



MPLA Newsletter

Volume 32, No. 2, October 1987

BOON OR BOONDOGGLE?



by Jim Wirtanen, AV Librarian, Minot (ND) State University

A Computer Lab In An Academic Library

In the March 1987 issue of the **Journal of Academic Librarianship** (p. 3), Richard Dougherty begs the question, "Are the functions of libraries and computing centers converging? Are we embarking on a collision course in which both units will find themselves competing for a finite pot of funds? Or, are the activities of these two academic support units complementary?"

These are some of the questions the staff of Memorial Library at the Minot State University have been wrestling with for the past five months. On November 4, 1986, a computer lab opened in what was the periodical reading room in Memorial Library. The new student computer lab offers 25 Apple Macintosh microcomputers, two Apple IIe microcomputers and seven Apple ImageWriter dot matrix printers. The funding for the hardware for the Memorial Library computing lab was

part of a campuswide program to make additional computing resources available to all MSU students. The following three sources made up the \$215,000.00 in funds for increased computing resources on campus:

\$100,000.00 - The State Board of Higher Education.

\$100,000.00 - The North Dakota Emergency Commission.

\$15,000.00 - A private gift.

Approximately \$100,000.00 of these funds were used for the Memorial Library microcomputer lab. The lab offers three software programs for student use: **MacWrite**[™] (a basic processing program) and **FullPaint**[™] (a graphics program) and **Statworks**[™] (a basic statistics program). About 300-350 students use the computing lab weekly, and the word processing program is the most widely used application. In-

structors regularly schedule the lab for use with their classes, and a number of introductory workshops have been well attended by students, faculty and clerical staff. Clearly, many students and faculty view the new computer lab as a welcomed addition to Memorial Library and the MSU campus.

However, since none of the original funding was allocated for staffing, maintenance, training or supplies, the new lab has had a tremendous impact on the library. At a rate of 300-350 users per week, the microcomputer lab has imposed some unique demands on Memorial Library's circulation staff. To control access to the lab, patrons wishing to use a computer must first sign in and leave their student ID card at the circulation desk. Naturally the most congested times at circulation occur at ten minutes before the next class or just before closing time. To deal with

the increased workload at circulation, student staffing has had to be doubled during the peak hours.

Since the lab itself is not continually staffed, patrons automatically come to the circulation desk with "computer questions," e.g. "Why is the printer not working?" "I've got a paper due in ten minutes. . . how do I create a title page?" "What does **DELETE** mean?" If the students working circulation are unable to answer these questions, they naturally send the patron to the reference librarian. This creates a potentially bad situation with respect to the availability of reference service. Experience has shown that a librarian must exercise caution before entering the microcomputer lab to assist patrons. Even if the reference librarian or the circulation worker could help, she/he probably should not. A reference librarian or student worker who enters a busy computer lab to answer even one simple question is immediately identified as the resident computer expert. Also, by entering the computer lab to answer even one question, the reference librarian or circulation worker is effectively taking on the responsibility of staffing the lab. This shifting of staff would (and does) leave the circulation or the reference desk either understaffed or unstaffed for a period of time.

The logical solution would be to provide full-time student staffing in the lab. In fact this is what most college and university libraries with busy computer labs have had to do. But at Memorial Library, full-time or even continuous part-time student staffing of the lab is impossible because of an already existing shortage of student workers. This problem is magnified because the lab is located in the library; thus the patrons feel that the library staff should be able to answer their computer questions just as they would handle a normal reference query. Unless full-time student staffing becomes available, Memorial Library will probably never be able to offer more than a minimal level of assistance to computer lab patrons.

The microcomputer lab has also physically impacted Memorial Library because of the floor space it occupies - the computers are located in what was the periodical browsing room. To make room when the lab opened, the periodical browsing collection had to be moved out into the (already limited) study space. Although the library did

not lose any seating, study tables and desks had to be moved much closer together, noticeably crowding the reference area.

The final and perhaps greatest impact the new microcomputer lab has had on Memorial Library is in the area of funding. As noted, none of the funds allocated for the Memorial Library lab were earmarked for supplies, staff training or maintenance of the computers or printers. After four months over 2,200 students had used the lab, some 68,000 sheets of paper had been consumed, and the seven printer ribbons have been changed and re-inked seven times each. Fortunately, most of the breakdowns on the computers and printers occurred during the 90 day warranty period. Now that the warranty period has expired, Memorial Library is faced with a difficult situation; Apple, Inc.™ is the sole supplier of all of the internal parts for the Macintosh microcomputer. Also, in order for our technicians to even open up a Macintosh to do the basic maintenance, she/he must be certified by completing a two-day workshop offered exclusively by Apple, Inc.™. Without this certificate, the technicians at MSU cannot even order repair parts for the computers. When given the choice between paying \$35.00 per hour for computer repairs (not including parts), or purchasing books, basic supplies needed to run the library or repairing microform or photocopying equipment, microcomputers become a low priority. It is entirely possible that a number of "OUT OF ORDER" signs may need to be draped over the new computers until a solution is found to this problem. As an option, Apple does offer annual maintenance contracts for about \$125.00 per machine. But at that rate, Memorial Library would have to invest \$4,000 per year just to cover the hardware.

A conservative estimate of the supplies needed to operate a lab of this size is \$2,000.00 annually. This money is needed to replace worn diskettes and ribbons and to provide paper for the

printers. Staffing the computer lab on a full-time basis with a student worker receiving just the minimum wage would cost about \$10,600.00 per year. Based on these figures, the new computer lab will cost a minimum of \$2,000.00 per year (plus any repair expenses) to run, and could cost over \$16,000.00 annually.

Fortunately Memorial Library has not had to shoulder the entire burden of keeping the new lab running. The library has been able to provide limited student staffing for the computer lab, and has offered a variety of workshops for new users via funding received from a \$3,500.00 grant from the MSU Faculty Development and Research Committee (Bush Foundation). Enough supplies to keep the lab running until July 1987 were made possible through funds from various departments and from uncommitted operating revenues due to the mild winter. However, by July 1987 Memorial Library must come up with at least enough funding to continue to provide the basic supplies to keep the lab running. Depending upon the level of financial cuts made during this legislative session, the prospects of funding for a computer lab may indeed be bleak. In an era where the future of staff positions, campus programs, and possible delays in improvements to aging physical facilities are a very real possibility, funding for a computer lab is understandably low on the list of concerns.

