



MPLA

NEWSLETTER

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Mountain Plains Library Association

ARIZONA COLORADO KANSAS MONTANA NEBRASKA NEVADA NORTH DAKOTA OKLAHOMA SOUTH DAKOTA UTAH WYOMING



Information Literacy: an agenda for the 90's

MPLA Newsletter

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by Mary Treacy Birmingham,
Director, Metronet
Minneapolis, Minnesota

"Information literacy" — The instinct is to begin with a debate on the appropriateness of the term; librarians have always had problems naming things, eras or ideas. We are learning the hard way, however, that, in spite of our precise

diction, there is massive misunderstanding of the role of librarians and libraries. It may be time to adopt the phrase and proceed to join the forces that are infusing those words with 21st Century power. It's probably more important just now to be more expansive than exact as we seek to define the skills and attitudes appropriate to the Information Age we are just beginning to understand in real terms.

First, information literacy is the province of no one library setting. It has become a common ground for school, public, academic and special librarians and their policy-making boards. Discussion is focussed not on institutional setting but on the learner — a learner who grazes through the library maze, who constantly needs and demands expanded skills, new resources and multiple options. Information literacy involves library and information professionals and decision-makers in interdependent relationships with each other that are at best challenging, at worst, threatening.

It is axiomatic that the rich get richer. They have money to put to work making more money. However, there is a more encompassing axiom: The more certain kinds of information matter, the more unequal society — life — becomes. — George F. Will.

Further, information literacy demands new partnerships between libraries and those who also serve the learning public — parents and teachers, community educators and churches, businesses, day care and literacy providers, and those who fund or otherwise support the institutions of learning.

Third, information literacy is inextricably linked with ethnic diversity. The concept offers a context for ongoing efforts not only to reach "cultural minorities" but to incorporate multiple cultures into an enhanced public understanding. In this effort librarians who truly understand information in the context of communicating a culture can add an essential dimension to what seems otherwise a honorable but surface enterprise. Information literacy incorporates not only the information but its human sources and users.

Information literacy is a means of personal and national empowerment in today's information rich environment....It is therefore, the next logical step in all current programs to combat illiteracy. After we teach people to read, we must teach them how to locate and use the information they need. — Patricia Senn Breivik

Finally, information literacy is a truly new concept, one that is just beginning to be understood by a broad constituency. It is not well defined because it is not yet defined. We are experiencing its definition.

Information literacy is related to changes in the schools — to resource-based learning, outcome based curriculum, emphasis on critical thinking skills and the reform of education. It is related to literacy, to an expansive definition of what it means to be literate in an information age. Information literacy is related also to lifelong learning, to independent learning, and the growing concern for informed public participation. Information literacy is, in fact, the totality of these concepts, an idea that incorporates, relates and informs its composite elements.

National Initiatives

The term, if not the concept, of information literacy emerged first at the national level. In fact, the assorted national initiatives actually gave shape, form and a name to an unexpressed public agenda. The first "official" use of the term appears in the report of a special commission appointed by the President of the American Library Association, a Commission that represented libraries, major policy-makers and the public.

Subsequently, the American Library Association report inspired a national invitational conference sponsored by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Services and the American Association of School Librarians. Again, that session involved some librarians but more representatives of the broader community. The April 1989 symposium produced an action agenda that has largely guided the subsequent spread of the information literacy momentum.

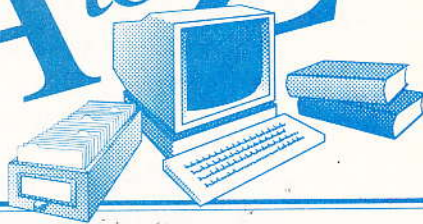
America will not disintegrate tomorrow if information literacy and resource-based learning continue to remain largely invisible to and unsupported by civic and educational leaders. No catastrophic event will strike next week or next month. But as the information overload increases, as information resources further fragment, and as the needs to access information globally grows, the ability of individuals and business to control their futures will be further eroded. The impact, as usual, will be felt most quickly and most deeply by those who are already socially, educationally, and economically disadvantaged. The gap between the haves and have nots will widen as a new information elite emerges. Ultimately, however, we will all suffer, because the social and economic drain of a large nonfunctioning group of citizens has and will increasingly exact a heavy toll upon everyone's standard of living and our democratic way of life. — Patricia Breivik

Since the NCLIS/AASL symposium information literacy, now better understood and better defined, has appeared on the agendas of various library and education organizations including the American Association of School Librarians,

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the Public Library Association and the Association of College and Research Libraries which has adopted the theme for its coming year's agenda. One of the major papers for the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services, written by Patricia Senn Breivik, treats of the topic. And there is a broad-based national Coalition on Information Literacy which meets quarterly in Washington and which continues to hammer definitions and strategies.

Closer to Home

Information literacy has been explored and examined in similar fashion in Minnesota. The Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) appropriately took the lead with programs at several conferences and articles on the dimensions of information literacy in virtually every issue of *Minnesota Media*. The groundwork had been laid by *Information Power*, the statewide learner outcomes and numerous program initiatives.

MLA and its sections have examined aspects of information literacy informally and formally and in print and at conferences. The multitype systems have also discussed and published and attempted to better understand the facets of information literacy. Academic librarians have looked beyond bibliographic instruction to the identification of skills and strategies necessary to meet changing students needs and information options.

Information Literacy is the "new" skill for the 1990's. It is a required skill. It is based upon the need to know and be anchored in the process of knowing. When put to work, the abilities that comprise Information Literacy attach the vagueness and discomfort that accompany uncertainty. Information Literacy helps people discover and manage opportunities. Knowing that this is so is Information Literacy ability number one.

— Charles Curran.

