



# KASL News

Vol. 2 No. 3

February 20, 2005

## The KASL Advocacy Plan and YOU! Kansas Students Achieve Because of Great School Libraries!

Nancy A. McFarlin, Ph.D.  
Advocacy Chair

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This spring, your principals and other administrators will see brochures and posters in their mailboxes promoting school libraries and librarians!

At the November Council meeting, your KASL Council approved a 3-year plan to promote school libraries and librarians through an aggressive marketing campaign under the direction of the Advocacy Committee. The first year of the plan will be targeting building-level principals and other administrators. Here's what they will be seeing:

- A) **Full color brochures targeting building principals at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.** These target pieces offer information about what school libraries and librarians do, and what building principals can and should do to acquaint themselves with the program.
- B) **Full color posters** mailed to all principals and school librarians promoting the *Kansas Curricular Standards for Library Media*;
- C) **Full color information "cards"** mailed to principals, superintendents and school board members that not only discuss the importance of school libraries to student achievement, but show the differences between school and public library services.
- D) **Ads in state professional association publications** for principals will assert the importance of school libraries and librarians to student achievement in their schools.

The second year of the plan will continue to reinforce our message with administrators, and will be expanded to include parents, parent groups, and community members. Year three will add teachers to the total equation.

[The KASL Advocacy Plan and YOU! continued on pg. 6](#)

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## KASL Officers

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### President:

Ann Schuster  
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## *From your KASL President....*

Linda Roberts and I had the privilege of representing KASL at January's ALA MidWinter conference in Boston. It was inspiring to be in a city that has such a rich literary tradition, which includes such institutions as the Boston Public Library, the Kennedy Presidential Library and the recently completed Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art.

Also impressive was the responsiveness of our national organization to local and regional concerns that were expressed at the Annual Conference in Orlando last July. Dawn Vaughn spoke to the Affiliate Assembly about issues Council is addressing such as:

- developing a toolkit on academic integrity
- submitting a document to federal legislators from ALA concerning NCLB and the "highly qualified status" of Librarians
- protesting cuts in education funding which directly affect libraries
- planning for the next Fall Forum in 2006
- forwarding concerns on standardized testing items to the Research and Testing Committee
- designating qualifying institutions as "Information Power" schools
- investigating voter turnout strategies to encourage the AASL membership to support candidates from our organization as they run for ALA offices

(As a reminder related to the above, balloting for ALA/AASL offices begins March 15<sup>th</sup> and ends April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have several candidates from Region #9, which encompasses Kansas, who are running for office. Don't forget to vote!)

Linda and I also attended the "Leadership Through Collaboration" pre-conference session led by Colorado's Betty Bankhead and found many worthwhile strategies, which we will be incorporating into a leadership presentation at **Tri-Conference**. If you are interested in maintaining the vitality of our school libraries at the building, district, state and national levels, please consider attending and don't forget to register for the conference to be held at the **Overland Park Convention Center from March 30-April 1**. 2003 Caldecott Award Winner **Eric Rohmann** will not only be our luncheon speaker but will also be presenting a "don't miss" Showcase session held earlier on Friday. Due to some changes in facility scheduling, our luncheon/business meeting will be starting a bit later, at 12:30, this year. However, this provides us with an opportunity for a "**Membership Meet and Greet**" reception. Plan on gathering in the **exhibit area @ 11:30** for finger food and fun preceding the luncheon. More details will follow but prizes and freebies will definitely be involved!

Lastly, just wanted to let you know what a "trooper" Linda Roberts, our President-Elect, turns out to be. After we had attended a Tri-Conference meeting in Overland Park, she slipped on a wet patch, fracturing her upper arm. She still traveled on to the conference in Boston the next day and hardly missed a beat during our 4-day stay.

*Ann Schuster*

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## Greetings from your President-Elect . . .

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Greetings!

It is almost here—Tri-Conference 2005!

Just as a reminder, Tri-Conference will be held in Overland Park, March 30 – April 1. The conference hotels are the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel and the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites. The KASL Showcase Friday morning and the KASL luncheon also on Friday will feature Eric Rohmann, author of the 2003 Caldecott Medal winner *My Friend Rabbit*. He will have different presentations for each session and will be autographing books in the exhibit area after the Showcase. Keep track of special events and programs for Tri-Conference on our web site at [www.kasl.ws](http://www.kasl.ws). If you have not received a registration form in the mail, one is available online and be sure to take advantage of the discounted pre-registration fee due by March 15.