Finding a way of making the computer lab pay for itself may be the only remaining option. While a number of fee-for-service ideas have been explored, most have been dismissed on the basis of being impractical to implement. For example, in charging for paper, would a charge per page of paper really work when patrons literally fill the trash cans daily with bad printouts, first drafts and wasted sheets of paper from each time a printer misfeeds? Would patrons really report the correct amount of paper used? If students were forced to bring their own paper, could they easily learn how to correctly feed the printers? Would they buy the required 20 pound bond (cheaper papers jam more frequently)? Could they figure out how to adjust the printer with misfeeding problems? Perhaps the biggest headache in attempting to collect money from individual patrons would be the maintenance of a cash drawer. What do you do when a patron with a twen-

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ty dollar bill wishes to pay for ten cents worth of paper?

Perhaps the best solution would be to assess each student a set amount or fee for access to the computers. This, in fact, is what many colleges and universities across the country have done in one form or another. For example, as of 1986, the University of Michigan assessed a fee of \$50.00 to \$100.00 per semester (based on part-time or full-time enrollment) on each of 35,000 students for campus-wide computing services. While fees of this magnitude are not needed to keep a single library computing lab operating, some amount closer to \$5.00 per quarter would be required from each student at MSU.

Aside from the need for funding, no final decisions have been made on some of the big policy issues facing the Memorial Library computing lab. New users do not learn effectively from reading computer manuals and punching keys. Without a system of formal training, including instructions on how to load paper into the printers, each quarter the library will be faced with a group of new users encountering the same old problems. Much has been written on how the marriage of computing centers and libraries has, will, and should result in libraries being able to offer tremendous new services, e.g., access to online databases, the ability to share information via networks, access to a wealth of information on compact disks and the ability for students and faculty to work with integrated software packages. However, before the Memorial Library computing lab can aspire to become involved in anything as advanced as networking or accessing large databases, the fundamental problems of staffing, training and funding for supplies and maintenance must be solved. At this writing the solutions to these concerns, and the policies that govern the operation of the lab are still evolving.

—Jim Wirtanen

Editor's Note: Jim is the AV librarian at Memorial Library and is in charge of the computer lab.



MPLA News

Sara Parker New President

Sara Parker, Montana State Librarian, accepted the gavel and the responsibilities of President of MPLA from outgoing President Duane Johnson during the Tri-Conference in Bismarck, North Dakota. She thanked Duane for his excellent work directing the activities of this 940+ member organization, and immediately set to work managing the association's business during the final conference executive board meeting.

Kaup Elected Vice President/President Elect

Jerry Kaup, Director of the Minot (ND) Public Library, has been elected Vice President/President Elect of MPLA. Nora Van Burgh, Public Services Librarian, Casper (WY) College, is the association's new Secretary.

Other election results are as follows:

Academic Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. Doug Birdsall
Secretary Colleen Kirby

Technical Services Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. . . Susan Allen
Secretary Ann Kuntzman

State Agency Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. . Sheila Cates
Secretary/Treasurer Sandi Long

Public Library Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. . Eloise Fasold
Secretary/Treasurer. . Carol J. Connor

JMRT Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Selma
Dunham

Secretary Paul Hawkins

Children's and School Section:
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Lynn
Ossolinski

Secretary Donna Fisher

Executive Board Action

During meetings scheduled at the Tri-Conference in Bismarck the MPLA executive board acted on the following matters:

It approved a special project grant to assist with publication of a North Dakota Periodicals Index.

In an update on the proposed University of Colorado/Denver Graduate Library School matter, Duane Johnson reported that no significant action is possible due to lack of funding, though the idea has support.

Received a petition from the Preservation Interest Group asking for section status. The board approved the new section on the basis that it build and sustain membership in accordance with MPLA policy requirements. It was noted that President Johnson had approved formation of both an Interlibrary Loan Interest Group and a Documents Interest Group.

A proposed change in the bylaws relating to an allowance for alternates to replace absent association or section representatives was reviewed and approved for presentation to the membership. The proposed bylaws change will be referred to the membership at the next annual meeting.

Referred to the membership at the annual membership meeting at the Tri-Conference was a resolution, which passed, directing MPLA to appoint a committee "to formulate minimum certification standards/guidelines for school library media programs and school library professionals, which would provide direction for local and state library associations, state departments of public instruction, state boards of higher education, and regional accrediting associations." The resolution also called for creation of a portfolio of certification standards from various sources to be used by this committee and other MPLA members.

Annual Awards

Carl Gaumer Exhibitor's Award

Duane Munson of Columbus, NE, received the Carl Gaumer Exhibitor's Award presented by the Mountain Plains Library Association on September 25 at its annual conference in Bismarck, ND.

Munson, a representative for Chil-

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What LaserCat users are saying:

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Vivienne Dimick; Bear Lake County District Library; Montpelier, Idaho:

"We just love LaserCat. We received 35 new books this morning and had them on the shelves by the afternoon."

Virgil A. Dedas; Whitworth College Library; Spokane, Washington:

"One of our uses for LaserCat is as a public access catalog. The students are fascinated with it and seem to be able to use it just fine."

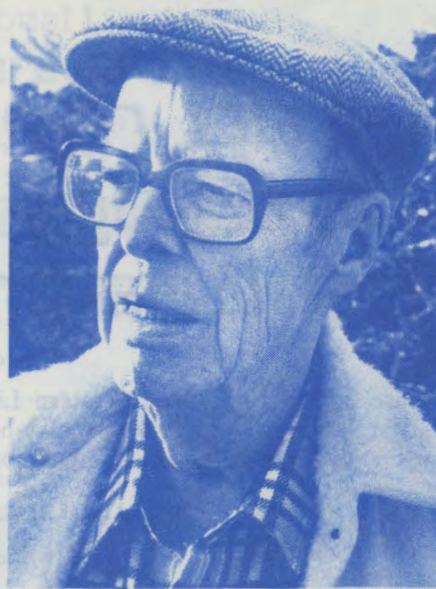


Western Library Network

dren's Press, was cited for his "commitment to libraries which extends beyond salesmanship to support of professional activities and promotion of reading," according to Awards Chair Honey Lou Bonar.

Munson sponsors the Mad Hatter Award which is presented each year to the outstanding children's librarian in Nebraska. He also presents a selection of current titles to the winner's library. In addition he has contributed substantial funds to the Golden Sower program, Nebraska's children's choice award.

He is an active member of the Nebraska Library Association, chairing the exhibits area frequently. He also serves on the board of education for Columbus's Educational Service Unit.



A.B. Guthrie

Photo: Bert Lindler
Great Falls Tribune



Richard Buzbee

Photo: Hutchinson
News

Literary Contribution Award

A.B. Guthrie received the Literary Contribution Award presented by the Mountain Plains Library Association at its annual conference on September 25 in Bismarck, ND.

Guthrie, of Choteau, MT, is a well-known novelist whose writings offer readers a perceptive commentary on western life and ways, a reflection of the unique beauty of the Rocky Mountain region, and insights into the values of the people and lands he knows and loves so well, the MPLA Awards Committee announced.

