



MPLA Newsletter

Volume 27, No. 5

Editor: Blaine H. Hall

April 1983

WHCLIS Chalks Up Successes in States

It appears the White House Conference on Library and Information Services has had some impact on the nation's public libraries.

A recent survey conducted by Laura B. Chodos, regent, University of the State of New York, reveals interesting results:

1. Nineteen states passed fiscal increases either for public libraries or for state library agencies.

2. Ten states passed legislation authorizing state aid for library automation projects or equipment or to facilitate interlibrary cooperation.

3. Twenty-one states passed library legislation that was varied in nature. These bills included school/public library cooperation; transference of state authority for library programs; public library construction monies; incentive grants for computer literacy programs; new library positions; and five states passed some type of citizen access protection or confidentiality of library records legislation.

4. Twenty-one states reported specific activities to heighten library visibility. Videocassette programs describing library services, newsletters, library logos, public service announcements and special posters were indicative of the types of action taken.

5. Eight states reported the formation of new friends groups.

6. Thirteen states specifically mentioned new or expanded statewide efforts to serve non-traditional or handicapped users.



7. Fourteen states reported specific expanded services reflective of the White House Conference resolutions. The establishment of a regional storage center was mentioned by one state; preservation activities; adult education activities; network development; bookmobile services; and the development of a statewide disaster plan were noted in other states' reports.

8. Six states reported holding educational workshops on topics ranging from grantsmanship to preservation or developing other continuing library education opportunities.

9. Twenty-seven states reported newly published studies, reports,

needs assessments and other publications, such as long-range plans, trustee handbooks, friends directories, statewide system feasibility studies and needs assessments for correctional facilities.

10. Seven states reported changes in state-level authority over library matters or changes in the state-level activity, including new library authorities and the collaboration of archives and library agencies.

11. Six states indicated new statewide documents or state depository activity.

12. Twenty-six states reported that state library agencies or library associations contributed to White House Conference participation. (Main Entry, Feb. 1983.)



From Your President. . .

Leadership of a group such as the Mountain Plains Library Association is a responsibility that I will place in high priority this year. Goals for the year include membership promotion and development as well as continuation of a variety of educational opportunities for librarians throughout our eight-state region.

Public relations for our association will be emphasized through the membership campaign just begun where two persons who have not been MPLA members may join MPLA for one year at half price. I am also pleased to announce that MPLA will be participating in one of the poster sessions at ALA this summer.

Blaine Hall has been a most dedicated and responsible **Newsletter** editor. We thank him for such a quality communication vehicle. Now I want to ask the membership to work as cooperatively with our new **MPLA Newsletter** editor Jim Dertien. Jim brings to his new position a long association with MPLA, plus background in graphics, editing and public relations.

With regard to the business of our association, we owe Dorothy Middleton a debt of gratitude for her expert leadership and the organized manner in which she conducted the business of MPLA. This year I look forward to continuation of the quality support given the association last year.

Convention procedures for MPLA

will be written this year. If your state has written guidelines in this area, please send me a copy. To date I do have a copy of guidelines from North Dakota. This will also be a year when we look at our overall bylaws and make recommendations to bring them into agreement with the **Procedures Manual** and established practices of the association. The bylaws of each section will be examined and revised to follow recommended "Model Bylaws."

Membership will soon be asked to vote on a proposed MPLA dues increase. Present dues, that have not been increased in over six years, do not generate sufficient funds to operate the association. According to the MPLA Finance Committee, "Only substantial withdrawals from our cash reserves have kept us solvent. Once the cash reserve is drawn down to the Executive Board's established minimum of \$25,000, MPLA will be forced to adopt a balanced budget. If MPLA is to avoid drastic program cuts, it will be necessary to increase the association's income. Thus, an increase in dues seems warranted." As we look at budget control and plan for the future, I hope to see MPLA expand continuing education opportunities, not reduce our offerings. Therefore I strongly urge support for the proposed increase.

Confidentiality of library records was addressed at our recent conference. MPLA board adopted a resolution, requesting that ALA Council charge the Office of Intellectual Freedom: "(1) To draft a model policy for legislation for confidentiality of library circulation records; (2) to develop and disseminate a packet including guidelines and support documents to assist in securing passage of needed legislation; and (3) to report regularly on progress achieved to ALA Council and the library community." This resolution will be presented to ALA Council in Los Angeles by Tom Jones of North Dakota.

This year will also be a busy one for the Professional Development Grants Committee. I would encourage all MPLA members to consider this as a potential for funding to help continue your education.

The Continuing Education Committee will be planning a Fund Raising Pre-Conference for the 1984 Joint Conference in Wyoming. This promises to be a session many of us plan to attend. Also with regard to conferences, MPLA is open for an invitation for the fall of 1987 from Nebraska, North Dakota or South Dakota.

On a personal note, I know this year will go smoother than last. As vice president when I went to Wichita to work on hotel and program plans, my hub caps were taken from my car in the Holiday Inn parking lot. Then, as a finale, my home caught on fire on the first night of our Wichita conference. My husband and son were awakened at 2:00 a.m. by fire alarms. The fire was contained and repairs are now being made on my home. We hope to be back to normal in about a month. So, after all the program coordination and personal concerns, I am sure this year as President will be a welcome challenge.

As I drove home from the recent conference in Wichita, watching one of our beautiful plains pastel sunsets, I remembered the true professional commitment I saw in each MPLA member. Our association has much to be proud of and looks forward to a bright future.

— Donna Jones



MPLA Election Results



Dorothy M. Liegl

Officers

Vice-Pres./Pres.-Elect	
Douglas Hindmarsh	115
Dorothy M. Liegl	119
Secretary	
Jane Hatch	136
Heather McNeil	103

Academic Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
Sue Hatfield	70
Daniel A. Seager	36
Secretary	
Dorothy Rice	68
Russell Robertson	39

Technical Services Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
Mary Carter	59
Carolyn Dickinson	34
Secretary-Treasurer	
Elnora M. Mercado	71
Celia K. Tomlin	19

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State Library Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
Stephen K. Ooton	22
Sherrie E. Snyder	16
Secretary	
Richard (Dick) Allen	15
Joyce C. Lee	24

Public Library Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
Lorna D. Byrd	76
James Swan	46
Secretary	
John Ellert	52
Ranae Pierce	69

JMRT Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
David Jacka	21
withdrew	0
Secretary	
Nancy Chu	19
Ann Kuntzman	9

Children's and School Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	
Michelle Havenga	22
Judy Selenski	33
Secretary	
Colleen P. Asplund	47
withdrew	0



Jane Hatch

MPLA Executive Board Meeting Highlights

At the December 17, 1982, Executive Board meeting, the following issues were discussed and decisions made.