In February, 1991, an ad hoc group representing a broad constituency convened a regional symposium on information literacy. That event, sponsored by the Metro Educational-Cooperative Service Unit (ECSU), Metronet, the University of Minnesota Libraries and the Office of Library Development and Services, aimed to develop a regional strategy to address the national and state agenda. In his keynote address Harry Boyte of the Humphrey Institute tied information literacy to greater societal needs, warning that information literacy "holds radically contrasting possibilities. The concept," he suggested, "has danger as well as promise." The tension is between governance by the "expertsocracy" and citizen-led public action based not on information but on "public wisdom."

The implicitness of Information

Roger Sween has long postulated that the problem with information is its implicitness; its presence is subtle, assumed, and thus both powerful and unseen. Harry Boyte adds that "while information is a different kind of power resource, its power dimensions are also usually invisible."

This is at the root of some efforts to see information literacy in terms of such traditional — and important — functions as bibliographic instruction. Information literacy is not about tasks. In the words of Boyte, information literacy "needs to be seen not simply as making people literate about information and how to use it. Rather, it should be seen as those approaches which democratize the flow and use of information, open it up, make it much more accessible, demystify it. Above all, we need to improve our judgment about what sort of information we might need and why."

The implicitness of information literacy is manifest in a variety of challenges currently facing decision-makers in Minnesota. It is not institutions or buildings implied in contemporary judgments involving the "flow and use of information." Those challenges include:

- Complex issues surrounding school/public library cooperation and consolidation, issues ranging from small communities' efforts to combine facilities to the St. Paul Schools' decision that students can better use the public libraries.
- Access to online catalogs, community information services and new bibliographic tools that expand access but make new demands of users.
- Needs of adult learners in unprecedented settings — workplace programs, off-campus and distance learning efforts.
- Efforts to infuse multicultural concepts into the cultural mainstream.
- The struggle to determine what society really means by a culture that supports lifelong learning.
- Recognition of the ways in which libraries can address the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Cross disciplinary and cross-institutional efforts to understand the implications of resource-based education, outcome-based learning and whole language education.
- The challenge to craft wise selection policies in a time of fiscal restraints and purchase options diminished by publishing monopolies.
- Commitment to freedom of expression in a hostile environment.

Information literacy is needed to guarantee the survival of democratic institutions. All men are created equal but voters with information resources are in a position to make more intelligent decisions than citizens who are information illiterates. The application of information resources to the process of decision-making to fulfill civic responsibilities is a vital necessity. — Congressman Major Owens.

Action ideas:

A concerted effort on the part of librarians, library and school boards and administrators, Friends of the Library and the broader community of learning organizations could just make a difference. Some action ideas:

- Expand understanding of the role that information literacy plays in state initiatives that support outcome based education, resource-based learning and testing.
- Promote the concept of an expanded definition of literacy
- Emphasize that information literacy is at the core of multicultural understanding.
- Provide opportunities for communication among librarians in different settings to ensure an understanding of what skills are needed, how they are fostered, expectations and user needs.
- Develop partnerships and share the information literacy term and "ground" with partners — literacy providers, community educators, anyone concerned with critical thinking and lifelong habits of learning.
- Write and talk about information literacy as a concept — not with ourselves but with the broader community.
- Develop models that showcase information literacy as a lively process.

The challenge for information providers is much more multi-dimensional than it first appears. It is also more exciting. The task is not simply to make information accessible and teach people how to get it and use it. More broadly, the question is how people can learn skills and arts of common work, and this involves informatiproviders learning new ways to work themselves collaboratively with ordinary people—to stop seeing them as consumers or clients and rather to understand them as partners, as citizens. The heart of this is ultimately relational skills: listening, discussion, recognizing richness of other points of view, respecting value of experience, acting in a collaborative fashion, negotiating, bargaining, understanding power. — Harry Boyte, 1991.

The Challenge

The challenge to understand information literacy moves librarians, library resources and trustees from the periphery to the center. It demands time and energy, efforts not just to talk coordination but to "walk the walk" of collaboration, willingness to share the turf and to take risks. Information literacy is a powerful concept — necessary to public support of libraries and information services and a tenet at the very core of a productive workforce and a wise electorate.

Collectively, we need some "fire in the belly." We need to think of and promote information literacy as a powerful, even revolutionary, concept. It is to others. It is not to those who have always understood what information, librarians and information literacy are all about.

The informing process takes learning as its pivotal experience. Its objective is to achieve the value that can be added from learning in the situation. Informing assumes that making the organization more transparent will evoke valuable communal insight. From this perspective, learning is never complete, as new data, new events, or new contexts create opportunities for additional insight, improvement and innovation.

— Shoshana Zuboff, 1988.

(Reprinted courtesy of the author and the Minnesota Library Association from the June 1991 *Newsletter of the Minnesota Library Association*.)

More about information literacy

ALA preconference — "From library skills to information literacy" - sponsored by AASL. June 27-28, 1991.

"Information literacy, ethnic diversity and leadership" Keynote address by Dr. Mary Lenox, MEMO Ruth Ersted Conference, October 3-5, 1991

Journal of Secondary School Principals, May 1991 issue devoted to information literacy.

National Forum on Information Literacy, chaired by Patricia Senn Breivik, Towson State University, Towson, MD

Report of the Symposium on Information Literacy sponsored by Metro ECSU, Metronet, University of Minnesota

Libraries and the Office of Library Development and Services. Summer 1991.

Association of College and Research Libraries 1991 theme.

Bibliography (follows on next page)



1991 Kaleidoscope

asla /mpla /aema • phoenix, az

Over 100 programs will be offered in interest strands that will meet the varied needs of librarians in every library, every state. Strands include Information Literacy, Technology, Leadership, Preservation, Diversity, and Resource Sharing. More than one hundred exhibitors will be present, too, with an array of new products and resources on display. Your personal and professional growth are a high priority in providing quality library service for your patrons. We look forward to seeing all of you during the conference. Make plans today to attend KALEIDOSCOPE.