According to Sandy Hinz, information coordinator of the Great Falls (MT) Public Library, "another common theme in Guthrie's later books is that of the high cost of progress—both to the land and to the individual."

Annick Smith, the executive producer of HEARTLAND, said, "Guthrie opened up a new era of serious writing about the American West with *The Big Sky* in 1947, and with *These Thousand Hills*, a few years later, which won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Guthrie will also deliver the keynote address at the MPLA awards banquet.



Agnes McDow Milstead

dition as well as for its position on statewide issues which greatly enhanced library support legislation in Kansas, according to Hutchinson Public Library Public Information Officer Terry Christner.

In nominating the paper, Ms. Christner said, "The Hutchinson News has provided our library with strong media coverage continuously through the years. Its editor and reporters are always willing to listen to our ideas for articles."

Hutchinson Library Director Leroy Gattin added, "Mr. Richard Buzbee and The Hutchinson News have provided unending support for the library and its activities. They make every ef-



Kim R. Burningham

fort to cover all aspects of library programming."

Distinguished Service Award

Agnes McDow Milstead of Laramie, WY, received the Distinguished Service Award presented by the Mountain Plains Library Association on September 25 at its annual conference in Bismarck, ND.

Mrs. Milstead's "rare talent for giving of herself as a librarian and educator has had a profound effect on the development and enhancement of libraries and library service at all levels," according to Duncan R. McCoy, director of the Albany County

News Media Support Award

The Hutchinson (KS) News received the News Media Support Award presented by the Mountain Plains Library Association on September 25 at its annual conference in Bismarck, ND.

The News was recognized for its editorial and news coverage of the Hutchinson Public Library which contributed significantly toward the passage of a bond issue for a new ad-

(WY) Public Library.

Mrs. Milstead was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for her work with libraries in the Philippines, having established four libraries in that country. She also started a library in Nigeria and another one in Guyana. In 1976 she established the Milstead Award to recognize outstanding service to children and young adults by Wyoming libraries.

She worked as a school librarian in Louisiana and Wyoming and developed the University of Wyoming's educational media program into a full-scale master's program for training and certifying school media specialists.

Active professionally, she held top level positions in the Louisiana, Wyoming, Mountain Plains and American Library Associations. In 1986 she was named WLA's outstanding librarian and on June 28, 1987, she received ALA's Award for Distinguished Contribution to Library Education in the Nation.

On the local level she is a member of the board of the Albany County Library Foundation.

Legislative Support Award

Senator Darrell G. Renstrom of North Ogden, Utah, and Representative Kim R. Burningham of Bountiful, Utah, received the Legislative Support Award presented by the Mountain Plains Library Association on September 25 at its annual conference in Bismarck, ND.

Rep. Burningham, as co-chair of the Community and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee of Utah's House of Representatives, was instrumental in securing the first state appropriations for direct assistance to local public libraries, according to Pete Giacoma of the Davis County (Utah) Public Library.

In addition Rep. Burningham sponsored H.B. 118, which raised by 1/3 the tax rate limit which local governments can assess to support public library services.

Elizabeth Montague, president of the Salt Lake City Library System board of directors, lauded Rep. Burningham's "clear and intelligent presentation to the House," calling it a "classic of skillful handling."

Senator Renstrom sponsored S.B. 106, which closed loopholes in and strengthened Utah's Library Theft and Mutilation Law, Giacoma said.

In addition to sponsoring S.B. 106,

Sen. Renstrom advised the Utah Library Association and its members on lobbying strategies and legislative protocol.

Giacoma, in nominating Sen. Renstrom and Rep. Burningham for the Legislative Leadership Award, said, "The overall effect of their efforts has been to increase the visibility of libraries in the legislature and the regard in which legislators hold the library community."



Around the Region

Arizona

In Search of Our Mothers' Garden

The Tucson Public Library has announced the sixth part of its America: A Reading series titled "In Search of Our Mothers' Garden: Women in Literature." This four-part reading/discussion series is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and will feature discussions on black women authors, women in literature, archetypes of women and modern women's poetry, October through December. A reading guide, essay by Michelle Taigue, and a suggested reading list appeared in the September 30 *Tucson Weekly*. The series not only rates high for content but is typified by exceptional graphics in its promotional material.

Generous Contributors

ASLA members contributed \$350.00 to the ALA Washington office and \$400.00 to the Freedom to Read Foundation in response to a recent fundraising effort. These contributions received a large round of applause when they were announced during Council meetings at the ALA con-

ference in San Francisco. Chapter councilors from other states expressed an interest in conducting similar campaigns in their states, and they were given a copy of the article requesting contributions which ran in the ASLA Newsletter. (ASLA Newsletter September 1987)

Collection Assessment

Public and academic librarians actively involved in collection development attended a two-day Workshop on Collection Assessment October 1 and 2 at the Mesa Public Library's Dobson Ranch Branch. Sponsored by CODAR, the workshop featured Mary Bushing of the Montana State Library, who drew a capacity audience at the 1986 ASLA conference in Tucson. On the first day Mary presented detailed guidelines on how to assess a library's collection. The next day, teams of participants visited either Mesa Public Library or Mesa Community College Library and examined specific areas of the library's collection, then reporting back to the rest of the group.

(ASLA Newsletter, July-August 1987)

Colorado

Library Partnership for Marketing Improvements

The Denver Public Library has established a "partnership" with the University of Denver's Marketing Department. Through this partnership, graduate MBA students provide market research for the Library in areas that require data for crucial decision making. The research efforts are supervised by Marketing professor Dr. Bruce Hutton and students receive a classroom grade for the projects.

During the 1986-87 academic year, graduate students provided thorough study on the potential of research services for fees at the Denver Public Library, as well as a review of children's services and opportunities for growth. Both studies were excellent and students were dedicated to their work. (DPL new release)

An Author in Our Midst

Library Journal's June 15 issue featured a review of Colorado State Library employee Bill Coyle's recently published *Libraries in Prisons: a Blen-*

ding of Institutions. The review welcomed a new book on the subject, since "not much exists."

When asked in a recent interview to summarize his book's purpose, he answered quickly, "a prison library is a practical tool to be used by the inmates—that's it, capsulized!" Coyle believes that the State should be more aware of its own correctional goals and that prison libraries should be changed to facilitate changed behavior.

Bill Coyle is the Librarian at Canon City's Centennial maximum security facility. He has been employed there for two and one-half years and observed that the prison is the most well-run, controlled and stable institution with which he has been associated.

Released in April, 1987, *Libraries in Prisons* has sold 300 copies in the first three months. Generally a review in *Library Journal* doubles sales, so Bill Coyle is pleased. He has been invited to teach a weekend course at Kent State University's School of Library Science on Prison Librarianship in October. (Centennial State Libraries, August 1987.)

