

## Director's Corner

—by Roger Carswell

Some changes will be coming in the next couple of years in how SEKLS provides technical consulting and support to public libraries. We will be defining technical skill levels which libraries will be encouraged to attain. For instance, the librarian or someone on the library staff should be able to update the anti-virus protection, turn Centurion Guard or other security measures off and on, etc. SEKLS will then provide one-on-one skill level training on-site in each library to attain the needed techni-

cal skills. We expect this training to begin as early as this coming summer.

**SEKLS will then provide one-on-one skill level training on-site . . .**

Eventually, probably beginning in 2007, we will tie attainment of identified skill levels to the criteria for the allocation.

The extra training will (we hope and anticipate) be made possible by a Gates Foundation "Staying Connected" grant. The Kansas

State Library was awarded \$405,520 by the Gates Foundation for technical support and training.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Choose Your Own Ending: Responses to the Ethical Dilemma—by Harry Willems

0  
Votes

- The last issue of *Stacks* presented an ethical dilemma concerning finding traces of marijuana in a checked in book. Below are the four endings that the editor offered with the number of people that voted for it. On the next page are the other responses.
- Ending 1: You honor the confidentiality of the transaction, grin and bear it. 1  
vote
  - Ending 2: You call the patron or send the patron a bill for the book since the sweet odor and slightly burned page has rendered the book un-useable. This might put the fear into the patron and give the library some leverage in a future bond drive issue. 4  
votes
  - Ending 3: Take the evidence to the authorities and let them know that you can't tell them who the perp is without a court order. That way, the onus is off

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The State Library intends to subgrant this in its entirety to the seven regional library systems. Thus, SEKLS expects to receive \$56,893 to be used over the next three years.

We anticipate that the bulk of the grant will be used to hire one or two additional part-time technical trainers. We will spend another portion of it on presenters for Cyberseries classes and on the mobile lab.

We will keep you informed as plans are firmed up.

Remember your sweetie  
on  
February 14



(Continued from page 1)

- Write your own ending:**
- 📖 Turn over everything except the burnt paper to the authorities. Tell them that the items were found in the Library. Call the person who last checked out the material and say that you found something in a book that they had checked out that they might want back. When they come in to retrieve the papers, smile at them and hand them the burnt paper. If they ask if there was more, say that you don't remember.....which lately would not be stretching the truth, at least on my part.....should there be something more? That should take care of the situation.
  - 📖 Toss the stuff in the trash. This isn't any different than the person who checks out books and doesn't bring them back and is in a real sense stealing city property. We don't call the cops on those patrons. Or how about the heavy smokers that bring books back and on time but they stink so bad you wonder how the next person can stand to open them!
  - 📖 Contact the patron so that they can come and pick up what they left behind. It might be for medicinal purposes.
  - 📖 Hummm, wish I'd check out a book with that kind of bookmark ;)
  - 📖 Stuff a joint as a bookmark in each book, charge a dollar per book checkout, and call the architect for the new building fund you just started!!!

0 votes



## COMPUTER VIRUS REFERENCE QUESTIONS

—Nick Fleury



Lately in the Information Technology press, there have been a number of articles that mention librarians. The IT professionals writing for these magazines believe that a patron should be able to walk into a library and ask reference questions such as, "My computer has the MyDoom virus. How can I get rid of it?". While a search of Google will get you a few websites to check (Over TWO MILLION!), I have a couple of sites you can

check to help you answer that type of question.

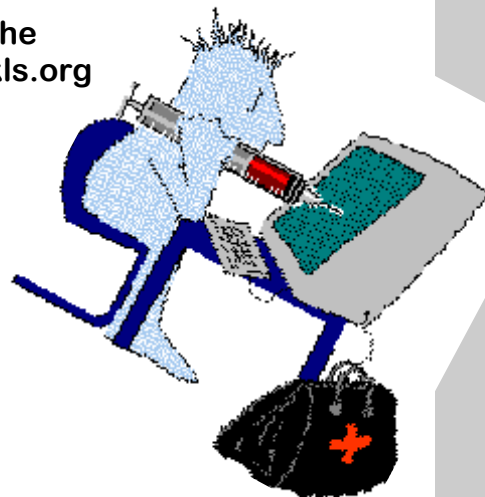
<http://www.symantec.com>: this is the website for Symantec, the software company that created the Norton line of software. If you follow the "Virus Removal Tool", you can find out information on thousands of viruses and sometimes find a removal tool to remove the virus.

<http://us.mcafee.com/virusInfo/>: The website for McAfee Anti-Virus Solutions. They have a HUGE archive of information on old and new threats, and a number of virus removal tools.

There are quite a few more sites out there to check, but these are the first two I always use for INFORMATION about a virus. While I don't think that librarians should have to provide tech support for all of their patrons, having a place to direct the patron for help will only improve the library's standing in your community as a place to get information and learn to deal with the future.

Do you have something you would like to see on the SEKLS Website?? Send me an email [nfleury@sekls.org](mailto:nfleury@sekls.org) or give me a call @ (800) 844-3810.

