



# CANVASSING KANSAS

AN UPDATE ON ELECTION NEWS IN KANSAS

## SOS *on the move*

The Secretary of State's Office will be moving to Memorial Hall, 120 SW 10th Ave., in mid-January. All offices will close at noon on Friday, Jan. 14. The new offices should be open Tuesday, Jan. 18.

A grand opening celebration is planned for Friday, Jan. 28, 2000, as part of the weekend's Kansas Day activities.

In addition to housing the Secretary of State's office, Memorial Hall will also be home to the Attorney General's Office.

The Secretary of State will occupy part of the second floor, all of the first floor, and most of the garden level. The election division will occupy the northwest corner of the first floor. Secretary Thornburgh's office will be on the second floor.

This move has been in the works for a number of years. Recently, Memorial Hall has been undergoing renovation to modernize the building while maintaining its historic features.

Previously, Memorial Hall housed the Kansas State Historical Society, now located at 6425 SW 6th Ave.

## SOS is in planning stages of the presidential preference primary

The Secretary of State's Office is currently in the planning phase of the 2000 presidential preference primary (PPP). State laws call for a primary to be held in Kansas on April 4, 2000. This will be the first PPP in Kansas since 1992. In 1996, the primary was cancelled by the Legislature.

The Kansas PPP is a closed primary—open to only Democratic and Republican candidates. The PPP is similar to the state primary conducted on the first Tuesday in August for other partisan elected offices. Candidates file to appear on the statewide ballot by a \$100 filing fee or a petition with 1,000 signatures of Kansas registered voters.

Although the results of the PPP are not binding on the two major parties, they are used to choose party delegates to the national conventions in late summer. Each state's party is allotted a specific number of convention delegates by the national party organization. The state parties' delegate selection plans, which are filed with the Secretary of State in early January of the election year, incorporate a number of factors in selecting the various delegates. One of the

principal factors is the number of votes received by the candidates in the PPP.

In 1998, the Secretary of State requested budget estimates from county election officers on the cost of conducting the 2000 primary. Those estimates totaled approximately \$1.56 million. The Secretary of State also has an estimated \$15,000 cost for publication of the notice of the election. These combined costs became the PPP budget. The Secretary of State requested \$1.575 million from the Legislature in 1999. Though the funds were not appropriated in 1999, an attempt will be made to secure

See PPP, page 7

### CANVASSING KANSAS

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 FEC releases third report to Congress on the NVRA
- 3 A note from the Secretary
- 4 Census activities in full swing
- 5 Kansas Election News
- 6 County Election Officer News  
Attorney General opinion on school ballot issue
- 8 SOS staff presents training session at Sanborn Academy
- 9 Two new voting systems certified for use in Kansas
- 10 Recap of State Fair highlights

# *FEC releases third report to Congress on the NVRA*

In October 1999, the Federal Election Commission (FEC) released its third report to Congress on the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The report is a detailed summary of voter registration activity nationwide, based on reports collected from the state election offices. It is titled "The Impact of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 on the Administration of Elections for Federal Office 1997-1998."

In Kansas, the Secretary of State's office makes the biennial report to the FEC using data collected from county election officers in their quarterly NVRA reports. The NVRA requires the FEC to report to Congress every odd-numbered year.

According to the report, in 1998 there were 140,946,508 registered voters in the United States, representing 70 percent of the voting age (18 and over) population. That is the highest percentage of voter registration in a congressional election year since 1970. However, the number of votes cast in the 1998 election

declined by more than 2 percent since 1994.

In 1998, Kansas reached its highest number of registered voters with 1,513,685, or 78 percent of the voting age population.