MARMOT Continues to Grow

Reports from the Three Rivers Regional Library Service System and the Pathfinder Library System show that MARMOT, their up and running automated library system, has pleased users. The Pathfinder Library System reports that MARMOT has approximately 1,000,000 bibliographic records online, and it has already proven an enormous boon for interlibrary loan.

Three Rivers notes that the online public access catalog allows anyone at a MARMOT terminal, or dialing in with a microcomputer and modem, to access the holdings of more than 100 libraries in Western Colorado—all the OCLC cataloging records of libraries in the three Western Colorado regional systems. In mid-summer the CARL (Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries) link was made—so that, through MARMOT, people can also access online the collections of six major library collections on the Front Range: University of Colorado, Boulder; University of Denver; Denver Public Library; Auraria Libraries; Colorado School of Mines; and the University of Northern Colorado. MARMOT is now a menu item on CARL, so it's a

two-way link. (Channel, August-September 1987 & Blazes, Vol. 8, Issue 2)

Technical Operations Center

Vern West, Associate Director of Technical Services for Jefferson County Public Library announced that a "fast-tracked" project plan is well underway to transform the vacant (former Red Barn) property in Wheat Ridge in to a pleasant, roomy Technical Operations Center.

The Technical Services Division provides technical support for the 9-branch Jefferson County Public Library System, from maintaining the computerized catalog, to ordering, processing and tracking all of the library's books and materials, and managing the internal and external mail.

West estimates that the move which will probably triple the department's working space, will probably be adequate for the next ten years of operation. (Jefferson County Public Library Calendar of Events, October 1987)

Kansas

Portrait of a System

(Catalyst, newsletter of the Kansas Library Network Board, is featuring a series on the seven library systems in Kansas. This one, number two in the series reprinted in part here, offers readers a description typical of other systems in Kansas and how they operate.)

It has the largest budget, the largest staff, and the largest membership.

One of seven regional systems in the state, the South Central Kansas Library System represents 130 school, public, academic and special libraries. Based in Hutchinson, the SCKLS was founded in 1969.

Despite its size, it is the flexibility of this organization and the strength of its membership that director Leroy Gattin and Assistant Director Paul Hawkins believe are the system's greatest assets.

Until recently, Gattin said, there has been an open-door policy on membership.

"Any library could become a system member and receive our services without cost," he said.

Because of uncertainty about fun-

ding, the system has imposed a moratorium on new membership until after statewide property reappraisal has been completed. Then, Gattin said, he expects the open-door policy to resume.

The open-door policy extends to school districts and academic libraries, to neighborhood, community and core libraries, and to special libraries, such as those at McConnell Air Force Base, the Kansas State Industrial Reformatory, and the Winfield State Hospital and Training Center.

Public, academic and school libraries are represented on the system's board, Hawkins said.

Gattin and Hawkins agreed that flexibility is especially important because of the diversity among the system's members—from the club library in Roxbury, visited every six weeks by the rotating book truck, to the Wichita State University Library, a major interlibrary loan center, and to the large school districts in Hutchinson and Buhler, which use the system's acquisition and processing department.

No matter what their size or status, each library is eligible for the system's free services. These include:

- Staff consulting and continuing education workshops
- Ordering, cataloguing, and processing of library materials
- Discounts of up to 40 percent on material purchased through the system
- Interlibrary loan programs
- Rotating book truck (for public and academic libraries) or bulk loan (for schools)
- Mail-A-Book and Dial-A-Book program for rural patrons
- Toll-free phone number
- Monthly newsletter

System consultants advise and assist libraries in areas such as children's programs. A children's summer reading program, with a common theme, is available to members.

Consulting also occurs in technology applications, building plans, and service to the physically handicapped.

In 1986, SCKLS made more than 100 consultant visits to member libraries and conducted eight major workshops, Gattin said.

This year, the system sponsored a week-long workshop providing training and software for 12 core librarians, a military librarian, and a correctional facility librarian to learn to use the PFS: First Choice Integrated System.

SCKLS also disburses grants to

member libraries for programs, equipment, and collection development.

Helping libraries use technology, Gattin said, is one of the system's most important roles.

System staff members are working to make the Kansas Union Catalog available to every member facility, bringing even the smallest library into the information age. (Catalyst, September 1987)

New Buildings in Kansas

St. Francis Public Library

St. Francis, Kansas, will soon have a new 4,000 square foot building, using a distinctive design which imparts dignity and honor. The building is a simple colonial design with an extended roof supported by white columns. Stone benches provide an outside reading area. The exterior is brick. Interior space allows for special videotape, microfilm and computer resource areas.

Sheridan County Library

Hoxie, Kansas is the location for the new Sheridan County Library, which has 3,888 square feet of floor space. This is 1,400 square feet more than the old library. The library averages 250 loans per day with a collection 16,000.

The building was funded using an LSCA grant, a City building fund, donation of land from the County, a large endowment from a former librarian, and considerable local dedication. This agricultural community of about 2,500 could not ask for any increase in taxes or donations from the community.

Hutch Public Stories at McDonald's

Librarians from Hutchinson Public Library helped a local McDonald's restaurant celebrate the "Muppet Baby" Happy Meals, featured nationally by the chain in July.

McDonald's local manager approached library staff about coming to his store twice a week, for four weeks, to entertain young children during the supper hour. Eight staff members volunteered and planned individual programs. Each program featured at least one story about the Muppet Babies.

McDonald's has helped the library often in the past with food and drink donations, such as during National

Library Week and the annual children's summer celebration. The library felt this was a good opportunity to pay McDonald's back for its generosity. (SCKLS Sun, August 1987)

Montana

POSSUM in the Shodair Library

There's a POSSUM in the library at Shodair Children's Hospital in Helena! Yes, of course. It's from Australia. It lives in a videodisc and the only thing it eats is memory (about 2 megabytes of the hard disk on an IBM XT).

Recently Shodair was one of 15 key genetics centers in the world asked to demonstrate and test this micro-computer and video disc-based system. Developed by geneticists at the Murdoch Institute for Research into Birth Defects in Melbourne, POSSUM (Pictures of Standard Syndromes and Undiagnosed Malformations) is designed to assist geneticists and pediatricians in diagnosing genetic syndromes in patients. It contains information on over 1000 published syndromes and 1200 patients in the database and provides over 18,000 illustrations on the videodisc.

A five-minute video/sound introduction provides an explanation of the system with instructions. Users are advised to select the most striking features of their patient for comparison against those in the database; with startling rapidity, the system provides a set of differential diagnosis and a choice of illustrations of cases representing different ages!