Finances

Joe Edelen presented a current financial statement and noted that

the association has more expenses than income and is relying on the cash reserves. He suggested that the board must consider what level of surplus they wish to maintain and develop the budget around that surplus. Henry Yaple suggested we consider reducing the cost of the conventions by applying for grants to fund programs.

Ed Byers, Finance Committee chair, submitted the proposed budget for 1982-83 and expressed committee concern about the decreasing cash reserve. The board accepted Henry Yaple's motion that cash reserves be held at not less than \$25,000. The board also asked the Finance Committee to review the dues structure in light of the static income. The board also reduced the printing budget, cutback on the distribution of membership brochures, and asked the Public Relations Committee to study the effectiveness of the brochures and to report back to the board.

Country School Project

Dorothy Middleton shared a letter of congratulations to Andy Gulliford from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the outstanding work on the Country School Legacy project. The letter noted that the project was one of the best ever funded by NEH. Primary research material developed by the project will be used to develop a research collection on the country school.

Federal Relations

Joe Anderson reported on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's reduction in standards for federal librarians, an issue that could affect all librarians. The board directed President Dorothy Middleton to send a letter to state MPLA representatives and state association presidents urging them to contact their congressmen and encourage others in the profession to do likewise.

Intellectual Freedom

Heather McQuarie, Intellectual Freedom Committee chair, indicated that her committee is working on procedures for reviewing censorship cases and for taking a stand as an organization. They are also making an appeal through the News-

letter asking members to send information about censorship problems in their states.

Voluntary Recognition

The MPLA application to CLENE has been accepted. MPLA will be approved as a Multistate Council on Continuing Education. Information will soon be sent out to the states about organization of the Multistate Council and procedures for individual states to apply as providers within MPLA.

1985 Conference

The board received invitations for a 1985 joint conference from Nevada (at Las Vegas), North Dakota (at Bismarck) and Utah (at Salt Lake). Because of the lower hotel rates, food and transportation costs and the fact that it is next in line after Wyoming to begin a new cycle of joint conferences with the member states, Las Vegas, Nevada, was selected.



Jim Dertien

New Editor - Jim Dertien

At the Wichita Conference, the Executive Board appointed Jim Dertien, director of the Sioux Falls (South Dakota) Public Library, editor of the **MPLA Newsletter**, replacing Blaine Hall, who has edited the **Newsletter** since February of 1978.

Jim, an active and enthusiastic member of MPLA for many years, was chosen from a field of eight well-qualified applicants and will

begin his editorial duties with the June 1983 issue. Jim served as president of MPLA in 1978-79 and is presently chairman of the Public Relations Committee. His deep commitment to and long involvement in MPLA, his experience in public relations, and his previous editing experience (he originated the North Dakota Library Association's **Flickertale Newsletter**) were the major reasons for his selection. He will make a significant contribution to the association in this new responsibility.

Editor's Farewell

Five and a half years ago, I attended my first MPLA conference in Rapid City, where I was appointed editor of the **Newsletter**. I knew no one from any other state and little or nothing about libraries in the region. But I was determined to remedy this lack.

Today, after five years of meeting and talking with librarians and attending conferences in all eight states except Wyoming (I'll be in Cheyenne next year.) and reading a mountain of newsletters and journals from state libraries, state library associations, regional library systems, and individual libraries, I feel almost like a regional citizen.

My professionalism, my library knowledge and skills, and my commitment to libraries and librarianship have been greatly enhanced from these experiences and from the examples I have seen so many librarians in the region set for others to follow. And many of these I have tried to share with you in the **Newsletter**.

But even more significant has been the impact of my associations and experiences on me personally. The acquaintances and friendships have left a permanent impression on my life. And I will miss the board meetings, long though they often were, and the social gatherings at the restaurants and the hotel lobbies from Tahoe to Wichita and Bismarck to Salt Lake City. It was through MPLA that I learned how to hang a spoon on my nose, a feat not to be denigrated.

So to each of these who have enriched my life, thanks. And a special thanks to Joe Edelen, Mr. MPLA himself. His help and suggestions for

the **Newsletter** and his handling of the printing and mailing made my job much easier, and his friendship is a valued reminder of what MPLA is all about. My thanks to those of you who submitted material and supported me in making the publication an important part of the benefits of membership in MPLA.

My best wishes to Jim Dertien, a worthy successor in an endeavor that will always be close to my heart.

— Blaine Hall

New Addresses for Old Friends

In moving to its new quarters, BCR also divested itself of the Regional Union Catalog (RUC) and the Bibliographical Tool Collection. We thought the fate of these two old friends would be of interest to readers.

The RUC was given to the Colorado State Library, where a modified service is being designed to provide locations to Colorado and other libraries. As soon as a definite plan is drawn up, we will inform readers in this newsletter. Requests for locations not found in OCLC or other tools will be accepted by the Colorado State Library.

Moving the RUC was a major project, undertaken at BCR expense. We received a generous donation from the Jefferson County Public Library which covered about 10 percent of this expense. Many thanks, Jeffco! (Incidentally, any other contributions would also be appreciated, and would be eligible for tax exemption.)

The bibliographical tools were purchased by the Denver Public Library, which intends to develop a walk-in bibliographic capacity at the Main Library.

All of this means that the mainstays of the Bib Center are no longer with us, but they have remained in the Region and are with our friends and neighbors. All in the family, so to speak. (**Action for Libraries**, March 1983.)

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BCR Becomes a Membership Organization

On February 23, the Board of Trustees of the Bibliographical Center for Research, Rocky Mountain Region, Inc., instituted a governance structure allowing for more representation by users. The significantly revised bylaws establish BCR as a membership organization with members defined as institutions that have a contract or contracts with BCR for services.

Under the new structure, the Board of Trustees will be composed of the chief officers of all state library agencies paying a full-state membership fee plus five elected representative trustees and three elected at-large trustees. Representative trustees will be drawn from research libraries (doctoral-granting institutions), all other academic libraries, public libraries, processing centers (including schools), and special libraries (all not fitting into any other category).