BUILD YOUR OWN COMPUTER? YES, YOU CAN! • THE ART OF NEGOTIATION • WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER • INFORMATION LITERACY, TECHNOLOGIES, AND INDEPENDENT LEARNERS: NEW SPACES, NEW PLACES, NEW FACES • SERVING THE MULTI-ETHNOCULTURAL COMMUNITY • "DO-IT-YOURSELF" COMPUTER REPAIR • ABRIDGED 12 AND DDC 20 • SEEING WITH THE INNER EYE: SHARING LITERATURE EVOKING HEIGHTENED SENSITIVITY AND INSIGHT • MULTI-TYPE PARTNERSHIPS • UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING STRESS AND ANGER • COLLECTION ASSESSMENT IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES • CURRENT REVIEW OF CZECH LIBRARIES • WHAT ARE THE PIECES OF THE TECHNOLOGY PUZZLE THAT CAN CHANGE PUBLIC EDUCATION? • ISSUES OF QUALITY CONTROL IN SHARED CATALOGING DATABASES • ASLA/MPLA RESEARCH FORUM • RETROSPECTIVE CONVERSION OF LIBRARY RECORDS • WHAT'S NEW IN 1990 CENSUS DATA PRODUCTS • AIDS INFORMATION IN LIBRARIES • PROVIDING WHOLE LANGUAGE LEARNING CENTERS FOR YOUR READERS • BEYOND BOOK REPORTS: THE MULTIMEDIA RESPONSE! • BARE ESSENTIALS OF PLANNING • SMALL PRESSES • NETWORKING AND MENTORING • DIVERSITY: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES • ESTABLISHING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS • DISCUSSION ON EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS IN LIBRARIES • TO SEE OURSELVES AS OTHERS SEE US: LIBRARIES AND PERSONAL PR • GRASSROOTS NETWORKING • BUILDING CONFIDENCE AS A LEADER • • ONLINE CATALOGS: THE FORGOTTEN PART OF INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEMS • and much, much more!

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From our leader . . .

How Do You Get to Arizona Via Scotland?

Scotland... It was a trip that I have dreamed of since I was nine, the year that I read about the gathering of the clan - the Highland games at Barmar!. The sweet smell of heather drifting through the air on a fall morning as the Highlander's bagpipes give the call "Scotland Forever!"

It is with that same stirring of my soul that I give the annual call for our clan to gather at the Mountain Plains Library Association 1991 Conference. It is unlike any other annual conference. Librarians who personify the heart of the West from the Missouri to the Columbia Rivers and from the Canadian to the Mexican Borders will gather in the shadow of the Superstition Mountains in a place called the Valley of the Sun - Phoenix, Arizona - for the largest clan gathering in our history. Exceptional! That's the only way to describe KALEIDOSCOPE, the 1991 tri-conference we will be attending from October 31 to November 2. This exciting event promises to expand upon Arizona's reputation for excellent joint conferences and will bring colleagues from the mountain plains states to Arizona for the first time. The sharing of experiences of this historic number of professionals gathered together in Phoenix will be powerful. Some of the highlights of the over 130 programs include:

- Preconference where you can build your own computer
- Southwest Authors' Reception
- Largest exhibit in the history of MPLA
- Halloween Gala like you have never seen before
- Lillian Gerhardt, Editor of *School Library Journal*
- Nora Rawlinson, Editor of *Library Journal*
- Linda Crismond, Executive Director of ALA
- Major authors including Trinka Noble and Gary Paulsen

The Phoenix area during November is a delightful bit of heaven for the gathering of our clan with an average daytime temperature of 72 degrees.

Make your plans today to attend KALEIDOSCOPE!

J. Dennis Day, President

MPLA News



Professional Development Grants

During the April MPLA Board Meeting, several changes were approved for the Professional Development Grants Program. The Board approved eliminating the "international grant" category but NOT the "opportunity" for a professional development grant for a program requiring travel outside the United States. Briefly, the Committee will consider requests for a professional development grant program outside the U. S. along with other regular grants. However, since an International grant was already approved for 1991, the Committee has no options for awarding another during this calendar year.

The Board also approved the proposed changes in the Committee's section of the MPLA Manual of Procedures, the application form, and the evaluative report. The Board approved immediate implementation for all three, so all previous forms should be discarded. The new

application form focuses more on the proposed project, its objectives, and benefits to MPLA, and less on the applicant's educational background and experience. The revised evaluative report more closely parallels the application form in reporting on the project's completion, fulfillment of objectives, and quality of the experience.

An additional change is that applicants will be required to submit sufficient copies of both the application and subsequent evaluative report for review by the Committee. That number is specified on the application form, as it changes with the composition of the Committee.

The Committee has conference calls/meetings scheduled for the following dates, with deadlines indicated for submitting applications and evaluative reports: Deadline is July 19, 1991, for the conference call on

Wednesday, July 31, 1991, 9:00 AM; Deadline is September 13, 1991, for the conference call on Wednesday, September 25, 1991, 9:00 AM; Deadline is October 18, 1991, for the Committee meeting scheduled during the Tri-Conference in Phoenix on Friday, November 1, 1991, 7:30 AM, Convention Center.

Applications for MPLA professional development grants should be requested from the MPLA Executive Secretary, Joe Edelen, 605-677-8082. If you have specific questions regarding the grants or the program, contact the Committee Chair, Doug Hindmarsh, 801-466-5888.