More than 35 million voting applications were processed nationwide. Nearly half (17,613,211) were new registrations (including registrants who moved from another jurisdiction), 6.46 percent were duplicates and nearly 44 percent of the transactions were changes of

**See FEC, page 11**

*The FEC reported the following figures for the sources of the registrations:*

<b>United States</b>	<b>Kansas</b>
<b>Total applications processed (1997-98)</b>	
35,372,213	381,754
<b>Motor vehicle offices</b>	
15,175,653	198,121
<b>Public assistance offices</b>	
1,546,671	12,500
<b>Disability offices</b>	
247,764	366
<b>Military recruitment offices</b>	
22,608	391
<b>Mail</b>	
8,792,200	76,507
<b>State designated sites (in Kansas, 1st and 2nd class city offices)</b>	
1,092,526	5,584
<b>Other sources</b>	
8,765,163	88,285

## CANVASSING KANSAS

Published by the office of  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**RON THORNBURGH**  
 State Capitol, 2nd Floor  
 300 SW 10th Avenue  
 Topeka, KS 66612-1594  
 (785) 296-4564

EDITOR  
 Kirsten Funk

LAYOUT AND DESIGN  
 Kristi A. Pankratz

COPY EDITORS  
 Barb Nemeec  
 Nancy Reddy

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS  
 Brad Bryant  
 Mike Brassel  
 Bryan Caskey  
 Kevin Gaskin

If you have any suggestions or comments about this or future issues, please call (785) 296-1864.

Copyright © 1999 Kansas Secretary of State

This publication may be duplicated for informational purposes only. No written permission is required with the exception of articles or information attributed to a source other than the office of the Kansas Secretary of State.

## Staff News

Kirsten Funk recently joined the Secretary of State's Office as Director of Communications. She will oversee the Communications Division as well as the customer service center.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the material and design of this newsletter, you may contact Kirsten at (785) 296-1864 or via e-mail, [KirstenF@ssmail.wpo.state.ks.us](mailto:KirstenF@ssmail.wpo.state.ks.us).



## RON THORNBURGH

### Kansas Secretary of State

Dear Friends:

Many things have happened since the last issue of *Canvassing Kansas*. On a personal note, our family has a new addition. Tanner Davis Thornburgh was born Wednesday, Oct. 27. He's doing very well, and between him and our older son, Grey, Annette and I are constantly on our toes.

Now, on to election news. I am pleased to report that progress has been made in virtually every aspect of our current census projects—ranging from the Complete Count Committee (CCC) to the preparation for the 2000 Federal Census.

As reported in the September issue of *Canvassing Kansas*, the CCC held its first two meetings in July and August. Since then, our office has continued to work with them. We have established a weekly e-mail network with the committee members to inform them on updates, as well as to pass along articles they can use in their own organizations. Another CCC meeting will be held during the first of the year to assess progress and discuss what remains to be done. Also, various communities in Kansas are forming complete count committees.

The Federal Census Office has set up four Kansas district offices in Topeka, Hays, Wichita and Kansas City. Our office took part in the grand opening of the Topeka office, and I had the privilege to attend the Wichita opening. Our office is continually working on promoting the Census and encouraging people to actively participate in through speaking engagements and the distribution of promotional material. As mentioned in this issue, questionnaires regarding residence are already being distributed to college students and military personnel for purposes of the census adjustment. We will continue to keep you informed on the progress of these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Thornburgh".

RON THORNBURGH  
Secretary of State

# CENSUS ACTIVITIES IN FULL SWING

The 2000 Census Adjustment project is advancing rapidly.

The Secretary of State's Office has established contacts and forged working relationships with Kansas' 50 colleges and universities, as well as the four military installations. The SOS has attended three statewide conferences of higher educational officers — Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, Council of Institutional Research Officers, and Kansas Student Affairs. There, the SOS provided training to many contacts on their responsibilities relating to this project.

With the help of the Census Adjustment Advisory Group, a questionnaire was developed that is highly functional for data entry, yet readable and easy to complete. To date, more than 50,000 questionnaires have been distributed to 13 institutions.

