

Centennial State Libraries

February 22, 2001

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CLC UPDATE: JANUARY, 2001

New members for January:

Buena Vista School District R-31 (4 schools), Buena Vista; Kathy Roman; 719-395-7068

Cotopaxi School District RE-3 Library, Cotopaxi; LaQuita Dunn; 719-942-4131

Changes in directory:

Northglenn-Thornton SD #12 - Linda Jelinek contact person for Bollman Occupational Center

Otis Schools - Ellen Standley contact person for all three schools

Pueblo City School District 60: Cheryl Hudgeons contact person for Olga A. Haaff Elementary

Heritage Elementary - change phone number to 719-595-4102

American Numismatic Association - contact person Nancy W. Green

A complete listing of current Colorado Library Card participants is at [Colorado Library Card Statewide Borrower's Program](#).

ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FROM

COLORADO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES -DEPOSITORY LAW CHANGES

The State Publications Library and the Government Publications Interest Group (GoPIG) co-hosted an all day meeting on electronic resources February 2 at the Colorado State Library. Fifty librarians from public, academic, and special libraries participated in discussions and presentations covering cataloging, distribution, and archiving of electronic state publications, possible changes to the depository portion of the Library Law, the State Publications Library Web site, and the State home page. State archivist Terry Ketelsen was also in attendance. GoPIG will be discussing ideas for depository law revisions at its March meeting. For more information, contact Jim Schubert, Schubert_j@cde.state.co.us, or 303.866.6904.

LIBRARY NEWS:

Lance Named Influential

Keith Curry Lance, director of Library Research Service for the Colorado State Library, was named one of the 30 most influential people in ed-tech by *eSchool News* in the January 2001 issue. "Lance's work may well set the bar for school media programs in the future," said the publication. Visit [eSchool News Online](#) for more information.

CCIRA Conference

Held the first weekend in February, the annual Colorado Council of the International Reading Association conference proved to be a valuable tool for library outreach. Among the estimated 4000 in attendance were reading and literacy instructors, classroom teachers, school media specialists, and administrators. Many of them were thrilled to learn about the new [Colorado Virtual Library for Kids](#), and collect samples of "Reading Tips for Parents."

Reading Tips Web Site Honored

The Web site [Reading Tips for Parents](#), was selected as a featured site in Lightspan's StudyWeb(r) as one of the best educational resources on the Web. StudyWeb(r) is one of the Internet's premier sites for educational resources for students and teachers. *Reading Tips*, available in English and Spanish, was first developed in conjunction with an LSTA project stressing library outreach to childcare centers.

STATE LIBRARY CONDUCTS EVALUATION OF LSTA GRANTS

The Colorado State Library is in the process of evaluating how we have used LSTA funds over the past five years. Our home federal agency, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has asked us to look at three things:

1. How we have spent our money overall looking at distribution geographically, by type of library, in respect to our original goals, and whatever else seems relevant.
2. We are to pick two projects for in-depth analysis to determine the impact of these projects on libraries and on the patrons those libraries serve. See below for more on this.
3. What lessons have we learned from the processes we used and the outcomes we hoped for that will guide us in the development of the next LSTA long range plan.

The two projects we chose for in-depth analysis are:

- Statewide projects to improve school library services: specifically the Power Libraries project and the study on The Impact of School Libraries on Student Achievement (which we call Colorado 2).
- Statewide projects to improve the connectivity of public libraries to the World Wide Web . This includes our "GUI Project" to provide graphical user interface computers to libraries and our First Search training project.

As part of the GUI Project evaluation, we are asking libraries that have received GUI grants to fill out a short survey and to ask their users to fill out a survey as well.

We are also considering a survey of a random sample of Colorado libraries about our services.

STATE LIBRARY CONDUCTS PROGRAM AUDIT

As if the required LSTA evaluation is not enough, the Department of Education has also been asked to conduct a program audit of all of our programs. This is to be done over three years, and this year it's the State Library's turn. We will be looking at all of our programs including:

- Library Development
- Networking and Resource Sharing
- Library Research Service
- Community Programming
- Institutional Library Service
- State Publication Library
- Talking Book Library
- Web Services Support
- Regional Library Systems
- Colorado Resource Center at the Denver Public Library
- Payment for Lending

- County Equalization

This Program Audit is also likely to include a survey of the library community (to be combined with the LSTA survey above), so watch for your opportunity to tell us what you think about our programs.

ISSUES: STATE LIBRARY RESPONDS TO FCC "NPRM" ON REQUIRED FILTERING

The Federal Communications Commission has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule-Making (NPRM) on the Children's Internet Protection Act which the FCC calls CHIP and everybody else calls CIPA. The State Library has filed a response to the NPRM suggesting that it not be applied to the Year 4 E-rate, that libraries not be held accountable when filters fail, that networks with members not be held accountable for the compliance or non-compliance of their members; that filters not be required on staff computers, and that networks without public access not be required to comply with the law. We'll let you know where you can view our response.

ISSUES: STATE LIBRARY STAFF LOOK UP DIRTY WORDS ON THE WEB

Gene Hainer, Brenda Bailey, and Nancy Bolt spent an hour and a half testing the Winnebago filtering system. Nancy sat at a filtered computer and Gene sat at an unfiltered computer. We used the same search engines and searched the same words.

The filtering program blocked about 80% of what anyone would consider to be offensive. Not just naked breasts but men and women and men and men and women and women doing VERY explicit things. It would be difficult to justify children having access to them. BUT it let 20% of those images through. Usually we could get the homepage of the offensive site but were not able to click through to more images. And the home page was VERY explicit. We tried to find a site on bombmaking. Most were jokes. Sites on guns were not blocked.

It also allowed access to Web sites when dual-meaning words were used in context. It did NOT block breast or fox or whitehouse.gov because it has "first couple", or "titanic." (It did block whitehouse.com, which is as explicit as advertised) Where a more suspect Web site appeared, the full access was blocked.

However, the filter blocked "10 things you should know about marijuana" from the Institute of Health, although it let through other informational sites on marijuana. It blocked Peacefire, the site that is solidly anti-filter. It BLOCKED pro-choice sites like NARAL, but let through a site that opposed abortion. It also blocked a site on "vaginal cancer" but let through a very explicit site on "vagina."

We did not check National Organization of Women. Darn. But we did check National Rifle Association, and that site was admitted.


My conclusions:

- This is a relatively successful filter. It blocked what it should and let a lot through.
- However, it let 20% of likely objectionable sites through.
- This does raise a liability issue for libraries if we are expected to use a filter that works all the time.
- Determined adults or children can reach explicit sites with very little effort.
- Some of the stories we tell of innocuous words that get blocked, for the most part, proved untrue. This site was able to judge words in context most of the time. When an innocent site was blocked, it usually let through other sites on the same topic.
- The amount of "social issue" sites blocked was disturbing.

If you have not tried this experiment, we urge you to do so in the context of evaluating filtering software.

For additional information, E-Mail: Bonnie McCune, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us

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