

Kentucky Public Library Section

Report to the Board

Lexington, Kentucky

March 3, 2011

KPLA/KLTRT Spring Conference - Bowling Green, April 11, 12, and 13. Susan Nimersheim is doing a great job as this year's Conference Chair. New this year we have both online registration AND payment thanks primarily to Ashley Fowlkes and with Tom Underwood helping to make it possible. We already have over 80 people registered with over \$8,170 collected so far. Another technological advancement is the new addition of a wiki for KPLA conference presenters to upload conference presentation info onto.

The Trustee training track is new for us this year and is geared to help trustees have a one stop shopping experience for all their training needs to get their certification. We have 15 trustees signed up so far.

We will again have a marketing swap and shop where creative ideas can be shared and "borrowed" in the exhibit hall. Audience choice prizes will be awarded.

We have a great line-up of speakers planned. Our Awards luncheon speaker is David Giffels who wrote **Way Home: Building a Family in a Falling-Down House** which is a memoir about him, and his wife, restoring a crumbling mansion. David Giffels currently teaches Creative Non-Fiction as an Assistant Professor at the University of Akron. He and his wife and two children live in the house they renovated in Akron, Ohio.

KLA Fall Conference - KPLA will be sponsoring Garry Golden who is the Lead Futurist at FutureThink, a very interesting organization that says they are the only innovation and foresight firm that specializes in training. One of the topics is called "Future of Place-based Experiences" which he says always draws a crowd-- and stretches thinking. And the other is "Creating a 21st Century Roadmap for Libraries and Community Outcomes" which he presented to a workshop for public library directors in Columbus Ohio to rave reviews.

Advocacy – Library Legislative Day is March 2 and the committee has a number of great things planned. It boils down to show up, wear yellow and say library. SB49 remains a concern and there's the lawsuit in NKY. All are good to keep on the radar.

KPLA Board Meeting - January 25th. We approved a budget, and agreed to set aside \$20,000 for a Legal Defense Fund. Requests for use of the funds would be sent to the KPLA Board.

KPLA Standards -

- 55 public libraries submitted their library's standards in the first round of the 2011-2012 KPLA Standards cycle.
 - This is actually a great # for this first year because 91 submitted last year (the 2nd year in the previous cycle).
- Instead of a three-year cycle, we now are doing a two-year cycle. In the past, that 3rd year was used to make changes, but we found it doesn't take that long now that the Standards are in good shape.
- For the first time, every library which submitted obtained at least the Essential Level.
- For the first time, three libraries obtained the Exemplary Level (Boone, Kenton, & McCracken).

Future KPLA Chairs –Susan Nimersheim 2013, Ashley Fowlkes, 2014, and Ron Critchfield, 2015

Sister Libraries Project – Now with six active partnerships, and several pending, this project has come a long way in two years. The project is now under the umbrella of KPLA and has its own logo and web page. The current sets of in-state sister libraries are: Kenton County Public Library – Carter County Public Library (2010); Campbell County Public Library – McLean County Public Library (2011); Boyd County Public Library – Elliott County Public Library (2011); Madison County Public Library – Estill County Public Library (2011); Scott County Public Library – Nicholas County Public Library (2011); Rowan County Public Library – Menifee County Public Library (2012).

The project is making a difference in Kentucky public libraries. The staff members of the newly formed Carter County Public Library received two full days of intensive training while visiting the Kenton County Public Library. They also received a professionally designed library logo from an artist on staff of the Kenton County Public Library. The new McLean County Public Library received a week's worth of cataloging help from two Campbell County Public Library staff members. By the time the cataloging was completed, Campbell County employees had processed approximately 1,600 items for McLean County's bookmobile. The Boyd County Public Library donated a huge portion of the non-fiction collection of a closed branch to its sister library, the Elliott County Public Library. These are just a few examples of the ways in which the sister libraries are helping one another.

And in January 2012, the Friends of Kentucky Libraries, Inc. became the first outside organization to offer financial support. The FKL announced two annual grants of \$200 each in order to help build sister library partnerships. These will be awarded at KPLA/KLTRT Conference in the spring.

April Ritchie, the statewide coordinator of this project, is to be congratulated for all of her hard work to make this successful. She is now published with an article about the project appearing in American Libraries Jan./Feb. issue. When the pending partnerships are finalized, Kentucky will have at least 20 counties participating in the project. That number represents one sixth of all counties in the state. Kentucky libraries are creating a new model for helping one another – a model that is the first of its kind in the nation.

Intellectual Freedom Committee - Working on new content for the KPLA.ORG site. They are adding a form so that libraries can submit information when they get a request for removal of materials, and a place where that information can be searched as well. Ron Critchfield and Mark Adler are working to get the training components ready. Other areas of the web site have information that is now public so check it out. They will be presenting at KPLA Spring Conf. about all of this in the spring.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha L. White
Chair
Kentucky Public Library Association