A pictorial atlas illustrates exactly how each item in POSSUM is used; a synonym file helps identify syndromes which are known by several different names. References to the literature are given for both standard and rare syndromes. Simple keystrokes move one around in the database and among the illustrations with remarkable ease; it is truly a user-friendly system and assumes no previous computer knowledge. (Library Focus, September 1987)

Historical/Genealogical Index Published

The Indexing Special Interest Group of MLA has recently published its Montana Historical and Genealogical Data

Index. This 65-page book lists several hundred completed and ongoing newspaper and vital records indexing projects throughout the state, and provides information about their availability to researchers. It is available for \$7.00. (Library Focus, September, 1987)

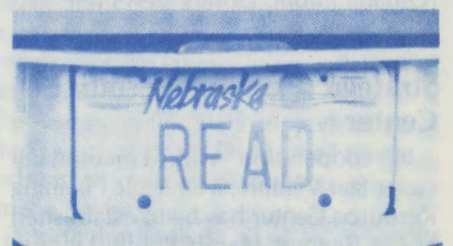
Beetles Under Rocks

Glenda Bell, past trustee and 1975 Montana Trustee of the Year Award winner who is presently District/Library Media Specialist with the Billings, Montana public schools, was the Trustee Section's speaker at the MPLA/NDLA/SDLA Tri-Conference in Bismarck.

Well known for humor, candor and unique style, Glenda Bell entertained and informed her audience with her presentation entitled "Beetles Under Rocks: An Inspirational for Visionaries." She states the gist of her talk as "No matter where we go in the mountains/plains, there are beetles under rocks, not only surviving, but thriving. If those little suckers can do it, we can, too!"

Bell delivered "concrete principles and solid ideas on how to become the best trustee facing into the wind in Beetle World. If the vision is strong enough, the mission will thrive, no matter how severe the conditions." (Flickertale, September, 1987)

Nebraska



Personalized Plates

Claire G. Hoover, librarian at Millard South High School, made a recent splurge on personalized Nebraska license plates, indicating that it seemed appropriate for a school librarian. Here are some variations on her license plate which carries the word "READ": IREADU, UREADC, IREADC UREAD2, UREAD1, YREAD1, IREAD2, IREAD!, UREAD?, YREAD READER, READ-MORE. (NLAQ Fall 1987)

Automation Document Released

The Nebraska Library Commission has just issued the Plans and Recommendations for Automated Systems and Services for the Nebraska Library Commission, prepared by RMG Consultants, Inc. The document addresses configurations for an online automated system for the Nebraska Union Catalog Database; conversion approaches for Nebraska libraries; budget estimates for automation and conversion; and system methodologies. (MPLA representative report)

Cox Cable Donates to Library

A television and VHS videocassette recorder were given to the Omaha Public Library by the Arts and Entertainment Network at a ceremony on August 3rd. The donation marked the beginning of a month-long campaign by Cox Cable to raise money for the Library.

A collection of books and tapes from the Arts and Entertainment's mini-series were donated at the same time.

In addition to procuring the gifts, Cox Cable is offering free installation for subscribers who donate \$10 to the Library. The donations represent Cox Cable's participation in the National Cable Television Library Program, a project designed to bring a video component to libraries' permanent collections. The National Cable Television Library Program was developed by Arts and Entertainment in cooperation with the American Library Association. (Omaha Public Library news release.)

Strategic Planning Resource Center

In cooperation with Lincoln/Lancaster Star Venture, a Strategic Planning Resource Center has been established at the Bennett Martin Public Library, Lincoln, NE.

The reference materials collected include documents, journals and reports identified by Strategic Planning Task Forces as selected tools for the strategic planning process as well as copies of Star Venture research data, summaries of Star Venture meetings and resource materials from other communities.

The collections cover such subjects as: economic development, job/business creation, agriculture economy, career opportunities for young adults,

the role of higher education in economic development, drugs and alcohol, community development, downtown redevelopment, as well as orderly and planned commercial development and related traffic issues. (News Release)

Nevada

Friends Fundraiser for UNR

Friends of the University of Nevada-Reno Library are turning their November annual meeting into a fundraiser. Tables of eight are being sold to businessmen and boardmembers for \$400 each. Tickets are \$50. Guest speaker is Peter Prichard, author of the just released book, *The Making of McPaper: the Inside Story of USA Today*. During the dinner a benefit drawing will be held for a complete set of 73 books published by the University of Nevada Press. The books, many of which are autographed, were donated to the Friends by the Press. Also during the dinner, two copies of the McPaper book will be auctioned. One is signed by about 25 people such as Walter Cronkite, Helen Thomas, Willard Scott, who attended USA Today's recent 5th birthday party; and the other is signed by Ronald Reagan. Friends members now number over 800.

(MPLA representative report)

North Dakota

Library to Double in Size

After ten years and a lot of hard work the shovels are finally at work on an expansion project that will more than double the size of the Veterans Memorial Public Library in Bismarck.

The \$3.9 million project will be completed in time to celebrate North Dakota's Centennial in 1989.

Voters twice turned down bond issues on the library, but eventually gave city officials the clout to do the job when they approved a 1-cent city sales tax.

The current commission, eager to get

those tax dollars and Bismarck residents to work, made library expansion a priority and pledged \$3.4 million to the project.

Meanwhile, city and county teamed up to raise \$500,000 in private funds to complete the job. (Flickertale, September, 1987)

ND Now in Newspaper Program

North Dakota will take its place among the ranks of states such as Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and New York and major repositories such as the Library of Congress, and the American Antiquarian Society, Western Reserve Historical Society, Rutgers University, as a member of the United States Newspaper Project. The USNP is an effort by the National Endowment for the Humanities to catalog and microfilm all United States newspapers and thus preserve a valuable resource for future research.

The National Endowment for the Humanities is providing matching funds of up to \$100,000 to the State Historical Society of North Dakota toward the needed \$300,000 to complete the microfilming of all North Dakota Newspapers. In addition to the matching funds, NEH also awarded an outright grant of \$105,809 to the State Historical Society for the newspaper project, of which approximately two-thirds of the outright grant funds will be used to catalog the state's collection of newspapers on OCLC. The State Historical Society has up to three years to raise the money that NEH will match, but Society staff hope to do it much sooner.

Over the past 120 years, more than 1,300 titles of newspapers have been published in North Dakota. Although many newspapers are already on microfilm Society staff estimate that 3,000,000 pages of North Dakota newspapers still need to be microfilmed. (The Good Stuff, August 1987)

Utah

State Library Names Director

Amy Owen, deputy director of the Utah State Library since 1981, has been

named director to replace Russell L. Davis, who recently retired.

"Ms. Owen has served with the agency for nearly 20 years and has demonstrated the utmost professionalism and expertise," said David W. Adams, Utah Department of Community and Economic Development.

He said he had received many unsolicited letters recommending the appointment.

Ms. Owen has a B.A. in humanities and a master's degree in library and information science from Brigham Young University. She served as president of the Utah Library Association in 1978 and is active in the Mountain Plains Library Association and the American Library Association. (Salt Lake Tribune, September 20, 1987)

Public and School Library Consolidation

Lawmakers have instructed state library officials to prepare a bill that would allow consolidation of public and school libraries.

