

RURAL LIBRARY SERVICE NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1 NO. 3

SEPT. 1981

FREE AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION

The Midwest Regional Information Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering free publications and reports from five USDA agencies to libraries in the eleven state Midwest USDA Region.

If you think your library is interested in participating in this offer, contact for a free subscription application.

Midwest Regional Information Office
United States Department of Agriculture
536 S. Clark Street
Room 635
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(315) 353-3631

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Information Division, AMS, USDA
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San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 556-6464

Participating agencies, their functions, and types of publications you might receive from them are listed below:

1. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS):
AMS oversees all aspects of the marketing of livestock, poultry, and meat. Publications include information on the regulation of prices, commodities grading and standards, research and news bulletins, and marketing news.

2. Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS):
FGIS oversees domestic production of grain (weights, inspects and formulates standards); publications are of the same nature as those of AMS but oriented toward grain farmers.

3. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS):
Primarily a watchdog agency, APHIS is concerned with the prevention and control of pests and diseases that attack livestock and crops. Publications include research reports, bulletins, and information on the use of agricultural chemicals.

4. Food Safety and Quality Service (FSQS):
FSQS grades and inspects all U.S. food, as well as directing the distribution of food to consumers. FSQS materials would include information on grading and inspection standards, research reports as well as some information on nutrition.

5. Office of Transportation (OT):
This agency's primary function is to facilitate the transport of agricultural products; a specific interest of the agency is rural transportation systems.

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Rural Library Service Committee - San Francisco

Thirty persons attended the Rural Library Service Committee meetings held at the 1981 Annual American Library Association Conference. Since the Rural Library Service Committee is one of ALA's newest committees, much of the discussions were on its future direction. The committee worked on plans on a program to be held at the Philadelphia Conference in July of 1982. The program, "Rural Libraries: Research and Reality" will feature current research and its application in rural libraries. Terry Weech on the faculty at the University of Illinois will identify research being presently done or recently completed. Danny Hales of Live Oak, Florida is responsible for the Reality portion.

Also discussed was the resurrection of the following Task Forces:

Membership--to identify library practitioners, allied professionals, and friends of rural library service to inform them about the formation of the Rural Library Service Committee, and to invite them to identify mutual problems and solutions. The Task Force is

to develop a communication link between ALA and the local rural library practitioner.

Long Range Plan--identify the future role of this committee in developing, coordinating, and providing information on services, education research, and publication particularly pertinent to libraries serving rural populations.

Public Relations and Promotion--prepare announcements and release information on the committee activities and inform interested persons on rural library development.

Appointments to the Task Forces will be made by the committee's new chairperson John Head of Clarion State College, Clarion, PA.

Committee members John Houlahan and Virginia Erland announced their plans to resign. Houlahan however announced his intent to continue publishing the Rural Library Service Newsletter.

Small Community Library Services Assistance Act

Rep. Leon Panetta (D-CA) reintroduced May 28 legislation he had introduced last year to assist counties in providing public library services in small communities. The bill, HR 3727, would authorize such sums as necessary to provide personnel, facilities, programs, and construction of public libraries in small communities. According to Panetta's introductory statement in the May 28 Congressional Record (p.H2487, daily edition):

...large libraries in major metropolitan areas have tended to obtain the bulk of Federal assistance available to libraries. This emphasis on assisting the larger libraries has caused an imbalance in the Federal library assistance program which must be redressed in the interest of equity and fair play.

A key reason for this imbalance is that Federal assistance is made available through State Library agencies in accordance with comprehensive State library service plans. While I fully recognize the need for adequate planning to strengthen statewide library networks, I sympathize with the many smaller communities that do not fit into these elaborate schemes and end up without assistance. My legislation would avoid this problem by allowing county governments to apply directly for Federal assistance on behalf of its smaller communities.

Washington Newsletter
June 8, 1981
p. 3

ECT...

FARMER'S FILM GUIDE

Write for your free NACA Film Guide, a compilation of audiovisual materials pertaining to agriculture. Over 60 films are listed according to age and grade level. All materials are available free on loan and are 16mm color/sound productions, unless indicated otherwise. Also provided is a list of contacts and direct sources. Send a postcard, asking for the NACA Film Guide to: NACA Public Relations, 1155 15th St., N.W., Suite 514, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Regional Rag
Southeast Iowa Regional Library
July/August 1981
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RURAL LIBRARIES

Rural Libraries formerly a quarterly journal published by the Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship will now be coming out twice a year. If you are presently not a subscriber and would like more information about this journal contact:

Margaret A. Jetter, Editor
Rural Libraries
Center for the Study of Rural
Librarianship
Clarion State College
Clarion, PA 16214

USEFUL RURAL INFORMATION

"Rural Elderly" and "Tax Information for Farming and Small Business" are the two latest information lists published by the Learning Resources Center of the University of Minnesota, Waseca Technical College.

Getting old, and other subjects explaining the complications and myths of aging are topics in the "Rural Elderly" list. Books featured include Drugs and the Elderly; Special Tax Benefits for Senior Citizens; and Families in Later Life. Audio cassettes are available on the subjects: The Declining years; Are They Golden?; Growing Old; and America's Aged: The Forgotten Many.

The "Tax Information..." list includes farm estate planning, probate, small business law, as well as resources on tax. The two lists "Rural Elderly," (bibl. #40) and "Tax Information for Farming and Small Business," (bibl. #41), as well as the books and audio cassettes on the list are available from the UMW Learning Resources Center. Send requests to UMW.

Grapevine
Northeastern Iowa Regional Library
March/April 1981

TRACTOR MANUALS

Gerry Rowland of the Shenandoah Public Library has informed us that libraries can buy tractor manuals at a substantial savings from Mr. Don Carter at the following address: P.O. Box 81852, Lincoln, Nebraska 68510.

Newsline
Southwest Iowa Regional Library
Winter, 1981, p. 7

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