Kansas law requires the Secretary of State to adjust federal population figures and then report these adjusted figures to the State Legislature for reapportionment of

state senatorial and state representative districts.

Adjusted figures are arrived at by: 1) excluding nonresident military personnel and nonresident students and 2) including military personnel and college students in the district of their permanent residence. In effect, the Secretary of State must conduct a "mini-census" of all military personnel stationed in Kansas, and all

---

*The Secretary of State's Office has established contacts and forged working relationships with Kansas' 50 colleges and universities, as well as the four military installations.*

---

students enrolled at Kansas' colleges and universities in order to determine their permanent residences. A brief outline of the plan and timetable established to accomplish this task adjoins this article.

In the coming months, the Secretary of State's Office looks forward to working with Kansas' colleges and military institutions as they distribute, collect and return questionnaires.

If you would like more information on any aspect of this project, please contact Mike Brassel in the Elections Division at (785) 296-0080.

## Census Adjustment Calendar of Events

---

**8/4/99:** Convene Census Adjustment Advisory Group

**8/15/99:** Develop student and military questionnaires; Incorporate Advisory Group suggestions into procedures; Develop and amend regulations as needed

**9/99:** Establish contact person at every Kansas college, university and military base

**10/99:** Train contacts on duties

**11/99:** Begin questionnaire distribution to schools and military

**4/1/00:** Schools and military questionnaire distribution and collection

**5/1/00:** Deadline for schools and military to return questionnaires to Secretary of State

**6/00:** Begin adjustment of students and military personnel

**7/31/01:** Deadline to report adjusted population figures to State Legislature

# KANSAS ELECTION NEWS

## Voter registration and party affiliation totals

Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh recently released the official 1999 voter registration and party affiliation totals. This year's total number of registered voters is the highest ever recorded in Kansas with 1,516,212.

These totals are generated by the Secretary of State's Office once in odd numbered years (August 1), and twice in even numbered years (15 days before the primary and general elections). They are derived from figures certified to the Secretary of State

by the county election officers.

While these numbers have a multitude of applications, the most important is they are used by the Secretary of State's Office to compute candidate petition requirements.

The Secretary of State's Office provides this information in many different formats including breakdowns by county, State House and Senate districts, U.S. Congressional districts and Judicial districts.

*As of August 1, 1999 the official statewide voter registration and party affiliation totals are:*

<b>Democrats</b>	429,437 (28.3%)
<b>Libertarians</b>	9,532 (0.6%)
<b>Reform</b>	1,433 (0.1%)
<b>Republicans</b>	682,130 (45.0%)
<b>Taxpayers</b>	1,161 (0.1%)
<b>Unaffiliated</b>	392,519 (25.9%)
<b>Total</b>	1,516,212

## Political party contact information

With the election season coming upon us, our office receives many inquiries on the platforms and beliefs of the various political parties in Kansas. In response to those inquiries and those from county election officers, our office has compiled a list of basic contact information for each recognized political party in Kansas. There are currently five recognized political parties in Kansas. The contact information for each party is listed below:

### **Democratic Party**

Tom Sawyer, Chairman  
P.O. Box 1914  
Topeka, KS 66601  
Phone: (785) 234-0425  
Fax: (785) 234-8420  
E-mail: kdp@ksdp.org  
Web site: ksdp.org

### **Libertarian Party**

David Gleue, Chairman  
P. O. Box 456  
Topeka, KS 66601  
Phone: (800) 335-1776  
Phone: (785) 267-4006  
E-mail: dgleue@idir.net

### **Reform Party**

Darrell King, Chairman  
609 S.E. 33rd Street  
Topeka, KS 66605  
Phone: (785) 267-4417  
E-mail: daking@idir.net  
Web site:  
[www.kansas.reformparty.org](http://www.kansas.reformparty.org)