State Library Board spokesman Amy Owen said several counties have expressed interest in combining their library systems as a cost-saving move. She recommended giving local governments the option to consolidate, a recommendation supported by House members on the interim Efficiency in Education Subcommittee. Owen also said any consolidations should keep taxing authority at the local level and would not add another layer of government. (Ogden Standard-Examiner, August 20, 1987)

Provo Use Fashion Design, Makeup to Raise Funds

Three national clothing, make-up and body design consultants will present a seminar with all proceeds going to benefit the new Provo Library. Fae Swinyard, Janet Ottesen and Dorothy Francis will present charisma wardrobe, body imagery, and the capsule concept of dressing.

The sponsor asks donations of \$10 or more for admission, with all proceeds to go to the new Provo Library.

The sponsor is Mary Kawakami with the Mary Kawakami School of Beauty. "The town and the library have done so much for us and we feel it is very important that we give our time and

energy to raise funds to build the library. It is a structure that will serve the people for decades to come," said Mrs. Kawakami.

Fund-raising efforts are still underway to build the new library. To date \$600,000 has been raised in the effort. Another \$400,000 must be raised by December 31 of this year. (Provo Daily Herald, August 13, 1987)

Chapman Branch Recognized by ALA

Salt Lake Public Library Chapman Branch, along with several other public libraries, was recognized by the ALA Young Adult Services Division (YASD) Youth Participation Committee for involving its young adults in the decision making process.

At the Chapman Branch, the Pit Crew reads and reviews books, helps in materials selections, develops displays, and advises Librarian Martha Spear on programs for young adults in the area. Their name is a reference to both their meeting site, a storytelling pit, and their locale: their branch is due east of the Bonneville Salt Flats. (Utah Libraries/News, May 1987)

Wyoming

Seven Libraries Receive Literacy Grants

Seven public libraries in Wyoming recently received notice that their national literacy grant proposals for Title VI Literacy Funds were accepted.

Washakie, Hot Springs, Converse, Carbon, Natrona, Johnson, and Sheridan County libraries will use the grant monies (\$72,934 total) to enhance literacy programs throughout the state. (The Outrider, July-August 1987)

Johnson County Library Get Grant

A \$250,000 grant from the state Farm Loan Board was made to construct a new Johnson County Library. The grant, made in July, will be used along with an allocation from the county budget, the optional one percent sales tax, the library's own building fund and LSCA money awarded last fiscal year. The total falls short of the library's goal

but Barbara Fraley, director, said the remainder might be raised from local sources. (The Outrider, September 1987)



Letter

September 23, 1987

Executive Committee
Mountain Plains Library Association
Annual Meeting
Bismarck, North Dakota

Dear Members of the Executive Committee and the Awards Committee:

I can not tell you how much the MPLA Legislative Leadership Award that I received last year means to me! It was a thrill to be chosen for such an honorable award and then to be flown out to the beautiful Colorado resort.

Legislators do their jobs for the good of the people of our states. Sometimes we make mistakes; and sometimes we do the right thing. When we make errors, our constituents always let us know. We rarely hear when we vote the right way, so you know how much I value this award.

Librarians are a very politically active group of people. You have lobbying skills and leadership that most organizations can only envy. By being so active and vocal, legislators and the people will know that you think certain issues are important to your profession and ultimately to the users of library materials. These skills are extremely important in this day and age of tight budgets and automation.

Thank you again for this beautiful plaque. I shall always cherish it and remember the fight for professionalism in the South Dakota State Library.

Most sincerely,
Mary B. Edelen
House of Representatives
South Dakota Legislature

ORDER FORM

National Library Card Campaign

The Best Gift You'll Ever Give Your Child...A Library Card

This fall the American Library Association and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science kick off a national campaign to put a public library card in the hand of every school child.

Order your materials now to promote library card registration in your community.

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Best Gift Campaign Kit - \$65 value 4 full-color posters, 200 bookmarks, Campaign Tip Sheet plus public service ad mat, radio psa and television spot	(300) \$53	x	_____
Best Gift Poster Kit - \$24 value 4 posters, 200 bookmarks, Campaign Tip Sheet plus print public service ad mat	(301) \$20	x	_____
To order individual items:			
Best Gift poster - 18" x 24"	(302) \$4	x	_____
Best Gift bookmarks - 2 1/2" x 6", 200 per pack	(303) \$6	x	_____
Campaign Tip Sheet plus public service ad mat	(304) \$2	x	_____
Public Service ad mat in Spanish	(305) \$1	x	_____
Radio public service announcement	(306) \$6	x	_____
Television spot - 1/4" videocassette	(307) \$35	x	_____
More ALA materials to promote library card sign up and library use			
"Leer Es Poder" ("Reading Is Power") Camera-ready sheets for a fotonovela promoting the library in Spanish.	(308) \$5	x	_____
1988 Library Publicity Book A wealth of easy-to-do promotional ideas for National Library Week and year round.	(309) \$4	x	_____
"Catch 'em In The Cradle" Camera-ready art for 12-page booklet of games, rhymes and other helpful hints for new parents to encourage baby's interest in reading.	(139) \$5	x	_____
"Head Start" brochure Color brochure featuring Sugar Ray Leonard and sons with tips for parents on how to raise a reader, reading aloud and more.	(119) 100/\$24	x	_____
"Learning Begins at Home" brochure Bill Cosby tells parents how to help their children learn and grow (four-color brochure).			
English	(64702L)	100/\$24	x _____ pks. _____ pks.
Spanish	(64710L)	100/\$24	x _____ pks. _____ pks.
ALA Booklists			
Guide parents and children to good reading.			
Newbery Medal Books	(56947N)	100/\$20	x _____ pks. _____ pks.
Caldecott Medal Books	(56939C)	100/\$20	x _____ pks. _____ pks.
Notable Children's Books	(56912N)	100/\$20	x _____ pks. _____ pks.
<input type="checkbox"/> For more great library promotion materials, see the <i>ALA Graphics Catalog</i> . Check here for a free copy.		Order \$	_____
		20% Organization Member discount	_____
		10% ALA Individual discount	_____
		TOTAL ORDER \$	_____

Check one:

- Check or money order enclosed. Payment must accompany orders of \$20 or less.
- Please bill me. A shipping and handling charge will be added.
- Charge to my credit card
MasterCard _____ Visa _____ American Express _____
Card # _____

Exp date _____ Signature _____
\$20 minimum for credit card orders.

- Library Rate (Allow 8 weeks delivery)
 - Send UPS (Allow 4 weeks delivery)
- Telephone orders are accepted on orders of \$20 or more.
Call toll-free 1-800-545-2433
1-800-545-2444 (Illinois)
1-800-545-2455 (Canada)
or 312/944-6780, ext. 378 or 235.