Applications Open for 1991-1992 B & T/ NMRT Grassroots Grant Award

Library science students have the opportunity to experience the educational benefits of the Mountain Plains Library Association through participation in the Baker & Taylor Books / NMRT Grassroots Grants program for 1991-1992.

The program offers one \$250 scholarship to a library science student to be used for attending the Mountain Plains Library Association annual conference, which will be held in Phoenix Arizona on October 31-November 2, 1991. To qualify, students must be members of the Mountain Plains Library Association and also of New Members Round Table. Winners will be selected on the basis of professional promise and leadership ability.

Baker & Taylor Books and the New Members Round Table of the American Library Association have offered Grassroots to each state and the District of Columbia since 1978 to defray travel and housing costs for students attending library conventions. Any remaining money can be used for the student's education.

If you would like to apply for the Grassroots Grant, contact:

Mary Sand, Chair
B & T Grassroots Grant Award
Nursing Resource Lab
Box 8195, University Station

Grand Forks, ND 58202-8195
701-777-4502

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS AUG. 1, 1991

MPLA Board Action

At its April 13 meeting, the MPLA Executive Board took action on the following:

- MPLA will return to Arizona in the year 2001. (It is hoped this could be an international conference.)
- The Board accepted the recommendation of Jerry Kaup to continue to use cash basis accounting rather than switch to an accrual accounting system. \$854 was added to the 1991 budget of the Professional Development Grants Committee.
- The Professional Development Grants committee modified its application form and procedures, which were accepted. International Grants for \$1000 were removed as a special funding category. These grants may still be given, but in the amount of \$600.
- A motion to join the Arizona State Library Association in funding a literacy award by adding \$500 to the award was defeated.
- The Board gave a non-monetary endorsement to the May Hill Arbutnot Honor Lectureship.
- The Public Relations committee reported 500 MPLA pins have been ordered and will be on sale at the Phoenix conference.

Continuing Education Survey

The CE committee continues to work on the compilation of a CE Resource Directory. In mid-March a survey to all MPLA members was sent with the MPLA Newsletter. The deadline for completion of the survey has passed, but the committee indicates it will still accept surveys. Help further MPLA's support for continuing education by including information about your continuing education resources and capabilities.

Professional Development Assistance

Association members are encouraged to apply for grants, mini-grants, and international grants, all of which may be used for the following: formal college or university classroom work, independent study programs, attendance at workshops, conferences or seminars, or participation in any other activity that will benefit libraries and the library community in our region.

For more information see your Membership Information brochure or write: Joseph R. Edelen, Jr., MPLA Executive Secretary, c/o I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069. 605/677-6082. **Current application deadlines: July 19 – September 13 – October 18**

Library of Congress American Memory Prototype

The following libraries in the MPLA region have been selected to participate in the nationwide evaluation of the Library of Congress American Memory project: Arizona State University University Libraries; Bismarck (ND) Public Schools; Oklahoma Department of Libraries; Reed High School Library, Sparks, NV; Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library, Pagosa Springs, CO; Sioux Falls (SD) Public Library; University of Colorado at Boulder; University of Montana, Missoula; and the Yuma (AZ) School

District No. One.

A total of 37 sites were selected to test an experimental package of computers and optical disks. The computer system will allow access to collections from the Library of Congress that pertain to American history and culture. The program uses optical disk technology to store electronic copies of archival photographs, manuscripts, music, motion pictures, books and sound recordings.

The evaluation of the project's prototype will be done by Library of Congress staff.



Unique Delegates

As a delegate to the White House Conference Arizona's Julie Kimball will undertake a coast-to-coast fundraising walk for literacy, the Julie Kimball Student Education Fund, with support from the National Literacy Volunteers of America. Kimball, former owner of a janitorial company employing 125 people, spends her time speaking to business owners and managers about the costs of illiteracy among their workers. Kimball learned how to read at age 42. For details on her walk itinerary call 542/277-8712.

She began her trek in San Diego, Saturday, April 20, and plans to finish it in Washington, DC at the time of the Third Annual Adult Student Conference, September 7-9, 1991. She had reached Phoenix by May 2. In July, Kimball will take a five day break from her walk to be one of Arizona's delegates to the White House Conference.

People who wish to contribute to Kimball's campaign can send donations to: Julie Kimball Student Education Fund/LVA, 5795 Widewaters Parkway, Syracuse, NY 13214-1846.

Ivan Sidney will attend two White House conferences this summer. In addition to representing Arizona at WHCLIS, he is a delegate for the August White House Conference on Indian Education. He sees the two activities having a common purpose. Sidney considers strong libraries to be an absolute necessity for reservations and other rural areas. (Library Hotline 4/15/91)

Transborder Library Forum/Foro Binacional de Bibliotecas

The first annual Transborder Library Forum/

Foro Binacional de Bibliotecas was held in Rio Rico, Arizona February 1-2, 1991. Cosponsored by the Arizona State Library Association and the Asociacion Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, the goal was to create an atmosphere for networking and information-sharing among library professionals and staff from the U.S. and Mexico. Nearly 150 individuals attend the conference with the majority of participants from Mexico. U.S. attendees came from Colorado, Utah, California, Illinois, Texas, and Arizona. Dennis Day, MPLA President, represented our organization.

This conference was the outcome of efforts, begun several years earlier with the appointment of Helen Maul, Director of the Nogales (Arizona)/Santa Cruz County Public Library, to the Mexican/American Commission on Cultural Cooperation and the formation of International Librarianship Roundtable as an official roundtable of ALSA in 1988.

Conference planning provided for a table talk/discussion format for this conference to allow attendees a chance to get to know each other and share experiences and expertise. Bilingual translation services were available at all discussions and general sessions. Table talk topics ranged from cataloging, database management applications, and friends of library groups to strategic planning, preservation, and international librarianship.