### **Republican Party**

Mark Parkinson, Chairman  
2025 S.W. Gage Blvd.  
Topeka, KS 66604  
Phone: (785) 234-3456  
Fax: (785) 228-0353  
E-mail: chairman@ksgop.org  
Web site: [www.ksgop.org](http://www.ksgop.org)

### **Taxpayers Party**

Cedric Boehr, Chairman  
P.O. Box 483  
Wichita, KS 67201  
Phone: (316) 264-9881  
E-mail: kstparty@southwind.net

## ***Attorney General issues opinion on school election ballot***

**A**ttorney General Carla Stovall recently issued Attorney General Opinion No. 99-13. This opinion concludes that the name of a person may be printed on a school election ballot as a candidate for both an at-large member position and a district member position.

School district elections are covered in K.S.A. 25-2001 *et seq.* This section does not expressly address whether a candidate's name may be printed more than once on a school election ballot. There are two statutes that prohibit the name of a candidate from appearing more than once on a ballot. K.S.A. 25-213 prohibits a person's name from appearing more than once on the official primary

election ballot for national, state, county or township offices. K.S.A. 25-613 states that the name of each candidate shall be printed on the ballot only once in the general election for those offices.

The provisions of K.S.A. 25-213 are very specific in limiting multiple candidacies of particular persons. With the absence of a specific reference to school elections, the prohibition of K.S.A. 25-213 does not apply.

Therefore, in the opinion of the Attorney General, a person's name may be printed on a school election ballot as a candidate for both an at-large member position and a district member position.

## ***Legislative Services provides timely information on web site***

**T**he 2000 Legislative Session is rapidly approaching. With the start of another session, every person interested in the legislative process wants quick and reliable access to information. Kansas Legislative Services has responded to this interest with accurate, timely information on its Internet site. The Internet address is: [www.ink.org/public/legislative/main.html](http://www.ink.org/public/legislative/main.html)

There are two categories of information available on this web site. One category is available to anyone who has Internet access. The other is for members who subscribe to the Information Network of Kansas (INK).

A nonsubscriber to INK has access to a list of all prefiled bills, a list of all signed and enrolled bills, the full text of any bill that has been introduced, the current and past

calendars and journals of each chamber and current happenings in each chamber as well.

For those who subscribe to INK, all of the above services are available. In addition to those services, these members have access to multiple bill tracking, bill packets, and Lobbyist-In-A-Box. Lobbyist-In-A-Box allows a person to track multiple bills throughout the legislative process, receive updated changes in the language of bills, search for bills by subject matter and review legislative actions that have been taken on selected bills.

For those persons who wish to become members of INK, the Secretary of State's Office can refer you to the appropriate place.

## **COUNTY ELECTION OFFICER NEWS**

### **Obituaries**

**S**arah Fuller, the Lane County Clerk, passed away September 15.

Sarah served as Lane County Deputy County Clerk for 24 years. She became the Lane County Clerk December 27, 1990.

For over 33 years, Fuller was a very dedicated and hard-working employee of the County Clerk's Office. The SOS staff extends their condolences to her family and friends.

Crysta S. Torson was selected as Fuller's replacement on October 25.

### **Births**

**C**ongratulations to Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh and his family on the birth of Tanner Davis. He was born October 27, weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 20 3/4 inches in length.

Also, congratulations to Anderson County Clerk Phyllis Gettler and her family on the birth of Ryan Nathan. Ryan was born September 18 and weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 20 1/2 inches long.

---

**See County, page 10**

# SOS plans PPP

Continued from page 1

funding early in the 2000 legislative session. Early indications show that Governor Bill Graves will recommend funding.

Legislation was introduced in 1999 that would cancel the PPP. The bill, House Bill 2366, would repeal K.S.A. 25-4501 through 25-4508, which is the series of statutes creating the PPP. This is different than the legislation passed in 1996 to cancel that year's PPP. In 1996, K.S.A. 25-4501 was amended so the statute did not require a PPP in 1996, but it left the statutes on the books to continue the PPP in 2000 and every four years thereafter. House Bill 2366 would repeal the entire series of statutes, so not only would there be no PPP in 2000, new laws would have to be passed to have a primary in the future. The bill did not move in 1999, but will be carried over to the 2000 Legislature and could still be considered for passage.