Return to:

ALA Graphics
Public Information Office
American Library Association
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

ALA Customer Number (if known) _____

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

MPLA Welcomes These New Members



Yolanda Flores, Charleston Heights Branch, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District
Carol A. Hustuft, Concordia College Library, Moorhead, MN
Bev Oberly, McPherson (KS) Public Library
Jeanne B. Sadlik, Fargo, ND
Frank J. Swan, Uinta County Library System, Evanston, WY

About You

Dora Biblarz, Associate University Librarian for Collection Development at the Arizona State University Libraries, was awarded a Fulbright grant to lecture and study university libraries in France. She recently returned to Arizona after spending three months in France.

Ann Birney, previously Humanities Librarian at Farrell Library, Kansas State University, is the new Assistant Dean at the Emporia State University library school.

Ken Dowlin, previously Director of the Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, CO, is the new Director of the San Francisco Public Library.

Nelda Mohr has been promoted to Director of the Louisville (CO) Public Library.

Katherine Phenix, formerly circulation librarian at the Westminster Public Library, is now teaching at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

Raymond Riddle has resigned as Director of the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library.

Mary Sue Streeper, formerly Head of Technical Services at the Wyoming State Library, has moved to Chicago where she is Head of Cataloging at Loyola University.

October is Computer Learning Month

Check Out the Apple Library Users Group

"Help! I'm a librarian in a small school in Nebraska with a Macintosh Plus and I need help choosing software to meet my needs. The nearest computer store is several hundred miles away, and besides, they don't really understand the problems of my small library. Is there anyone out there who can help?"

"I'm a librarian at a university in the People's Republic of China and I want to catalog a collection of English language books on an Apple II+. Can anyone suggest software that might do the job?"

"I'm a media specialist for 15 small school libraries in Alaska and I have an Apple IIe. Has anyone used AppleWorks to produce a disk format shelf list and catalog?"

What do these three requests have in common? They are all from librarians who are using Apple computers to solve their information needs. The Apple Library Users Group (ALUG) was formed in 1981 as a forum for librarians, media specialists, and information professionals to share information with one another about their use of Apple computers. From a small beginning, this group has grown to nearly 9,000 members from around the world, including members from the People's Republic of China, San Quentin Prison, and the Library of Congress, as well as from school, public and university libraries, and corporations across the country. Their common bond is that they all work in libraries and they all use Apple computers.

The fantastic growth of this user group is largely due to the efforts of Monica Ertel, who was hired by Apple Computer six years ago to start their own automated library. At the time, Monica, a librarian by trade, had not even seen a microcomputer, let alone tried to automate library tasks with one! Her first step was to send out a call in local library newsletters for other librarians who would like to get together and share information. That's when ALUG was born. From the 35 responses she received, she put together a 6-page newsletter telling about her work at the Apple library and listing recent articles on using Apple computers in libraries. Today, that 6-page newsletter is now a thick, 70-page quarterly and the main method of communication of ALUG. It contains information on the latest products from Apple software and hardware reviews by members, an active question-and-answer column, and many articles about what members are doing with their Apple computers. In fact, the ALUG Newsletter received "The Best Newsletter from a Corporation" award by John Dvorak from InfoWorld.

In addition to the newsletter, ALUG also sponsors the Apple Library Template Exchange, a cooperative effort on the part of the members to share solutions to common problems in database and spreadsheet applications. The Template Exchange currently has over 200 templates for Apple Works, as well as about 50 PFS templates, DB Master, dBASE II, and assorted programs. Macintosh templates are also available through the Template Exchange.

Each year, the Apple Library Users Group has their annual meeting at the American Library Association Annual Conference. The meetings consist of an annual report on the year's activities of ALUG, a presentation from Apple management including a question-and-answer period, and discussion groups on such topics as software circulation, telecommunications, and computer literacy. This year, the meeting will be held in San Francisco on July 1.

Interested in joining? Membership in ALUG is free to any person involved in using Apple computers in libraries or for any kind of information management. For more information, write to the Apple Library Users Group, 10381 Bandle Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014, or call (408) 973-2552.

Carol White, from the University of Wyoming, has been named to the OCLC Cataloging Advisory Commission for a three-year term. She is representing the Bibliographic Center for Research.

Albert Winkler, an archivist in the Lee Library department of manuscripts and archives at Brigham Young University, recently received the Dale Morgan Award from the Utah State Historical Society for the best scholarly article published in 1986-87.

Continuing Education

Schedule of Future MPLA Joint Conferences

October 19-22, 1988.....Omaha
April 26-29, 1989.....Billings
May 2-5, 1990.....Salt Lake City
November 1991.....Phoenix
1992.....Wyoming
1993.....Colorado
1994.....Nevada
1995.....Open
1996.....Kansas

Date: November 13, 1987

Fundamental Computer Concepts in Library Automation

Location: Columbia, Missouri

Sponsor: University of Missouri-Columbia

Description: Library applications of computers, technology issues affecting libraries, terminology and concepts. No prior computer experience required; does not include any hands-on demonstration.

Cost: \$55

Credit: .6 CEU

Contact: Office of Conferences & Specialized Services, 344 Hearnes Building, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO 65211.

Dates: May 5-7, 1988

Intellectual Freedom Leadership Development Institute

Location: To be announced.

Sponsor: American Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee/Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Description: The institute is the major program initiative of the sponsors. It will acquaint participants with the "Library Bill of Rights" and its interpretations, as well as with key court decisions. A separate session will familiarize participants with the variety and extent of resources available when problems arise, and with how to make effective use of such support. The institute will also provide in-depth information on national-level pressure groups and other would-be censors - who they are, what their goals are, what their strategies and tactics are. Participants also will be provided with information on how to work with legislators, government officials and administrators to ensure a productive presentation of the intellectual freedom perspective. Finally, attendees will be taught how to plan a workshop program, gather the resources and conduct follow-up.

Participation: Participants will be chosen on the basis of applications submitted to the Office for Intellectual Freedom by December 15, 1987. Selection criteria includes a demonstrated commitment to intellectual freedom, geographic balance and representation of all types of libraries. Notification of selection will be made no later than February 1, 1988.

Expenses: Select participants will be required to pay their own expenses to and from the institute, but all institute-related expenses will be paid by the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Application forms may be obtained from the Office for Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

Dates: July 6 to August 8, 1988

15th Literature Study Tour

Sponsor: Fort Hays State University

Location: Britain and Ireland

Description: The settings for many classic and contemporary books will "come alive" as the group travels through the countryside of England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland. There will be seminars in several cities; visits to libraries, bookstores and museums; and opportunities to meet authors, illustrators, publishers and professional colleagues.