(Note: FAT stands for "File Allocation Table")



## Around the System

- **Erie**—The Erie City Library is coming along well with its expansion project. The meeting room will be enlarged and a new adult area is being added to the east of the present building.
- **Eureka**—The Eureka public library is closer to getting its library funded. The city council will vote February 14 for a resolution to add a one cent sales tax to the April 15 ballot. The money would fund the library and a swimming pool. **Connie Doeden** is working with the city recreation commission and highly recommends using SEKLS professional collection materials such as: *Winning Library Referenda Campaigns : a how-to-do-it manual*. **Connie** was able to attend the Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute in New Mexico November 30-December 5, 2004. She was one of 30 librarians chosen from 12 states.
- **Madison**—The Madison Public library has had an outdoor sculpture donated to the library. “Nina” is a bronze statue that has been mounted on a rock donated from a local pasture. The sculpture and landscaping were donated by George and June Sauder of Madison.

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### Partly Nonsense Picture this . . .

- 📖 **Kansas is getting into video conferencing in a big way. Lately I’ve participated in several kinds of conferencing initiatives that resemble the face-to-face meetings that I usually experience, but no travel time.**
- 📖 **A typical meeting in Salina usually requires 6 hours of driving for a 2-3 hour meeting. Seems kind of unproductive? Well, maybe, maybe not.**
- 📖 **One can only listen to so much of either the right or left talk radio. “All Things Considered,” I’ve found, does not consider all things, sort of like the person that always has “the final analysis.” It may be a bit more balanced than Rush, Sean or Laura, however.**
- 📖 **So, when one exhausts the fonts of wisdom spewing from the radio, what does one do with “windshield” time? Hummm, me thinks, I think. This column has to come from somewhere ☺**
- 📖 **When you have the opportunity to video conference; polycom, click-to-meet, or OPAL, consider two things: I’m saving all this time not running to Salina, and I’m being denied the opportunity for quality time to think.**

## Tri-conference 2005 Overland Park, KS

Don't miss this year's tri-conference March 30-April 1. It will be held at the new Overland Park Convention Center, at I-435 and College Blvd. (right off of Metcalf/Hwy. 69).

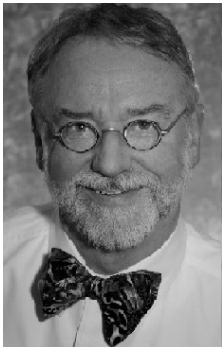
### Features for 2005:

- 📖 Donald Davis, award-winning, nationally known storyteller, will appear from 9:30-11:30 a.m., Wed. March 30, courtesy of August House Publishing.
- 📖 Joseph Janes, associate dean in the Information School of the University of Washington, Seattle, and monthly columnist of "Internet Librarian" in American Libraries. Janes is the conference keynote speaker on Thursday, March 31, from 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- 📖 Friends/Trustees Day - Wed., March 30. Four one-hour workshops during the afternoon will earn you your B.A.\* (\*Bachelor of Advocacy).
- 📖 Exhibitor's Bash – Wed., March 30, from 5-7 p.m.
- 📖 Give KLA a Leg Up Geography Bee! – Thursday, March 31, 5-7 p.m.
- 📖 KS Authors Breakfast – Friday, April 1, 8-9:30 a.m.

More than 100 other programs will be offered during the three days. Pre-conferences on various topics are planned for Tuesday, March 29.

Grants are available from NEKLS to attend tri-conference, with preference given to those who haven't attended before or received a CE grant before. Trustees are especially encouraged to attend on Wednesday.

The complete program of events and registration can be found at: <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/tricon/2005/index.html>. The registration form (including the cost) is in PDF format and you'll need Adobe Acrobat to view it. It is not interactive; it needs to be printed and mailed. There is a substantial "early bird" savings if registration is completed by March 15. Tri-Conference this year is being held in conjunction with Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) and will be bigger and better than ever.



American Storyteller Donald Davis will present two talks, "Miss Daisy" at 9:30 a.m., and "Writing as a Second Language" at 10:30 a.m., during the keynote address on Wednesday, March 30.

Joseph Janes will be the guest speaker at the General Session Thursday, March 31, 8:30-9:30 a.m.



## The School Connection "Books for Plucking Heartstrings"

By Robie Martin

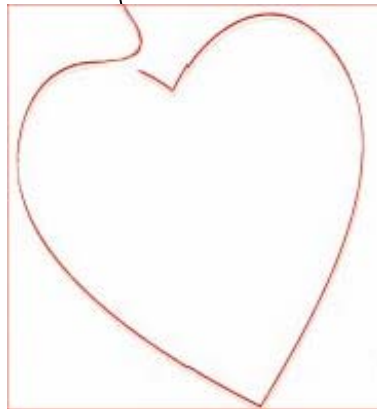


My middle school library has romance regulars. Typically, it's my eighth-grade girls who regularly check out the tear-jerkers and books from the recently coined "chick lit" genre. And yes, I'll notice the occasional boy quietly slipping a "romance" title that I've recently book-talked onto the checkout counter, especially if it has a redeeming masculine element in the title such as Gordon Korman's *Son of the Mob*.