The process leading to these changes in BCR governance has taken about two years. At its first annual planning meeting in February, 1981, the board and Users Council delegates and the then-active Advisory Council recommended that BCR investigate its own governance structure. In response to this and other issues raised at that meeting, BCR carried out a planning survey in the summer of 1981. This also confirmed a strong desire on the part of participants for a governance structure that included at least some elected board members. The Board of Trustees appointed a Governance Committee consisting of librarians from the region plus one outside consultant. Their recommendations were presented to the board in May, 1982, at which time the board accepted in principle their report.

Discussions then focused on changes in the bylaws which would be necessary to implement these recommendations. Over the past three meetings, the Board of Trustees discussed details of the bylaws changes. The decisions taken at the February 23 meeting represent many hours of serious effort on the part of the board. Their responsiveness to member concerns is evident in this action.

The action also comes at a time when BCR emerges from its indebtedness. Taken together, these two important events have special significance. The Board of Trustees, whose efforts have been responsible for helping BCR weather its financial crisis, stands ready to share its governance responsibilities with other members just at the moment when solvency is reached and the potential for reaping the benefits of responsible stewardship has a chance of realization.

Elections for four trustees will be held this spring. Over the next few weeks BCR will examine its contracts and will identify its new "members." A member is defined in the new bylaws as "any institution which has a contract or contracts with BCR for service." A voting representative for each member will be identified in the next few weeks.

The revised bylaws also provide for the appointment of an annual Nominating Committee composed of one trustee and four non-board members. Russell Davis, Director of the Utah Library Commission, has accepted appointment as chair of Trustee Nominating Committee for the 1983 election. The committee will solicit the names of qualified candidates and develop a slate for the following positions: one trustee representing special libraries; one trustee representing processing centers (including schools); two trustees-at-large. Preparation for election will be completed by the May 5-6 Board meeting, and ballots will be sent immediately following that meeting. The election results will be tabulated in June and the new board members take office on July 1, 1983. During the spring of 1984, a second election, for trustees representing research libraries, academic libraries, and public libraries, plus one trustee-at-large will take place. Thus, by July 1, 1984, the entire new governance structure will be in place.

Thus, BCR moves into a new phase in its life cycle, with nothing but hopeful expectations of a bright horizon. Speaking to the recent changes, BCR executive director JoAn S. Segal, said, "This unique structure gives BCR a new strength. The state librarians' presence provides historical continuity, the special expertise of these state officials, and a link to the resource-

sharing networks in the member states. To this strength is added the participative element of elected trustees, which the libraries have asked for. The board's responsiveness in adopting this structure is commendable." (*Action for Libraries*, April 1983.)

Idea Share

Daily Reading Breaks

You don't have time to read? If reading is important to you, you'll find the time—or, more truthfully, make the time. Here are some suggestions:

1. Get up 20 minutes early and read while enjoying your morning tea.

2. Give a book a bath! At least enjoy it while you soak.

3. Keep a poetry book in the car for red lights rhymes—a stanza a stop.

4. Learn to live with dust. Stop and read—the dust will always be with us.

5. Make a definite commitment to read by establishing a program of reading. Choose choice books you really want to read and start by reading the first chapter. This should give you a better motivation to continue.

6. Keep books in handy places such as the bathroom, by the telephone or in the fridge.

7. Spice up your meals with a leaf of print.

8. Skim read during television commercials.

9. Reading in the staff room can be a great influence on others and the positive discussions that result will only serve to keep you reading.

10. Always keep a book handy—in your pocket, purse or briefcase for those unexpected waits.

11. Doctor/dentist visits are made more valuable if you can look forward to having some time to read while you wait.

12. Start by reading children's books. Not only are they easier reading, but they keep you focused on the plot and they do increase your reading speed.

13. Establish a definite time when you will read. Unplug the telephone and try to make it part of your daily routine. (*Main Entry*, March 1983.)

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Segal Testifies at LSCA Hearings

On March 16, JoAn Segal, BCR's executive director, presented a statement before the House Subcommittee on Post Secondary Education, regarding the reauthorization of the Library Services and Construction Act. In both written and oral presentations, Segal urged continuation of the legislation at the highest possible level of funding.

Addressing specifically Title III, Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing, Segal pointed out to the subcommittee the existence of library networks such as BCR, their varied structures, and their history of cooperation with state libraries. She enumerated some cooperative activities carried out with LSCA Title III funds, and described some common funding patterns for such activities. She also noted the governance role state librarians have played in BCR and other networks.

Next she outlined differences in the draft reauthorization, which mandates a networking operation in every state library, including study of hardware, software, database

development, and telecommunications links. She expressed concern at the mandatory nature of these provisions, and suggested that the wording be permissive, rather than obligatory. (In this, she concurred with the COSLA testimony, as presented by Nettie Taylor, chief officer of Maryland's State Library Agency.)

Segal pleaded for flexibility to allow state librarians to determine how to use LSCA funds in the most cost-effective way; urged the continuation of existing state library network relationships; encouraged sharing at the substate, state, multi-state and national level, to reduce duplication of effort and improve efficiency of operation; and argued that projects should be funded on the basis of purpose, rather than institutional eligibility.

In closing her oral testimony, Segal said, "Although the appropriate administrative level for the distribution of federal funds for libraries may be the state and the state library, the appropriate operating level for networking activity may be either smaller or larger. The end result of these efforts," she added, "will be that citizens are aided in their search for

information, not only within their state, but also in neighboring states, in the entire nation, and even at the international level." (*Action for Libraries*, April 1983.)

Arapahoe College Offering Free Magazine Backruns

Arapahoe Community College is offering to give to libraries in the MPLA region backruns of about ninety magazines and journals. For a list write Carolyn Franken, Periodicals Department, Arapahoe Community College Library, 5900 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, CO 80120 or phone 303-797-5732. They are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Lenore Bright Reports on WHCLIST

I just want to share with you some of the highlights of WHCLIST this past year. Our activities at the state and national level are accelerating and we have been in a position to influence policy and funding decisions.

WHCLIST members have been particularly active in testifying before congressional committees. During the past 12 months, more than one-fourth of our members have testified.

Beginning with a series of regional oversight hearings on LSCA, WHCLIST began to be heard. More than two-thirds of all persons giving testimony were WHCLIST members.