The latter discussion group formed the nucleus of a working committee to address the recommendations made by the Mexican/American Commission on Cultural Affairs when it held a meeting in Mexico City in June of 1990. Three general areas were established: human resources, materials resources, and

library and information services with specific areas of concern under each of these categories. Once Mexican librarian and one U.S. librarian volunteered to look into each area and develop a plan of action to be reported at the April 12, 1991 ALSA MidCon meeting in Phoenix. Work toward a resolution of each concern will proceed and an update presented at the next Forum, to be held in 1992 in Hermosillo, Mexico.

The following committees were formed:

- I. Human Resources
 - A. Exchange professional training and professors
 - B. Strengthen relationships between professional organizations
 - C. Increase scholarships for Mexicans to study in the U.S.
 - D. Exchange invitations to meetings
 - E. Exchange educational videotapes on library sciences
 - F. Use the sister city program to strengthen ties
- II. Materials Resources
 - A. Increase access to computers for libraries
 - B. Compile information on available Mexican databases including CD-ROM
 - C. Look into differences in serial prices by country
 - D. Promote the exchange of software & application systems in libraries
 - E. Expand access to governmental publications
- III. Library and Information Services
 - A. Exchange personnel
 - B. Expand and improve the joint interlibrary loan project
 - C. Provide information about Mexican and U.S. public services and publications
 - D. Expand the exchange and donation of library publications
 - E. Increase cooperation between the Library of Congress, the Mexican National Library and the National Libraries of Central America.

Anyone interested in participating on any of these committees should contact: Patricia A. Auflick, Chair, International Librarianship Roundtable (ILRT), Rural Health Office, 3131 E. 2nd St., Tucson, AZ 85716. 602/626-7946.

Visitor Impact Survey

Were you comfortable? Was the building clean and well maintained? Could you even find the library? Phoenix Public Library sought answers to questions like these during its recently completed Visitor Impact Survey.

Budget and time constraints may cause libraries to turn a blind eye to peeling paint, frayed carpets, and fading signs. A Visitor Impact Survey can provide support for library budget requests and enable libraries to make the best use of available space and resources.

To conduct the survey, a committee of Phoenix Public Library staff contacted twenty Phoenix citizens asking for their help. Half of the participants represented a cross-section of general library users male, female, community leaders, young parents, retirees, business people, etc. The other half were recruited because of their specialized knowledge of space planning, graphics, interior design and merchandising techniques. All were enthusiastic and articulate.

Each team of four volunteers visited two branch libraries. They filled out survey forms with questions about such things as landscaping, maintenance, and lighting. After a debriefing with participants, the library committee reviewed the surveys. Their objectives were to identify ways that branch libraries successfully provide an inviting atmosphere and to develop general recommendations for both individual branch and system-wide improvements.

This fresh perspective through the eyes of library users has been helpful on two levels. Phoenix Public Library branch staff now have a list of easy-to-do suggestions that can make a difference, such as placing wastebaskets in meeting rooms, eliminating clutter around service points, and labeling shelves more completely. Additionally, library administration has citizen input to help formulate longer-range plans for interior and exterior improvements. (ASLA Newsletter, April 1991)

University of Arizona Librarians Host High School Librarians

On April 29, a conference for university and Tucson area high school librarians was held at the University Main Library. Shelley Phipps, Acting University Librarian, welcomed the guests. The purpose was for high school librarians to learn about services the university library is able to provide for high school students, the sharing of information about the UA's freshman's library instruction program, and for the university librarians to hear about high school library programs and the responsibilities of school librarians. (ASLA Newsletter, June 1991)

New Main Library for Arapahoe

A new \$5 million library is in the future for Arapahoe County residents. On Saturday, May 18, at its 25th anniversary celebration, Arapahoe County officially broke the ground for its 43,000 sq. ft. main library in Littleton. Designed to be the District's flagship facility, the library will ultimately house over a million items, accommodate over 500,000 people annually and serve as the District's main reference and resource facility. The 5.8 acre site will accommodate the building, parking for 185 cars and sufficient area to eventually expand the facility to a maximum of 73,000 sq. ft. Expected completion date is mid-1992.

Twenty-five years ago the library started with one bookmobile, a driver/clerk, and one librarian/director. Today 147 staffers operate seven libraries, an extension service, summer public libraries at area elementary schools, and a contractual library at the county detention center. (News release)

Englewood First to Provide "Prodigy"

Imagine walking into your local library, sitting down at a computer terminal, and getting the latest weather forecast not only in your immediate area but across the nation...getting the latest statistics and standing of your favorite professional sports team...locating information in the on-line Mobil Travel Guide...checking the latest stock quotes and financial news...consulting Consumer Reports and Changing Times magazines on-line for the best purchase value for new products...picking a new recipe from an on-line cookbook...checking reviews of more than 25,000 films to help you decide what movie to rent...viewing some of the nearly 100 bulletin boards of specialized information...!

The Englewood Public Library, in cooperation with Prodigy Services Company, is pleased to announce the availability of the "Prodigy" on-line network for its patrons. The live demonstration version of the popular nationwide database lets people explore most of the numerous services available on "Prodigy" but prevents them from actually completing transactions such as ordering groceries, purchasing tickets, or transferring funds. Those services are available only to individually registered members of "Prodigy."

"By having Prodigy available for our patrons," says Library Director Hank Long, "the Englewood Public Library is breaking new ground in the area of providing information

through a public-private partnership. We are the first library in Colorado and one of the first in the nation to offer this service in this manner. We are excited and proud to have this opportunity."