One legal question that has been raised concerning the PPP is whether the Secretary of State and the counties would be required to hold the election if state funding is not provided. On October 26, Attorney General Carla Stovall issued Opinion #99-57 answering that question in the affirmative. In sum, the opinion stated that the statutory provision requiring the PPP is mandatory. "Although the expense of conducting the presidential preference primary may well prove burdensome for the counties of the State, the statutory language obligates the counties to conduct the presidential preference primary regardless of whether the Legislature acts to appropriate monies which would be used to reimburse the counties for the costs associated with conducting the presidential preference primary."

As of this writing, plans are to conduct the PPP as required by law. The Secretary of State will seek the appropriate funding and keep county election officers apprised of the situation regarding funding and legislation.

Kansas is one of 43 states planning to conduct a primary next year. The other states will have caucuses. The primary system allows any registered voter to vote in the primary of his/her party choice, expressing support for one of the candidates. The caucus system used in other states is a meeting, or series of meetings, of party members where support for candidates is expressed through procedures designed and controlled by the respective parties.

Following is a chronological list of states and territories and the dates of their primaries, caucuses or conventions. Note that some states' parties have different dates for their primaries or caucuses; they are designated as "R" for Republican and "D" for Democratic.

## State Schedules

*Note: States may still change the dates of their primaries and caucuses.*

### Primaries

<i>Date</i>	<i>State/Terr.</i>
Feb. 8	New Hampshire
Feb. 12	Delaware
Feb. 19 R, Feb. 26 D	South Carolina
Feb. 22 R, March 11 D	Arizona, Michigan
Feb. 29	Virginia, Washington
March 5 R, March 12 D	Puerto Rico
March 7	California, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont
March 10	Colorado, Utah
March 14	Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas
March 21	Illinois
April 4	Kansas, Wisconsin
April 25	Pennsylvania
May 2	District of Columbia, Indiana, North Carolina
May 9	Nebraska, West Virginia
May 16	Oregon
May 23	Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky
June 6	Alabama, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota

### Caucuses

<i>Date</i>	<i>State/Terr.</i>
Jan. 22 R	Louisiana
Jan. 31	Iowa
Feb. 26 R	American Samoa, Guam, Virgin Islands
Feb. 29, March 7 D	North Dakota
March 7 D, May 19 R	Hawaii
March 10	Wyoming
March 11 D	Michigan
March 11 D, April 25 R	Minnesota
April 15, 17 D	Virginia
May 19 R, May 20 D	Alaska
May 19-21 D, May 25 R	Nevada

# SOS staff presents training session at Sanborn Academy

A revamped version of the Sanborn Academy for county clerk training was held in Wichita on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 7 and 8. The Sanborn Academy was founded in 1993 by the Kansas County Clerks Association with the purpose of standardizing training for clerks in their various duties and to provide a program where they could be certified for having completed the training.

The Academy is facilitated by the Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs at Wichita State University, and organized by Lisa Haase of the school. This year, 29 county clerks and four deputies attended the sessions.

Each year that the Academy has been held, the Secretary of State's Office has been invited to make presentations on elections-related topics. This year, the SOS staff presented more than three hours of training on current election issues, plans for

2000 elections, election law and election technology. Presenters from the SOS office were Melissa Wangemann, legal counsel; Bryan Caskey, administrative assistant for elections; and Brad Bryant, election director.

The session on current issues dealt with the 2000 census, the status of the state's election geography and the Kansas census adjustment.

In the session on plans for the 2000 elections, discussions were held on the presidential preference primary, the state primary in August and the November general election.