We were later called to Washington to appear before the House Postsecondary Subcommittee on Reagan's proposed F.Y. 1982 budget for library programs and on the effects of his proposed rescission of LSCA funds.

Members also spoke to a Joint Congressional Hearing on the role of libraries and information technology in meeting the information needs of rural Americans.

WHCLIST submitted written testimony on HR 5573, the so-called "Apple Bill," asking that it be amended to include all libraries in addition to school libraries when giving tax advantages for donations of microcomputers to school libraries.

We also support S.2685, the Senate Bill to implement the Nairobi Protocol to the Florence Agreement. The Nairobi Protocol would extend duty-free treatment to importation of microforms and audio-visual materials for educational, cultural and scientific purposes and implements resolutions of the White House Conference relating to international issues.

ALA unveiled a national library symbol at the convention this summer. It is for use for all types of libraries to promote awareness of their services. The symbol was adopted after the White House Conference recommendation.

Four WHCLIST members, including myself, serve on the ALA Symbol Implementation Task Force.

At the state level, members report progress and funding increases even in difficult times. The report this

year tells of the formation of new statewide citizen advocacy groups, of more friends of libraries groups, of more long range planning, and of continued progress in implementation of White House Conference resolutions at state and local levels.

Our "Report of the States" reports progress, allows analysis for trends, and serves as an idea generator. It has been entered in the Congressional Hearing Record, used by members of Congress and by various national and state organizations.

We must continue to put pressure on our elected officials as we get ready to do battle on the next budget. We held our own last time, but we must be eternally vigilant. Now is a good time to thank them for their support and ask for their continued backing.

A second White House Conference is in the planning stages so we are keeping the momentum going and bringing the necessary awareness concerning libraries to the public's attention. That was our charge and we are succeeding so far. We need your help to keep up the good work.

It has been estimated that each of us touch 250 other lives with our activities every day. Just think of it if we all start getting the message out. Let's hear it for libraries!!!

Please consider joining WHCLIST at their next annual meeting to be held in Cheyenne, Wyoming, on September 21-23. Everyone is welcome to come and participate in the activities. I will be telling you more about it in the months to come. I'm very pleased that they are going to meet in our region.

If you would like to become a member of WHCLIST and join the growing number of citizens fighting for libraries, please send your check for \$10.00 to Robert Case, Treasurer, Lancaster County Public Library, 125 North Duke Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602.

I have enjoyed representing our 10-state region for the past two years. I have been succeeded by Dorothe Mahoney, R. R. 1, Box 68A, Rapid City, S.D. 57701.

I still am the Colorado delegate and intend to work closely with Dorothe to see that we are well represented at the national level.

OCLC 1981/82 Annual Report Highlights

OCLC has mailed its 1981/82 Annual Report to member libraries. Increased use of OCLC online library systems generated total operating revenues of \$38,627,500 in 1981/82, up 26 percent from the previous year.

In 1981/82 participating libraries used OCLC subsystems at record levels to:

- Catalog online 21.8 million books and other library materials
- Order 119.5 million custom-printed catalog cards
- Transact 1,115,130 interlibrary loans
- Add almost one million cataloging records to the data base
- Generate computer tapes of over 39.5 million cataloging records for subscribers
- Modify 899,655 serials holdings to conform to receipt of current periodicals and magazines
- Inaugurate 12 online union lists of serials representing 550 libraries
- Maintain a nationwide computerized file of more than 110 million location listings for library materials.

(OCLC Newsletter, Feb. 1983.)

Patrons—What Would We Do Without Them?

At a Salt Lake County (Utah) library branch, a teen-aged patron recently asked for the book, **Dickey Moe**. When asked if he were sure of the title, he replied, "Yes, it's about the white whale."

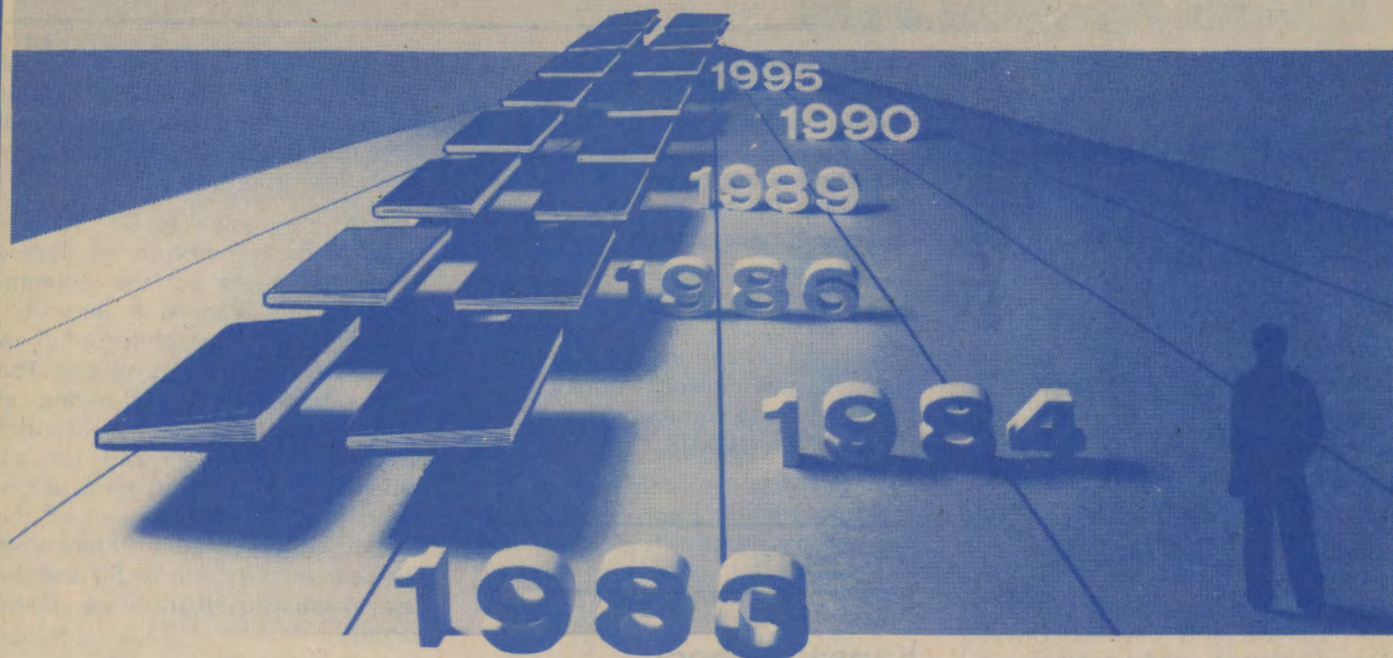
The Broomfield (Colorado) Public Library received a telephone reference question from a middle-aged male voice:

"I want to grow spaghetti. Do you have a book about growing spaghetti?"

