of us who have been around for a long time may remember Barbara Frick-Skeels. She passed away of complications from leukemia Saturday, October 23, 2004. Barbara was the librarian in Atwood from 1964-1985, later serving at Tonganoxie High School and Landon Middle School. She served on the Kansas Library Association Legislative Committee, as Treasurer and member of the Executive Board of the Northwest Kansas Library System, and as Delegate to the Kansas Governor's Conference on libraries and Information Services in 1979.

Mary Harmon (Director for Dist. IV) from Schilling Elementary in Salina just received word that she passed her National Library Board Certification. Congratulations Mary!

News from Ness City!

Scholastic Book Fair: It is time once again for the annual Book Fair! This year the theme is Read, White and Blue – Reading is All American!

The Book Fair gives the students, patrons and patrons the opportunity to buy carefully selected, quality books and products at affordable prices. Plus, all purchases from the Book Fair help support our school by generating additions books for the classroom libraries and funds for the elementary library.

Ness City Students Represent Kansas: Allison Young, daughter of Steve and Marilyn Young, and Gage Kepple, son of James and Valerie Kepple, were chosen to represent all the students of Kansas in presenting the 2004 William Allen White Awards to the winning authors, Peni Griffin, author of Ghost Sitter and Andrea Warren, author of Surviving Hitler.
Pictures from District II Workshop

(Left to right)
Janie Barnard, Nancy McFarlin, Linda Roberts, Rochelle Shedrick, Amy Christman, Aleta Hastings, and Teresa MacKay

(Left to right)
Gloria Bass, Carol Glatzbach, Aleta Hastings and Sherry Cunningham.

Carol was the winner of the traveling basket

(At front)
Sharon Koontz, Sherry Cunningham, Gloria Bass and others watch a presentation by Harry Willems concerning Kan-Ed in the lab of Oswego High School
Pictures from District VI Workshop

At Lunch

Jackie Baumgarten Book talking

Jane Burton and Jackie Baumgarten

Cathy Albert, Wanda Pfannensteil, Karen Cook, and Kathy Fulwider checking out books