This year KASL is working on a new feature to precede the luncheon. There will be a mixer that should be fun and give members a chance to visit and meet new people. Be sure to join us as we meet and greet officers, committee chairs, and other members of Council as well as the KASL membership.

If you are familiar with Overland Park, you are sure to know that there are some wonderful restaurants close by; however, we are very pleased with the effort the convention center is making to provide both healthy and tasty food at the exhibit hall.

As you attend the workshops, please be sure to thank the presenters, as we truly appreciate the extra effort they have made. You may also be thinking of a session that you may want to provide for the conference in 2006. And, please be sure to complete an evaluation form of the Tri-Conference, as it is instrumental in making changes for the coming years.

For those of you who like to plan ahead, the ALA annual conference will be held in Chicago June 23 – 29, 2005. Having seen the preliminary list of sessions, I am very excited about attending it, so mark your calendars for it and the AASL 12th National Conference & Exhibition, "Every Student Succeeds @ your library," October 6-9, 2005, in Pittsburgh, Pa.!

With that being said, please let me extend to you a hearty welcome to the 2005 Tri-Conference and be sure to let me know how KASL can make a difference in your career and profession.

*Linda Roberts*

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## Officer Elections

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### **President-Elect Martha House**

Martha is the Library Media Specialist at Council Grove High School, Council Grove, Kansas. She received her M.S., Librarianship and Information Management Degree from the University of Denver. Martha was awarded the KASL Distinguished Library Media Specialist Award in 2003 and the Progressive School Library Media Award in 1999. She is active in her local teacher association. Martha has served KASL as a District IV Director, Treasurer and is currently the Webmaster.



**Voting will take place  
the first week of  
March via e-mail.**

### **Treasurer Anita Brozik**

Anita is the Library Media Specialist at Derby High School. She has a MLS from Emporia State University. Anita has served KASL as the District III Director.

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## Mark Your Calendars for 2005

### Tri-Conference

Where: Overland Park Convention Center

When: March 30—April 1, 2005

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### 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

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### *Member News . . .*

Library media specialist *Beverley Buller* was one of 100 first place winners in the Samsung Hope for Education grant contest. Chisholm Middle School in Newton, Kansas, received \$10,000 in Samsung hardware.

Need more info?

[http://product.sasung.com/cgi-bin/nabc/campaign/hfe/b2c\\_optin\\_hfeindex.jsp](http://product.sasung.com/cgi-bin/nabc/campaign/hfe/b2c_optin_hfeindex.jsp)

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*Kay Mounkes* passed away this past winter. She died peacefully in her sleep. Kay was the Exhibits Chair for Tri-Conference for 20+ years and was a big part of the planning group for the first and subsequent TriConferences. When she retired from school librarianship, she and her husband Bill moved to Emporia.

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## Brainstorming

Go to <<http://www.kanedlive.org/archives.php>> and watch a library related video or two. The Soaring to Excellence series are indeed excellent. If you are feeling particularly ambitious, write up a professional development plan for the time you spend. One caveat: make sure you have an adequate connection to the internet or the video comes through choppy.

Martha House  
Council Grove High School  
620-767-5149

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# Bill of Rights Writing Contest For Kansas Fifth Graders

Fifth grade students throughout Kansas are invited to participate in the second annual writing contest on the United States Bill of Rights sponsored by the Kansas Bill of Rights Committee. Either prose or poetry is accepted. Guidelines and judging are based on Kansas education standards in social studies and language arts. The Kansas Press Association coordinates the judging. Entry deadline is March 11, 2005. For detailed information visit KTWU's web site <ktwu.washburn.edu> and click on "education resources" then "Bill of Rights".

Copies of the related book "I'm Not Signing That! George Mason Stands Up for the United States Bill of Rights" are available in Kansas elementary school libraries or order postage paid, mmasoner@carrollswb.com. For more information contact Melissa Masoner (785) 478-4992 mmasoner@carrollswb.com.



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[The KASL Advocacy Plan and YOU! continued from pg. 1](#)

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

KASL can get you started, but we can't do it all for you. The District Workshop presentations this past fall were designed to encourage you to develop your own local advocacy/marketing plan. Here are some suggestions:

- Use the resources available to you via the KASL Web page and the AASL Web site;
- Pick an audience to target locally (teachers, students, parents, BOE, etc.) and keep them informed on how school libraries make a difference in student achievement;
- Consider purchasing the *Impact!* software (from LMC Source - [www.lmcsource.com](http://www.lmcsource.com)) to keep track and visually demonstrate to you administrators how you work with your faculty and students to boost their achievement in information literacy;\*
- Know your statistics: check out the state research studies on the Library Research Service ([www.lrs.org](http://www.lrs.org)) or AASL ([www.ala.org/aasl/](http://www.ala.org/aasl/)) Web sites and use them in your communications with your audience.