Librarian: (In dulcet tones) "Spaghetti is not grown, sir. It is made from flour. Spaghetti squash is grown."

Patron: "Oh."

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Computer On Wheels

A computer on wheels? Sounds unthinkable but it's a fact. One of the Pikes Peak Library District's bookmobiles has been outfitted with a Radio Shack TRS-80 Model II computer to handle circulation functions. The installation of the computer represents the final phase of a 7-year program to computerize resource management throughout the library district.

The library's automated bookmobile is the first in the nation and will eliminate time-consuming and costly manual book circulation tasks. The Model II is equipped with two light pens which can simultaneously scan barcodes in both the charge-out and check-in modes. The circulation data is captured and stored on a floppy disk during the day and loaded into the library's minicomputer at night for processing. Within a 24-hour period, accurate circulation data is available district-wide.

According to library statistics the bookmobiles circulated over 73,000 books in 1982.

Marsha Anderson, librarian and head of Outreach Services, said, "I'm pleased to be a part of such a pioneering effort. This installation finally integrates the circulation from bookmobiles into the system." (*Tipsheet*, March 1983.)

World's Largest Booksale Planned for September

Bob Currie, Chairman of the Englewood Public Library Advisory Board, reports that "The World's Largest Booksale" is being organized for Saturday, September 17, 1983.

Co-sponsored by the Englewood Library Board and the CLA Friends' Roundtable with the help of the Independent Order of Foresters, the plan calls for libraries around the state to each hold a booksale on September 17. Foresters will prepare

and distribute newspaper, radio, and TV publicity for all participating libraries in their communities.

In Denver, metro libraries are consolidating their booksale at the Cinderella City at no charge. Each library will have a specific area and will handle its own money.

Following the sale at Cinderella City the Foresters will hold a victory dance and reception. Foresters will also remove unsold books and donate them to community agencies if requested. (*NEXUS*, Jan. 1983.)

Kansas

Kansas School Administrator Receives AASL Award

The American Association of School Librarians Distinguished Library Service Award for School Administrators for 1983 has been given to Dr. James C. Thompson, Superintendent of Schools, Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229, Stanley, Kansas. Dr. Thompson is recognized for his sustained contributions in the development of school library media programs within his school district. Dr. Thompson expresses his commitment by saying, "Today's school library media center is a force and a source for educational excellence. The direct support of the school library is fundamental to the basic design and optimum implementation of an educational program of excellence."

The award will be conferred by AASL President, Dorothy W. Blake, at the Annual Conference of the Association in Los Angeles, California, on June 27, 1983.

Dr. Thompson became superintendent in 1974 when there were four schools with library media centers and three school library media specialists. Since that time there are eight schools with library media centers and nine school library media specialists, 11 library media aids, and two system-level professionals. Total funding per pupil for school library media

materials has risen from \$16.72 to \$60.48. Staff development programs integrating the library media program into the total educational programs are promoted.

Most impressive is Dr. Thompson's active promotion of library media programs to the community and his leadership in visibly carrying out the philosophy of school library media programs. The school library media program at Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229 was recognized for excellence in media program development in 1981 when it received the School Library Media Program of the Year Award from AASL and the Encyclopaedia Britannica Companies.

Nebraska

Libraries Damaged by Economy

Members of the Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries described the situation of all types of libraries in the state as being 'severely compromised' by current economic conditions, and restraints on financial support from all levels of government.

"It simply isn't possible to buy the library materials we need to keep up with requests," one member reported.

The Council convened at the Library Commission in Lincoln on December 2 to consider legislative proposals for the 1983 session of the Unicameral, and to review progress on library system planning.

During a general discussion of the financial problems facing libraries this year, members shared information about conditions and problems resulting from budget and funding reductions in their respective libraries. Though a few libraries have escaped cutbacks, the impact of inflation and recession has affected all of them. It was noted that there has been an increase in the assessment of fees for various services, a reduction in the quantity of materials being added to library and

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media center collections, and a decrease in the number of hours that libraries are open. (**Overtones**, Jan. 1983.)

Library Legislation Launched

Two bills dealing with important library issues were introduced during the first week in the 1983 Nebraska legislative session.

Senator Vard Johnson has introduced LB 108, a bill which would classify as confidential "Records or portions of records kept by a publicly-funded library which, when examined with or without other records, reveal the identity of any library patron using the library's materials or services." The Bill is assigned to the Government, Military and Veteran's Affairs Committee and a hearing is scheduled for February 3.

Senator Chris Beutler has introduced LB 229 relating to the security of library materials. The bill would enable library boards to recover court costs and attorney's fees when enforcing library bylaws or regulations; would provide penalties for intentionally stealing or damaging library material; and for failing to return library materials after the expiration of the loan period. Penalty would also provide for "Any person who shall willfully conceal library material with the intention of depriving the library of ownership of such material, or willfully or without authority removes library material from the library. . . ." Persons who give a library false information concerning identity or address would be guilty of criminal impersonation and penalized accordingly.

Library employees would be given some immunity from civil liability while attempting to enforce provisions of the bill. The bill also requires that libraries "post and display" copies of the law "in plain view of anyone who is borrowing library materials."

The bill is assigned to the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. (**Overtones**, Jan. 1983.)

Nevada

Budget Hearings Go Well

The State Library has just concluded its budget hearings for the current legislative session. In general, the hearings have gone well. Both the Senate Finance Committee and the Assembly Ways and Means Committee seemed interested and asked good questions. Nevada Library Association lobbyist, Martha Gould, testified eloquently on behalf of the state local assistance budget item. Information concerning the budget closings is not yet firm but it appears that we were able to hold to budget levels as "Governor Recommends." This will be essentially a "flat funded budget." Governor Bryan's Administration, working very closely with us in this difficult economic time, has supported increased funds (above the cut levels) in the library materials budget and in the level of state local assistance (statewide library development). In view of the situation with regard to current and projected revenues, Governor Bryan's support is deeply appreciated. (**Dateline**, Jan.-Feb. 1983.)