For information contact Hank Long at the Englewood Public Library, 3400 South Elati Street, Englewood, CO 80110. 303/762-2560 (NEXUS, February 1991)

Englewood Public Offers "Colorado ON-LINE"

The Englewood Public Library is the first public library in the state to provide access to an electronic database with information on more than 140,000 Colorado businesses. Called *Colorado ON-LINE* and developed through the office of Lt. Governor Mike Callihan, the business directory provides information on Colorado products and services. It was funded by a grant from Digital Equipment Corporation with assistance from Mile-High Information Services, US West Direct, Conformation, Inc., and others. (NEXUS, March 1991)

Business Resource Center

The Aurora Public Library has opened its Business Resource Center. One purpose of the center is to provide a central location for business materials, on-line database searches, and meeting/teleconferencing services to the business community. A stronger service base for small business will also result, because of the library's membership in the Aurora Small Business Alliance, comprised of the Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Development office, and the Community College of Aurora. (Library Hotline, March 18)

Republican Gold, The Continuing Story

At their February meeting, the Rampart Library District voted to spend their \$5000.00 bonanza in Bush campaign funds from the American Bicentennial Presidential Inaugural Committee on children's books and programs. The board felt that this use of the money would be in keeping with Barbara Bush's interest in literacy and learning.

Two public libraries in Colorado, one in Woodland Park and one in Bailey, both Plains and Peaks members, were among 52 in the U.S. selected at random by the American Library Association, at the request of the Bicentennial Committee, to receive \$5000.00

"I've been spending money recklessly, but

it's so much fun!" reports Mary Hoganson from the Park County Library in Bailey. "The new additions (a log cabin for children's area; a television and VCR and a typewriter for public use, among other items), have really improved our little library—who knows I may even change my party affiliation!" Also Brad Bowles, storyteller will be giving a series of programs in Bailey, thanks to the unexpected gift. (Plain Speaking, April 1991)

Civic Center Cultural Complex Launched

The Denver Public Library is one of three institutions participating in a unique cooperative project. In May, the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation granted \$250,000 to launch the creation of a Civic Center Cultural Complex for the benefit of the Denver Public Library, Denver Art Museum, and Colorado Historical Society. The money will be used to fund the master plan for the proposed complex.

To be operated jointly for the benefit of the three organizations, the Complex is envisioned as an unique cultural and educational effort. The three institutions plan to share certain resources, facilities, and services. (News release)

Cowboy Poets Compose

At the foot of America's favorite mountain, Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs' natural beauty

remains a part of the romantic Western mystique. From the awe-inspiring wonder of the Gods, a natural red rock formation, to the rippling aspen leaves in the high country, the Pikes Peak area offers visitors the chance to relive the legend of the "Old West" with a fascinating blend of historical attractions and unique cultural opportunities.

Although it bears little resemblance to the small frontier town of the "Old West," Colorado Springs still boasts cowboys and their influence. Honoring that heritage, the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) will sponsor the second annual Great Pikes Peak Cowboy Poetry Gathering on August 2, 3, and 4, 1991. Monies raised through the gathering will be used to purchase materials for the district's Western Heritage collection.

Cowboy poetry gatherings have become the rage of the range with followers as dedicated as Bronco football fans. What better place to have a gathering of cowboys than in the heart of the "Old West"—Colorado Springs? As the site of the annual "Pikes Peak or Bust" rodeo and home to the ProRodeo Hall of Fame, visitors are drawn from around the country, all eager to experience history first-hand. The Great Pikes Peak Cowboy Poetry Gathering features authentic western events for the whole family, re-creating the western way of life in days gone by. (New release)

Fabulous Fifties

During April the Great Bend Public Library held its second adult reading program. Using the theme "Fabulous Fifties" we decorated the adult area using nearly five-hundred 45 rpm records, two vintage (full-size) automobiles and 50's memorabilia. The theme was carried into our annual Chamber of Commerce Coffee. Staff members dressed in fifties costumes and did the bop-around-the-clock to fifties music. Chamber members seemed to enjoy the atmosphere and the little cheeseburgers we served from our "Malt Shop". Every adult who recorded 1000 pages or more on their reading chart received a free personal pan pizza from the Pizza Huts and their name was put into a drawing for a chance to win a prize valued at over \$100.00. The finale to the program was a fifties style "Sock Hop" held in the city auditorium. A Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley look-a-like contest added to the fun. (CKLS Post, September-November 1990)

Information Architect Shares Experience

In order to keep pace with the dramatic technological changes, people need information to make fast and effective decisions. Early in April Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management sought the experience of a retired IBM employee to gain insights into the information needs of some of the world's top corporations.

John Zachman, an internationally known information manager and now an information architect consultant based in Los Angeles, recently retired from IBM, where he spent more than 25 years in the areas of information management and architecture.

SLIM professor Dr. Roger Greer said access to appropriate information is the key to the survival of this country because it affects decision making, particularly long term decision making. Information systems are needed at all levels of management from the elementary school library to the top of the corporate pyramid.



Kansas

"The Information Age implies that whoever has access, understands and exploits information will dominate the age. Access to information will provide the opportunity to manage change. We'll make better decisions and our ability to change things will be dramatically improved." Zachman said.

Zachman said in the information industry's 50-year history he has seen validation of Toffler's "Future Shock" concept that the rate of change is increasing exponentially. Dramatic evidence of Toffler's concept exists in market changes and product cycles both in the corporate environment as well as the public sector.

"That places stress on institutions because we can't cope with the changes if there isn't a well developed information theory to support an enterprise's structure and design," he said.

Information theory forms a basis on which enterprises can be designed and managed. Thus, Zachman designs information systems to match management roles and decision process within those roles. He said the challenge comes when several people use the same information base, and the system designer must determine how to structure the data base to support all those decision levels.

"That's why they must be architected," he said.

Greer said he and Zachman have ideas about information theory that are surprisingly consistent considering they come from two different worlds.