Information: Write Donna J. Harsh, Department of Education, Fort Hays

State University, 600 Park Street, Hays, KS 67601-4099.

Joblist

Deadline: November 15, 1987

Position: **Library Systems Development Coordinator**

Salary: \$20,022-\$24,027

Library: Nebraska Library Commission

Duties: Works for improvement of regional multitype library systems. Responsibilities include planning and evaluation of system services; liaison with system governing boards; promoting participation by libraries in the regional system.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS; minimum of three years experience, preferably including administration of a cooperative system, network, or consortium; commitment to multitype library development and resource sharing; and demonstrated planning and communication skills. Extensive travel is required.

Send resume and letter of application to Doreen Kuhlmann, Affirmative Action Officer, Nebraska Library Commission, 1420 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

AA/EEO employer.

Deadline: November 18, 1987

Position: **Director of Library**

Salary: Dependent upon qualifications.

Library: Fort Hays State University

Duties: Director reports to VP for Academic Affairs and oversees all facets of library operations, including budget and personnel. The university library is in the third year of a five year Title III grant, with an installed NOTIS integrated system. Director must be able to work with other institutions in the Kansas regents system in compiling an online catalog, and to build cooperative links with community colleges and regional public libraries.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS with additional advanced degree preferred. Administrative experience in academic libraries with evidence of increasing responsibilities.

Send letter of application, resume, and three letters of reference with telephone numbers to: Professor Gerry R. Cox, Chair, Library Search Committee, Office of Vice-President

for Academic Affairs, 600 Park Street, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS 67601. AA/EEO employer.

Deadline: December 15, 1987

Position: **Director, Nebraska Library Commission**

Salary: \$45,000-\$53,000

Duties: (Nebraska Statutes 51-404)

(1) Administer the work and activities of the Commission, (2) purchase books, periodicals and supplies for the Commission, (3) keep a catalog of all books, periodicals

and other library materials belonging to the Commission, (4) keep a record of all books and property added to the library of the Commission, and the cost thereof, (5) keep a record of all books, periodicals and other library materials loaned by the Commission and notify borrowers of the expiration period of the loan, and (6) to keep fiscal and other operations records in accordance with state regulations. Also: Budget and report for the agency; hire, supervise and delegate personnel; manage the service programs of the agency; apply computer knowledge and ability, new technology and trends to agency operations and offer computer leadership to the states libraries; work with other state governmental agencies for mutual benefit; assist all types of libraries on request; involve the Commission in state wide continuing education activities; and develop and implement a long range state wide plan for library service.

Submit letter of application, resume, names of two professional references and one personal reference to Commissioner Virginia Whelan, Chair, Search Committee, Box 2004, Hastings, NE 68901.

AA/EEO employer.

Deadline: December 31, 1987

Position: **Library Director**

Salary: \$50,432-\$63,040

Library: Johnson County, Kansas

Duties: County with library district population of 250,000 seeks an experienced individual to direct the operations of its rapidly growing public library system. Johnson County is primarily comprised of an affluent, highly educated, mobile citizenry desiring a multitude of informational/recreational services. With a staff of 160 employees and a five million, eight hundred thousand dollar budget, Johnson County operates a branch library system including a resource center and eight outreach libraries which provide a system-wide materials location service for patrons through an automated online union catalog and courier service. The library is currently involved in a building program to construct a 160,000 square foot central library to be opened in the early 1990's. The library's foremost objectives are to provide informational services for its patrons

in the form of directional and reference information and to provide special types of programming such as parent/child learning centers and special research work to the business community.

This position will be available in April-June 1988.

Qualifications: The successful Director must possess exceptional leadership/managerial skills with extensive executive level experience in administering a large public library system. In addition, this individual must be capable of working within the County's administrative structure, be successful in harmoniously working with legislators, special interest groups and patrons and have had success in major fund raising endeavors and in multiple facilities development and operation. A masters degree in library science from an accredited library school, public administration or a related degree is required.

Submit resume with complete salary history to Johnson County's Personnel Office, 100 E. Santa Fe, Suite #206, Olathe, KS 66061.

Deadline: January 15, 1988

Position: **Reference Librarian/Business**

Salary: \$20,000

Library: North Dakota State University

Duties: New position in landgrant university library serving 8500 undergraduate students, 1000 graduate students, and 700 faculty. Under the direction of the Head of Reference and the Collection Management Librarian, duties include general reference work in the Main Library, participation in an active library instruction program, online database searching, collection development in business and other fields as assigned, and liaison with the College of Business Administration.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS. Preferred reference and collection development experience in an academic or special library; experience with online database searching; degree or coursework in business; ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, and students.

Send letter of application, current resume, and three references with phone numbers to: Personnel Office, North Dakota State University, P.O. Box 5227, Fargo, ND 58105. EEO employer.

Statement of Publication

The **MPLA Newsletter** is published bi-monthly. Material of regional interest may be submitted to the Editor, Jim Dertien, Sioux Falls Public Library, 201 N. Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57102. Matters pertaining to individual or institutional membership, claims or orders for back issues should be sent to Joseph R. Edelen, Jr., MPLA Executive Secretary, c/o USD Library, Vermillion, South Dakota 57069. Correspondence on paid advertisements should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Jim Dertien, Sioux Falls Public Library, 201 N. Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57102.

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

Joblist & Classified Rates

There is no charge to MPLA personnel or institutional members for joblist or classified advertisements. Nonmembers pay \$1.25/line.

Subscription Rates

1 year.....	\$17.00
2 years.....	\$32.00
3 years.....	\$47.00

Copy Deadlines

MPLA representatives in each state are responsible for supplying the **Newsletter** with information to share throughout the region, but all librarians are invited to send in newsworthy items. To assure publication in any given issue, please submit copy by the dates indicated below to the Editor.

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

Printed by the
Broadcaster Press,
Vermillion, SD

ISSN 0145-6180



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

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

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MPLA OFFICERS

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Montana State Library
1515 East 6th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
406-444-3115

Vice-President: Jerry Kaup
Minot Public Library
Minot, ND 58701
701-852-1045

Secretary: Nora Van Burgh
Carper College Library
125 College Drive
Casper, WY 82601
307-268-2269

Past President: Duane Johnson
Kansas State Library
State Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612
913-296-3296

Executive Secretary: Joe Edelen
University of South Dakota Library
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-677-6082

**Editor:
(Ex-Officio)** Jim Dertien
Sioux Falls Public Library
201 North Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57102
605-339-7115

Parliamentarian: Elmer Bachenberg
University of Northern Colorado
Library
Greeley, CO 80639
303-351-1548

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Arizona: Don Riggs
Arizona State University Library
Tempe, AZ 85287
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Central Colorado Library System
3805 Marshall Street, #204
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Reno, NV 89557
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