South Dakota

Fees for Film Law Repeal Fails

SDLA supported passage of two pieces of library legislation by the South Dakota legislature this year. One failed, and one was still alive in the last days in an amended form.

House Bill 1208, which would repeal 14-1-65 of **South Dakota Codified Laws** to remove the authorization of the State Library to charge fees for films, came out of the House State Affairs Committee with a favorable recommendation. It then went to the Joint Appropriations Committee because it has a budgetary impact of \$43,000. After taking testimony for ten minutes in a hearing February 16 at which SDLA

was represented by President Carol Davis and Library Issues Committee Chairperson Jim Dertien, the Committee voted to kill the bill.

The confidentiality of circulation records bill, HB1298, sailed through the House and was sent to State Affairs Committee in the Senate. It underwent substantial revision there. Language that seemed to make members of the public at large guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor, if they divulged names they saw on a circulation record in a book, has been removed. In the process, any criminal penalty seems to be removed for any violation of the section.

An entire new section has been appended to HB1298 to revise the language governing the preservation of public records. The simplified language seems to reduce the scope of what materials can be defended from destruction when held by a public archives.

In this revised form, HB1298 passed the Senate and awaited concurrence of the House once again in the last days of the session. (**Bookmarks**, Jan.-Feb. 1983.)

Consultants Recommend State Online Catalog

The Task Force on Automation met at the State Library February 17 and 18 to accept the final report of consultants Sylvia D. Hall and Scott Bruntjen of the Pittsburgh Regional Library Center and to begin action on their recommendations.

The "South Dakota Library Automation Plan Final Report" strongly suggests that the state's libraries work toward a joint online catalog that will include an unidentified original set of participating libraries, which will be expanded over time to take in a larger number of libraries. After considering alternative ways to achieve this goal, the report recommends adopting a turn-key system in conjunction with libraries in nearby states.

Alternatives such as developing an online catalog within the state or mounting a turn-key system within

the state are rejected on the grounds of inadequate bibliographic database computer expertise in the state, inadequate size of the total state database for efficient economics of scale, and the inadvisability of incurring developmental costs for a function whose realization has already happened elsewhere.

The online catalog of the Minnesota State University System, which is maintained in the computer at Mankato State University, is recommended as a first candidate for the shared online catalog system. It would permit continuance and enhancement of the sharing of materials by Minnesota libraries with South Dakota libraries that has been necessary to library service in South Dakota. The report, however, also recommends that other turn-key systems that might be adopted in a multi-state arrangement be examined. (*Bookmarks*, Jan.-Feb. 1983.)

Property Tax Rollback Cuts Mitchell Library Budget One-Third

In August Mitchell voters approved a local property tax rollback and ceiling that lowers the tax support of the city government by a substantial amount. This local version of "Dakota Proposition," which was defeated by a substantial margin two years ago, traces its split back to the notorious Proposition 13 to rollback and cap property taxes that California voters approved in 1978.

The affect on the Mitchell Public Library's budget for 1983 is worse than most California libraries experienced. The library, being considered not an essential city service, has received one of the heftiest budget cuts of Mitchell city departments. Although exact figures are not available, the library's budget has been cut approximately \$55,000 for 1983 from 1982's approximately \$160,000 from the city—a full one-third.

Librarian Sylvia Minton and the Library Board have had difficulty in finding a course of action to cut

expenditures. Since the new tax ceiling is permanent until Mitchell voters reverse their decision or the legislature denies the voters of local government units the power to limit the property tax, the decisions taken will have to be taken in the expectation that drastically lower funding will be unending. (*Bookmarks*, Sept.-Dec. 1982.)

Utah

UNCL Gets No Money

On February 4, 1983, the Community and Economic Development Joint Appropriations Subcommittee met to hear the State Library's budget request. Several members of the State Library's Board and representatives of the Utah Library Association joined the State Library staff for the hearing. Following testimony the Subcommittee voted to approve the State Library's operational budget at the level recommended by the Legislative Analyst.

Following this vote, Senator Karl Snow addressed the Appropriations Subcommittee and made a special plea for the subcommittee to carefully consider program needs. He stated that it was important for the committee members to ask themselves if the requests for new programs, such as the Utah Network of Cooperating Libraries (UNCL) request, were worthy of support if funding were available. He noted that only the legislature had both the authority and responsibility to obtain funding for such programs as a part of its challenge to ensure that public policy needs within the state are met. Recognizing the real dilemma posed, he questioned whether legislators could continue to say funds simply aren't available because of current economic conditions. He added that in spite of the unpopularity of tax increases careful consideration was necessary to provide the best possible quality of life for Utah residents and their children.

At the conclusion of his statement, Senator Snow made a supple-

mental motion that the Appropriations Subcommittee respectfully request that the Executive Appropriations Committee seriously consider providing an additional \$51,000 for the "UNCL" program. He stated his conviction of the importance of calling such critical needs to their attention. His motion passed.

During the discussion period which preceded the voting on the State Library Budget, remarks from those attending were helpful in communicating the support of the library community for the UNCL network. Dr. Boyer Jarvis, chair of the ULA Legislative Committee, noted that "the Utah Library Association believes that a cooperative library network is the single most effective means of helping all libraries across the State to meet the ever growing information needs of their patrons in the years ahead." He also pointed out that planning for the Utah Network of Cooperating Libraries has involved many librarians for the past two years. He concluded by stating, "A relatively small investment now will yield big dividends in the future for Utah's citizens."

Dr. James Douglas, a member of the State Library Board, encouraged the Appropriations Subcommittee to support the network, stating that the network would assist libraries in better supporting the information needs of businessmen. Dennis Day pointed out that the UNCL budget request was a relatively small amount which would allow libraries to take advantage of the larger investment already made by larger libraries within the state. He added that information-sharing capabilities would be important in attracting the industries of the 1980s and 1990s to the state.

But despite the strong support among librarians and some legislators, the fiscally conservative legislature appropriated no funds for UNCL. (*Horsefeathers*, Feb. 1983.)