Crushes, infatuation, flirting and all the accompanying angst is the constant preoccupation of the teen years. The publishing industry knows this; most best-selling YA fiction contains at least a touch of romance. We all like to lose ourselves in a story in which the hero or heroine is facing issues we can relate to. And we all can relate to matters of the heart.

How do library professionals choose books for their collections that appeal to this very important segment of our patron base? Our job is certainly made easier by information exchange among colleagues: sharing recommended lists and personal reviews, subscribing to invaluable listservs (KASL and LM\_Net) and making good use of professional publications on the web.

As professionals need to help one another with common concerns we certainly more worldly were a generation ago. Industry and current Television, the movie industry and current popular music trends have demystified what most consider "adult" situations. Scenes and phrases that were once considered bold or even taboo are the norm for today's youth. All of this makes



well-written and appealing to our young readers difficult, given the explosive YA offerings of the publishing industry.

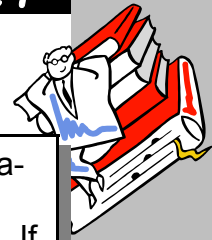
Now that Cupid is hovering and Valentine's Day is quickly approaching, the requests for love stories are coming in hot and heavy. I've found the following titles to be some of the more popular ones in my library. Cluster a group of these books around some heart-shaped chocolate boxes and a few large construction paper cut-outs of luscious lips and watch these books fly out your library door and into the hearts of your readers!

### Young Adult titles that will pluck your readers' heartstrings:

M T Anderson, **Feed**  
Amelia Atwater-Rhodes, **Demon in my View**  
Joan Bauer, **Squashed**  
Joan Bauer, **Thwonk**

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## New Additions SEKLS Professional Collection



**Editors note:** SEKLS receives professional collection materials on a regular basis. I am looking for school, public, and academic librarians willing to write reviews for *Stacks of News*. Reviewers have 4 weeks to read and write a review. If you are interested in reviewing new books or books from the past 12 months that appeared in this column, please email [hwillems@sekls.org](mailto:hwillems@sekls.org) or call 800-279-3219 for an information sheet.

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Holly Black, **Tithe**

Ann Brashers, **Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants** & sequels

Meg Cabot, **The Princess Diaries** series

Meg Cabot, **All-American Girl**

Rachel Cohn, **Gingerbread**

Caroline Cooney, **Face on the Milk Carton**

Chris Crutcher, **Chinese Handcuffs**

Chris Crutcher, **Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes**

Jean Ferris, **Once Upon a Marigold**

Adrian Fogelman, **Sister Spider Knows All**

Mariah Fredericks, **True Meaning of Cleavage**

M E Kerr, **Night Kites**

Patricia Kindle, **Owl in Love**

Annette Curtis Klaus, **The Silver Kiss**

Ron Koertge, **Stoner & Spaz**

Kathe Koja, **Straydog**

Gordon Korman, **Son of the Mob**

Mary Logue, **Dancing with an Alien**

Joyce Carol Oates, **Big Mouth & Ugly Girl**

Mary Pearson, **Scribbler of Dreams**

Kristen D. Randle, **Breaking Rank**

Louise Rennison, **Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging**

### Sequels

Jerry Spinelli, **Stargirl**

Will Weaver, **Striking Out**

Garret Weyr, **My Heartbeat**

Gloria Whelen, **Homeless Bird**

Ellen Wittlinger, **Razzle**

Ellen Wittlinger, **Hard Love**

Jacqueline Woodson, **If You Come Softly**

Interested in networking? I would be delighted to hear what your readers are checking out from your library. Email me at [rmartin@vikingnet.net](mailto:rmartin@vikingnet.net).



# **SEKLS CALENDAR**

## **February—May, 2005** (\*) *Cyberseries*

Feb. 15	Book Repair	Iola
Feb. 17	Legislative Day	Topeka
Feb. 18	Children’s librarian’s “Children’s Services”	Iola
Feb. 23	Northern Area School Librarians Meeting	Jay-Hawk Linn
Feb. 25	*Microsoft Publisher	Toronto
Mar. 1	Budgets and Budgeting/Grant Writing	Parsons
Mar. 2	Budgets and Budgeting/Grant Writing	Humboldt
Mar. 3	*Microsoft PowerPoint	Savonburg
Mar. 24	*Microsoft PowerPoint	Fredonia
Mar. 28	Executive Board Meeting	Iola
Mar. 30—April 1	Tri-Conference	Overland Park
Apl. 8	Summer Reading	Iola
Apl. 12	Adult Programming Roundtable	Coffeyville
Apl. 13	School Librarian In-Service—Collection Dev.	Greenbush
Apl. 14, 21, 28	Collection Development	Humboldt
May 16-19	KPLACE	Emporia

# **SEKLS**

## **Stacks of News**

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Iola, KS  
PERMIT No. 13

**Southeast Kansas Library System**  
218 E. Madison  
Iola, KS 66749

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