The Advocacy Committee has scheduled time again during Tri-Conference to keep you up-to-date on these and other advocacy initiatives (Friday, April 1, 8:30 a.m.). Be sure to stop by for a look at the marketing pieces and maybe pick up some extra copies!

\*Robie Martin (Parsons Middle School) will be presenting a session at Tri-Conference on the *Impact!* software, Thursday, March 31, 3:00 p.m.

## Grandparents Galore!

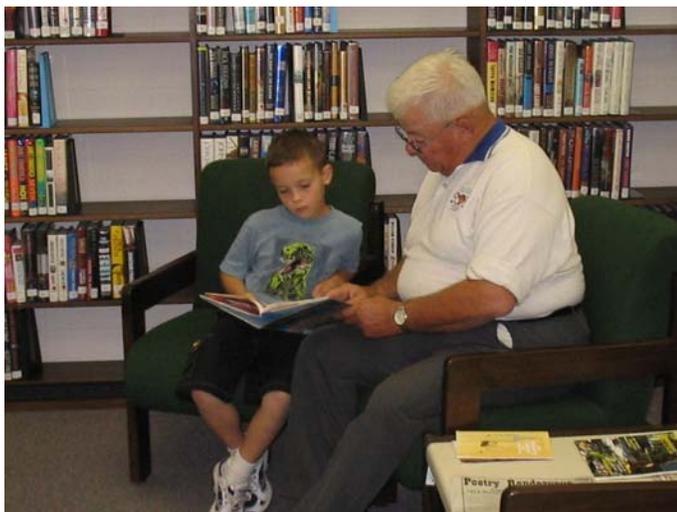
Friday, September 17, 2004, Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library hummed with the sound of grandparents and guests who were reading with elementary students from St. John Elementary School. In honor of Grandparents Day, the students were asked to invite their grandparents for an afternoon of reading, cookies, and lemonade. Jill Rockenbach, children's librarian, expressed her delight at the wonderful turn out. "We had approximately 96 grandparents and guests who came and read with students. We had children and adults tucked into every corner of the library, in the library courtyard, and under the shade of the trees in front of the library."

"We also want to extend a special thank you to the numerous community members who volunteered to come read with us, after we found that we had some students who didn't have grandparents near by," Christie Snyder, library director, added.

"Many grandparents encouraged us to plan another event like this one, so consider this the *first annual* Grandparents Day Get-Together."

Lemonade, cookies, a good story, and someone to share it with...It just doesn't get much better than that!

Christie Snyder



## From Peggy Golden the Membership Chair

As a school library media specialist you're doing more than ever---often with less! Because KASL understands the important roles you play, we advocate excellence, facilitate change, and develop leaders in the school library media field. Membership in KASL has been providing connections with over 600 Library Media Specialists at all grade levels in Kansas since 1949. We have seen our profession change and become a vital part of the educational community. Do you know someone who is not a part of this wonderful community? Ask them to join! Become a mentor! Ask someone to join us on this exciting journey called Library Media---it's a great connection!

For more information visit us on the web: [kasl.ws](http://kasl.ws)  
Be sure to check out the Tri-Conference information and pass it along to anyone who is not a member!

## *From the Editors*

As we move into our second year of editing the **KASL News** we want to thank all the members who have helped through your contributions that make this newsletter work. We also appreciate all the suggestions we have received this past year for improvements. We encourage all of you to remember to send us your possible articles and ideas.

On a personal note, Joe would like to thank Terri for keeping the newsletter going during his recent battle with cancer. She has had to pick-up not only the newsletter but single-handedly run the Blue Valley North Library,

*Joe Amos      Terri Snethen*



## Building an Information Literate School: Managing Resources for Maximum Student Learning

Emporia State University  
June 15-16, 2005

### Book Award Winners

Caldecott Award	<i>Kitten's First Full Moon</i>
Newbery Award	<i>Kira—Kira</i>
Printz Award	<i>How I Live Now</i>
Coretta Scott King	<i>Remember: The Journey to School Integration</i>

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