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Wyoming

Cincinnati Electronics Out

Wyoming will have a statewide automated circulation and interlibrary loan system, but it won't be from Cincinnati Electronics (CE). The State Library, Archives, Museums and Historical Board voted at their January meeting to cancel the contract with CE.

The decision was reached after the board heard the report from Hank Epstein, a consultant hired to assess the situation with CE. In his report Epstein stated there was no chance whatsoever that CLASSIC could be implemented within the schedule; major system development steps were being omitted and not enough time was available to debug the software. He also felt that it would be two years at best for the CLASSIC system to be in routine operation. Evaluations from other sources concurred with these findings.

As a result of the cancellation, Wayne H. Johnson, state librarian, appeared before the Joint Appropriations Committee of the State Legislature. Since the Legislature approved the funding for the initial system with CE, he sought and received their approval to use the money to purchase another system.

A new Request for Proposal has been written and will be sent to all circulation system vendors. It is possible that a new system could be operational in a year.

Plans with CE go back several years. After the need for a statewide circulation system was identified in 1978 a committee was formed to study the concept. In July 1979 the State Library issued a Request for Proposals to all circulation system vendors and five bids were received.

After a review of the bids and the recommendations of the Statewide Automation Committee, the State Library Board selected Cincinnati Electronic's CLASSIC system. In January 1980 the Legislature appropriated \$750,000 for initial outlay to cover five county library

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systems, the University and the State Library.

In the 1982 budget session \$500,870 was appropriated for implementing the system in the remainder of the state's tax-supported libraries.

According to Cincinnati Electronic's original schedule, the system was to have been ready for the pilot operation on January 28, 1982. Under a revised schedule training was slated for July 19, 1982. After this training, librarians were to start using the CLASSIC system. No training took place and the seriousness of the situation evolved.

Shortly after that, corporate management of CE did an in-house audit and staff was fired. In late September, CE met with representatives of the eight contract holding systems from around the country. They admitted that the CLASSIC software did not exist and never had. They also announced a \$3.5 million commitment to develop CLASSIC.

It was at this point that the Wyoming CLASSIC Users' Council called for an Options Committee and the State Board authorized the hiring of Epstein, a consultant. (*The Outrider*, Feb. 1983.)

Joblist

Position Open: June 1, 1983

Public Services/Technical Services Librarian

Library: Hastings Public Library, Hastings, Nebraska.

Salary: \$13,584-\$15,828

Qualifications: ALA accredited MLS, working knowledge of OCLC and AACR 2 (automation in future plans), ability to communicate effectively with public and staff, supervisory experience, good organizational skills, thorough knowledge of basic library skills.

Responsibilities: Supervising bookmobile service to two counties, cataloging and classifying all print and non-print materials.

Send resume and references to Linda M. Rea, director, Hastings Public Library, P.O. Box 849, Hastings, NE 68901.

About You

Dorothy Mahoney, Rapid City, South Dakota, has been appointed to represent the ten Western states, including all MPLA states, on the steering committee of WHCLIST. She replaces Lenore Bright of Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

Maryellen Brubaker, director of the Cortez (Colorado) Public Library, received the Colorado Library Association Librarian of the Year Award. She has worked hard to improve library services within her community, region and state, developing innovative approaches to solving library and information problems. A Cortez businessman said "her enthusiasm is legendary, her dedication is beyond question, her imagination is irrepressible and her understanding of the people of this community is almost magical."

Lenore Bright, the WHCLIST representative from ten Western states, received the Colorado Library Association Distinguished Service Award. She has been active in supporting libraries in Colorado and the nation, attending the White House Conference in 1979 and serving on the steering committee of WHCLIST. Her testimony before congressional committees contributed to the extension of LSCA funding.

Phyllis Baker, continuing education consultant for the Colorado State Library, has left that position after nearly five years to join the sales staff of Gordon's Books, a Denver-based book wholesaler. She will be responsible for school accounts and specialized retail outlets in the Rocky Mountain area. Phyllis has served MPLA as chair of the State Library Section and member of the executive board.

Doris Phillips, librarian at the Black Hills State College Library in Spearfish, South Dakota, since 1952, received the South Dakota Library Association Librarian of the Year award. She has been a member of SDLA for over 30 years, chairing

many of its committees and serving as president and treasurer. She has also been active in MPLA, serving as the SDLA representative on the executive board.

Marlys Mlady, the treasurer of the board of trustees of the Minnehaha County Library, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, since 1961, has retired from the board. She has been the guiding force in establishing branches in the 1970s and has pushed for evaluation and progress in recent years. She has also been active in state, regional, and national associations and has been nominated for a national trustee citation.

Continuing Education

Date: June 13-17, 1983

Tenth Conference on Literature for Children and Youth

Sponsor: Fort Hays State University
Location: Hays, Kansas

Description: Speakers will be E. L. Konigsburg, Steven Kellogg, M. E. Kerr, Ashley Bryan, Betty Miles, Darrel Hildebrant, Jim Trelease, Jane Matanzo, Don Reynolds, and June Level. Graduate and undergraduate credit is available.

Contact: Mrs. Donna J. Harsh, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601-4099.

Date: June 16-18, 1983

Graphic Art in Books for Children and Adolescents

Sponsor: The University of Iowa School of Library Science.

Location: Iowa City, Iowa

Description: Guest lecturer is Dr. Patricia Cianciola, Professor of Children's Literature, Michigan State University, and author of **Illustrations in Children's Books** (1976) and **Picture Books for Children** (1981).

Contact: School of Library Science, The University of Iowa, 3087 Library, Iowa City, IA 52242, phone 319-353-3644.

Date: June 15-16, 1983

Educating the Educators: Western Canadian Conference on Library Instruction

Sponsors: Manitoba Department of Education, Manitoba Library Association, University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg.

Location: The Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

Contact: Sandra Zuk, University of Winnipeg Library, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9, Canada.

Date: July 10 - Aug. 10, 1983

Literature for Children and Adolescents: 10th Annual Study Tour

Sponsor: Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas.

Description: The tour travels to England, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Denmark and Norway. The professional component will consist of seminars in each of these locations as well as visits to libraries, bookstores, literary sites and museums, and opportunities to meet authors and illustrators. Graduate or audit credit is available.

Contact: Mrs. Donna J. Harsh, Dept. of Education, Fort Hays State University, 600 Park Street, Hays, Kansas 67601-4099.