"His environment is the very complex world of the Fortune 500 companies and ours tends to be libraries, and even the largest of those don't match the complexity of an international corporation," Roger said.

Dr. Martha Hale, dean of SLIM, said Zachman's mission here was twofold. She said faculty members need to interact with people who can strengthen their thinking and bring in new ideas. Hale hopes to have Zachman return to SLIM on a regular basis to teach and participate in research. (News release)

Wallace Book Named Winner

A book about a boy's love for his horse has been selected by the state's children as the best children's book this year.

Beauty by Bill Wallace is the winner of the 1991 William Allen White Children's Book Award, according to Dr. Henry R. Stewart, director of the William Allen White Library and executive director of the White Award Program.

Beauty, which was published in 1988 by Holiday House in New York City, is the story of an eleven-year-old boy's love for a horse. The book also received the 1991 Sequoyah Children's Book Award (Oklahoma). (News release)

Oscar's Shorts

The fifth annual "A Preview of Oscar's Shorts" was held at the Wichita Public Library on March 17. The program included current Academy Award nominees in the Documentary Short Subject, Animated Short Film, and Live Action Short Film categories. The program gives area residents an opportunity to see non-feature films nominated for awards before the Oscar presentations. It was free and open to the public. (SCKLS Sun, March 1991)

Joint Staff Conference Day

Over 475 employees from the Johnson County Library, the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library and the Kansas City, Missouri Public Library spent the day together.

Staff members were treated to a keynote speech by Mr. Pat O'Brien, Director of Dallas Public Library. Mr. O'Brien's speech, titled "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?", focused on the future of library services.

A variety of nine break out sessions were planned to ensure that all employee interests would be covered. Topics included: "Job Burnout", "Presenting a Professional Image", "How to Be a Change Agent", "Communication Tips" and "Marketing Your Library." At noon, staff members enjoyed a catered lunch and the day ended with each system conducting its own staff recognition ceremonies.

Staff development days are not new to any of these libraries, but this was the first attempt to conduct a joint effort. All staff members, from custodians to Directors, were encouraged to meet and mingle with those in other systems who held similar jobs.

The Joint Staff Conference Day is just one of several recent cooperative efforts by these systems. The three systems have also developed a Metro Area Library Card and done joint National Library Week projects. (News release)



Montana

Five Year LaserCat Re-Con

(The Dawson County High School Media Center's newsletter, Media Musings, arrives in the MPLA mailbox each month. It typically contains information of primary value to the students and teachers at this Glendive high school, and we regret we usually do not find information in it to share with others. Yet, despite our failure to use its information we continue to receive it. This is important. It's arrival each month shows the librarian's sensitivity to our need for news, and a respect for the sharing process that makes MPLA work.

In the April 29 issue of Media Musings we found this information about their retrospective conversion experience that others may want to know about. Those considering the process may want to contact the DCHS Media Center, Box 701, Glendive, MT 59330.)

After nearly five years of work, the print collection of the DCHS Library is about 90% on the Western Library Network. This project would never have been completed without many hours of volunteer assistance. Our library has about 12,000 titles and each one had to be checked against the WLN master file for a match. There still is clean-up work to do and that will probably last through next year. New titles will be added and discards removed on a regular basis. The DCHS collection is now available on the LaserCat CD's. This project was funded almost completely by the Fred Meyer Trust Grant received by the library several years ago. The DCHS Media Center was one of only two libraries in the State to be so fortunate. The collection is now on MARC tape which means it is in a machine-readable format.

Patrons Adopt Magazines

Due to a 20% annual increase in its magazine subscription budget, the Livingston-Park County Public Library has asked patrons

to "adopt a magazine."

The appeal, done through a local newspaper ad listing the library's 120 magazine and nine newspaper subscriptions and the cost of each, generated a good response, according to library director June Phillips. As of March 1, the library had received more than 40 gifts. Phillips said the library plans to ask patrons every year to "adopt a magazine."

Law Library Publishes Guide

The State Law Library recently published *A Guide to Montana Legal Research*, written by Stephen Jordan, reference librarian.

The 100-page guide provides a foundation from which to begin researching Montana law. It includes chapters on Montana's state and federal courts, legislative and administrative law, uniform laws and interstate compacts, and computer-assisted legal research. The selling price is \$10.

Press Roundup

Girl Scouts told bedtime stories to young patrons at Whitehall's John Gregory Library.

The new \$32,000 Dynix system at the Flathead County Library in Kalispell will link up the library and its four branches via 31 computers. Patrons should be able to use it by this summer.

Liberty County Library in Chester is offering a special set of Chinese videos to patrons.

MSU engineering students built a special structure to hold donations to the "Million Dime" campaign at Bozeman Public Library.

The Twin Bridges Library has seen an 88% increase and a 22% city funding decrease during the past five years, according to a library fact sheet.

A new stuffed, sit-upon lion for story times will be just part of the bounty from the Dillon City Library's \$30,000 grant from the Steele-Reese Foundation.



Nebraska

Videotapes of Wilson Symposium

Videotapes of the Wilson Symposium on the Future of the Public Library, a conference held in Omaha in September, are available for loan through ILL at the Nebraska Library Commission. In addition the set of 12 videotapes is available for purchase for \$125.00 (includes shipping and handling). Orders must be prepaid. Make checks out to the Nebraska Library Commission. Send to Wilson Symposium Tapes, Nebraska Library Commission,

1420 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508. Please allow 6 weeks for delivery.

All tapes available in VHS format only.

"The Small library in the era of multiple transformations."

"Looking at rural libraries through rose-colored glasses."

"Planning for community change and the librarian's role."

"Future staffing requirements: some considerations."

"Delivering a master's degree to remote locations."