Melissa Wangemann presented general

information on election laws, court decisions, Attorney General opinions, and timely issues such as advisory elections and recall. Bryant discussed recent federal legislation and plans for state legislation next year.

Caskey demonstrated the Secretary of State's web site during the session on technology. He discussed the use of the Internet and e-mail in election offices and the plans to expand the current system of electronic reporting by county election officers.

Bryant provided a list of current voting equipment certified by the Secretary of State and explained the certification process,

emphasizing the growing importance of software in voting systems.

One of the topics raised during the closing session was the New Millennium Project sponsored by the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). Secretary

of State Ron Thornburgh is an active participant and leader in the project. NASS commissioned a study to identify causes of low voter turnout among 18 to 24 year olds. The study cited a sense of alienation and inadequate political information as partial causes of their lack of political involvement.

NASS plans to form an organization to acquire private funding and design a curriculum to offer schools nationwide to increase students' political and civic knowledge and to foster their desire to participate in the political process.

***This year, the SOS staff presented more than three hours of training on current election issues, plans for 2000 elections, election law and election technology.***

# FEDERAL ELECTION NEWS

## Federal Services ballot application to be available on-line

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) has announced the application for federal services ballots will be available on-line for the 2000 elections. The FVAP operates as part of the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. and supervises the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, which enforces and facilitates the voting rights of all members of the uniformed services, the merchant marines, their family members and other U.S. citizens residing in foreign countries.

These voters, commonly referred to as federal services voters, are entitled by federal law to vote in the locality of their residence regardless of their location on election day. They may complete a single ballot application for all elections in a given year.

The ballot application, called the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) form, is required to be made available by state and local election officers,

and until now has always been printed on cards. The FVAP's plan is to offer the FPCA on-line at the FVAP's web site ([www.delve.com/fvap/index.html](http://www.delve.com/fvap/index.html)) along with guidelines for completing and mailing the application.

The applicant will be able to complete some of the blanks on the FPCA on-line, then print and sign it or they may print the FPCA entirely blank and complete and sign it. Either way, the form must be personally signed by the voter. Instructions at the site provide the addresses of local election officers and tell the voter to enclose the FPCA in an envelope, put a stamp on it and mail it to the appropriate election

***The Federal Post Card Application form is required to be made available by state and local election officers, and until now has always been printed on cards.***

officer.

It is not yet known exactly when the FPCA will be on-line. The FVAP is contacting the chief state election officer in each state, asking whether the state will accept paper FPCA forms printed on applicants' home printers.

## Two new voting systems certified for use in Kansas

The Secretary of State recently certified two new voting systems for use in Kansas.

Both are categorized as direct recording electronic (DRE) systems: the AVC Edge system by Sequoia Pacific Voting Equipment Inc., and the EV 2000 system by Fidler and Chambers Company.

Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh and members of his elections staff held separate certification hearings for the two voting systems on July 29. After completion of the final paperwork, Thornburgh certified both voting systems and informed the companies in letters dated September 21.

A third certification hearing was held on July 30 for a DRE system manufactured by Election Systems and Software, but official certification has not yet been granted pending receipt of a test report by an independent testing authority approved by the National Association of State Election Directors.

On October 20, a certification hearing was held for another DRE voting system, this one manufactured by Diversified Dynamics. The independent testing authority's report is also pending for that system, so if official certification is granted it will be early in 2000.

---

### ***The two systems certified are:***

- **The AVC Edge system by Sequoia Pacific Voting Equipment Inc.**
  - **The EV 2000 system by Fidler and Chambers Company.**
-

# Recap of fair highlights

The Secretary of State's booth at the Kansas State Fair was a success. More than 352,257 people attended the fair in Hutchinson, September 10-19.

The Secretary of State's Office registered 111 Kansans to vote. Along with other state agencies, the SOS provided Kansans with an array of information including an opinion poll, census information, voting opportunities and a chance to buy Kansas state flags.