Date: July 10-24, 1983

Libraries of the USSR

Sponsor: ALA with Citizen Exchange Council

Cost: \$1779 from New York (\$1999 from Los Angeles).

Description: Introduces participants to the interlocking library networks — public, labor union, education and scientific institutes — in Moscow, Riga and Leningrad. On-site meetings with Soviet library professionals are planned as demonstrations and round table discussions of their services, structures and funding. American librarians will present information about their own libraries. There will be free time for

sightseeing and exploring in each location.

Contact: Citizen Exchange Council, 18 East 41st Street, New York, N.Y. 10017 or Frederick Ryan, California State University, Chico, CA 95929.

Date: Sept. 21-24, 1983

Medical Libraries: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

Sponsor: Midcontinental Chapter, Medical Library Association

Location: The Yarrow, Park City, Utah

Description: Features include a panel on microcomputer applications in libraries, two days of CE classes on a variety of library topics, a rare books workshop, and a research session on original research by librarians from Omaha to Salt Lake City.

Contact: Cherryi Povey, Library Services, Veterans Administration Medical Center, 500 Foothill Boulevard, Salt Lake City, Utah 84148, phone 801-584-1209.

Future MPLA Conferences

- 1984 MPLA/WLA/WAECT Tri-Conference, Cheyenne.
- 1985 MPLA/NLA Joint Conference, Las Vegas.
- 1986 MPLA/CLA Joint Conference, Vail, Colorado.

State Affiliate Association Conferences

Colorado

Oct. 15-19, 1983
Four Seasons Motor Inn, Colorado Springs

Kansas

April 6-9, 1983
MPLA/KLA/KASL Tri-Conference
Holiday Inn, Wichita

Nebraska

October 13-14, 1983
Holiday Inn, Omaha

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Nevada

November 3-6, 1983
MGM Grand Hotel, Reno

North Dakota

Sept. 29-30 and Oct. 1, 1983
Ramada Inn, Jamestown

South Dakota

September 22-24, 1983
Sheraton Inn, Yankton

Utah

March 14-16, 1984
Hilton Hotel, Ogden

Wyoming

May 11-14, 1983
Holiday Inn, Sheridan

Newly Minted

Serving the Older Adult: A Guide to Library Programs and Information Sources explains how to initiate and develop library and information services for the older adult in public, academic and special libraries; community information centers; and social service agencies and organizations. Betty J. Turock. \$29.95 from Bowker.

"School Library Media Quicknotes" series now offers four titles:

Publishing in ERIC: It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3 provides general information about ERIC and its document selection criteria, a description of the type of materials of interest to ERIC, and the procedure for submitting materials. \$.50 to AASL members, \$.60 to nonmembers.

What Can a Library Media Specialist do to Preserve Intellectual Freedom offers concise guidelines on supporting intellectual freedom, steps to follow when materials are challenged, and sources of help with IF concerns. \$.80 to AASL members, \$1 to nonmembers.

Block Grants: Challenges and Opportunities answers questions
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about what kinds of federal block grants exist, their rationales and characteristics, the programs included, and their implications for school library media specialists. \$.80 to AASL members, \$.65 to nonmembers.

Closing on a Bright Note: A Guide for the Permanent Closing of a School Library Media Center provides step-by-step guidance for planning and implementation. \$.55 to AASL members, \$.65 to nonmembers. Available from AASL Office, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. All orders must be prepaid.

Media Selection Handbook by Mary Sive will help the media specialist identify the most essential selection tools for nonprint media (exclusive of films) describing the scope and limitations of each, and suggesting strategies for current and retrospective searches. \$27 from Libraries Unlimited, P.O. Box 263, Littleton, CO 80160-0263.

Cataloging Nonbook Materials: Problems in Theory and Practice by Carolyn Frost discusses both theoretical and practical issues. The media discussed include maps, sound recordings, motion pictures, video-recordings, graphic materials, three-dimensional artifacts and realia, microforms, and kits. \$28.50 from Libraries Unlimited, P.O. Box 263, Littleton, CO 80160-0263.

"Check It Out" is a film/video program designed to help viewers recognize the value of libraries as sources of information, to make them aware of the extent and diversity of library services, and to recognize the function of libraries as centers for community activities. It is suitable for all ages and all types of libraries. Details about preview, purchase and leasing of film or videocassette formats are available from the Agency for Instructional Television, Box A, Bloomington, IN 47402.

Creative Encounters: Activities to Expand Children's Responses to Literature by Anne Polkingharn and Catherine Toohey provides creative ideas for extending children's literature beyond the story hour and the curriculum, encouraging children to develop problem-solving and comprehension skills and to think beyond a literal interpretation of the story. \$15. Libraries Unlimited, P.O. Box 263, Littleton, CO 80160-0263.

Gambit, the third edition of the programming guide for young adult librarians developed by the Adult/Young Adult Services Division of the Maryland Library Association, is considered a "must" purchase by the **Voice of Youth Advocates** for all public libraries. \$2 plus \$.50 postage and handling from Maryland Library Association, 115 W. Franklin Street, Baltimore MD 21201.

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Back issues of the *MPLA Newsletter* and the *Mountain Plains Library Association Quarterly* are available in microform from Xerox University Microfilms, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

Copy Deadlines

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January 7.....February issue
March 7.....April issue
May 7.....June issue
July 7.....August issue
September 7.....October issue
November 7.....December issue

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Oops! The Feb. 1983 issue was Vol. 27, No. 4, not 28, No. 1.



- Opportunities for professional involvement
- Continuing education programs
- A forum for the exchange of ideas
- Information on new technology in librarianship
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- News of people and programs in member states

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605-773-3131

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801-399-8516

Wyoming: Henry Yaple
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307-766-4228

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Fargo, ND 58105
701-237-8887

Children's & School: Honey Lou Bonar
Hastings Public Library
4th and Denver
Hastings, NE 68901
402-463-9855

Junior Members Round Table: Paula Hock
130 So. 1300 E., No. 612
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102
801-363-5733, Ext. 246

Public Library/Trustee: Richard Rademacher
Wichita Public Library
223 South Main Library
Wichita, KS 67202
316-262-0611

State Library: Jeanne Goodrich
Nevada State Library
Capitol Complex
Carson City, NV 89710
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Technical Services: Paul Cors
University of Wyoming
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