The focus of this year's booth was the promotion of the federal census, which will be taken April 1, 2000. Bags, pencils, posters and other printed materials were distributed to inform fair-goers of the upcoming census and to encourage them to respond to their questionnaires, which will be mailed to every household next March.

Census promotion is not new at the SOS fair booth. In 1987—the first year the office

managed a booth—the booth's purpose was to promote awareness of the 1988 Kansas Census. That census, conducted by the SOS, was the last one conducted by the state.

One new feature of this year's booth was information on charitable organizations. The SOS set up a computer with the Corporations Division's database of

charitable organizations. People could access the database to determine if organizations that solicit money are legitimately registered as charitable organizations with the SOS.

This program was developed in response to recent concerns of some fund raising groups misrepresenting themselves to donors and some legitimate charitable organizations committing very little of the money raised to charity.

It was the thirteenth consecutive year that the SOS operated a booth at the Kansas State Fair.

***The Secretary of State's office registered 111 Kansans to vote and distributed information on the 2000 Federal Census.***

## COUNTY ELECTION OFFICER NEWS

### Hartenbower's plan wins award

Lyon County Clerk Karen Hartenbower won an award in August for her Election Emergency Plan that she presented at the 28th Annual Conference of International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers (IACREOT).

The conference was July 10-14 in Scottsdale, AZ.

Hartenbower created the plan, which included topics such as voting machine problems, natural disasters and poll workers, for a presentation at her booth.

According to Hartenbower, there were three categories in which officials judged participants: audio/visual, printed materials, and election promotional T-shirts.

Hartenbower's award was in the printed material category for a small jurisdiction.

The Secretary of State's Office extends their congratulations to Hartenbower on a job well done!

***Attention County Clerks: If you have any news (i.e. birth, marriage, retirement) you wish to see here, please contact the Secretary of State's Office.***

# FEC releases third report to Congress

Continued from page 2

name or address.

Regarding the list maintenance provisions of the NVRA, the statistics in the table below indicate the success of the program in Kansas and the United States.

U.S.	Kansas
<b>Confirmation notices sent to voters</b>	
17,801,458	155,658
<b>Confirmation notices returned by voters</b>	
2,910,871	45,655
<b>Total registrations deleted</b>	
9,063,326	96,925

Part of the purpose of the reporting requirements of the NVRA is for the FEC to make recommendations to Congress and the states on ways to improve the NVRA system. In 1998, no new recommendations were made. The FEC reiterated its three major recommendations from two years before. They are as follows:

1. The FEC recommended that states require all or part of voter registration applicants' Social Security numbers on the application forms to aid in identifying voters and deleting

duplicates. In

Kansas, the full Social Security number has been requested on the voter registration forms for many years, but it is optional.

Approximately 25 percent of registrants provide it. In 1999, the Secretary of State's Office

proposed legislation to require the last four digits of the Social Security number, but that bill failed to pass.

2. The FEC recommended that states implement statewide voter registration databases to help keep track of registration activity and identify duplicates and multiple votes. Kansas implemented a

statewide voter database (referred to as CVR, or centralized voter registration) in 1994, but is a repository system, not an on-line system. In the repository system, counties send the Secretary of State their databases each quarter, and the statewide file is rebuilt each time. Some counties have begun to send their databases via file transfers or e-mail attachments, but it is not yet a computerized system with all the offices linked. The repository system does aid in identifying duplicate registrations and in other tasks such as the annual National Change of Address program.

3. The FEC recommended that the U.S. Postal Service create a new class of mail for official election materials with the most favorable rates possible. This has not been fully realized at the national level due to numerous federal laws and postal regulations not related to the NVRA. It remains a recommendation and a goal for the future.



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The Secretary of State's Office will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 31 in observance of Christmas and New Year's. We will also be closed at noon on Friday, Jan. 14 and Monday, Jan. 17 to move into our new building and in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.