"Things that [i.e., need to] change."

"Community information and the public library."

"Technology through a wide angle lens."

"Cooperating to meet specialized needs."

"The Dynamics of specialized needs."

"Lots and lots of service."

"Facilitating an action agenda."

(NLC Communicator, April 12, 1991)

What Have You Done By April One?

In the final hours of the February 24-26 Nebraska Information Partnership Conference, the delegates were challenged to find a partner, exchange names and phone numbers and call that partner by April 1, to tell them what they had done as a result of the Conference. The Columbus delegates, inspired by this challenge, began planning on their way home from Omaha for the possibility of a Columbus Partnership. It was agreed that the six delegates that attended the conference from Columbus would meet to evaluate what we learned as a result of the conference and to consider the possibility of pursuing ways to share resources.

After positive feedback from that initial meeting, an additional eight information specialists in Columbus were invited to the next meeting. With the art work of Paul Hoffman before us, the conference delegates reviewed the events and ideas from the Nebraska Information Partnerships conference. We began by defining the word *partnership*. Ideas surfaced like *sum is greater than parts*, *strength through sharing*, *mutual fulfillment*, *interdependence*, and *constantly evolving*. The next step was small group discussions designed to examine our attitudes toward our new *partner* called *technology* and our understanding of the words *money*, *power*, *powerlessness*, and *empowerment*. The question was asked "Is this something that we want to pursue in Columbus?" The response was positive.

Another meeting was held to form a mission statement. We did a group exercise that helped us to examine where modern knowledge comes from, where it is taking us, and role of knowledge in empowerment. Small groups shaped ideas for a mission statement and the whole group combined them into one statement. The task was accomplished. The statement of mission is as follows: "In order to

more effectively and efficiently serve the current and future information needs of the people of the Columbus area, the Columbus Information Partnership is a coalition charged with facilitating partnerships for the sharing of resources, programs, and services."

Another meeting is scheduled for May 29. The agenda is to formulate some goals and objectives and to choose an acronym that describes our partnership. One of the Columbus delegates couldn't wait to phone his partner on April Fool's Day, so he called the day after the conference. No foolin', "Tho' April Fool is past, our partnership is cast!"

For more information about these meetings and other activities of the Columbus Information Partnership, call or write Betty Grant, 1653 27th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601, 402-564-2040. (Overtones, May 1991)

Training Delivered to Librarians by Satellite

The Nebraska Library Commission recently arranged with the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center to offer Basic Library Skills training by satellite. Three four-hour sessions were broadcast live from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in April. The sessions were a combination of lecture, discussion at local sites, and reporting to the larger group using a telephone bridge. Homework assignments were sent to the instructor and she graded them between sessions. Sessions were taped to allow those who had to miss a session to make it up. Public Services was the topic of the first class.

The next class, Selection/Collection Management, is scheduled for September 13, 20, and 27. (News release)

Nebraska Library Commission Receives Kellogg Grant

The Nebraska Library Commission has received a \$54,530 one-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to extend services of the Nebraska Education Information Center Network. The network builds partnerships between libraries and other community organizations, providing Nebraska citizens with career and educational planning services, small business assistance, and educational programs in public libraries. The network is based in six libraries across the state, one in each of the regional library systems. Twenty temporary, rotating centers in public libraries, school media centers, and college libraries, are located across the state. (Library Hotline 6/17/91)

Architect for Las Vegas Honored

The architect for the new, 112,000-square-foot Las Vegas Library & Discovery Museum is one of six winners selected as recipients of Awards for Excellence for Library Architecture, sponsored by the Library Administration and Management Association and the American Institute of Architects. The Las Vegas facility, designed by Antoine Predock, is built at the cultural heart of the city. The site serves as a public library, children's museum and reading center. The library provides an open, flexible design that gives special attention to acoustical treatment, separate spaces for people to escape the general activity levels and cultural activities for children. Administrative offices are housed in a five-story sandstone tower. The red sandstone and white concrete construction provides the library with a powerful image as "turquoise in a silver setting," according to the jury. (ALA news release)

Las Vegas-Clark County Seeks Additional Funding

The Las Vegas-Clark County Library is preparing to go to the voters with a second major bond issue package which totals eighty million dollars. The breakdown is for \$10,000,000 to go towards books and library material purchases to strengthen the library district resources, and \$70,000,000 towards seven new buildings. Stan Colton, President of PALS, Public Awareness on Libraries Services, says pre-polling surveys his group has conducted are indicating strong voter support and he believes the measure will pass. Las Vegas has a history of strong pro-library support. (MPLA representative report)

Building Reputations on Food

(A recent issue of the University of Nevada, Reno Library's staff publication, MEMO encourages departments to participate in food-related activities. Here's the article, should you need a good idea.)

The Library Staff Association officers are planning ahead for fund-raising luncheons and other activities. We hope you enjoyed the recent bagel salute to the Irish hosted by the Bibliographic Search and Circulation Departments. We are on the lookout for a few good departments/branches which are interested in serving as hosts for future LSA events. Which of the following seems to suite your group?

March* Green Bagel Luncheon (Hosted by Bib Search/Circ)

April Mad Hatter's Potluck (headwear required) (Hosted by Ref/ILL)
 May* Cinco de Mayo Mexican Luncheon (Hosted by Gov.Pubs.&Spec.Coll.)
 June* Health Food Junkie Luncheon
 July Staff Picnic (Hosted by LSA)
 August Luau Potluck
 September* An Afternoon Chocolate Obsession
 October* Oktoberfest (Hosted by Film Lib Learning Lab)
 November* Soup/Chili Kitchen (Hosted by Basque Studies)
 December Christmas Party (Hosted by Administration)

The event marked with a * are fund-raisers. Hosts for fund-raisers provide coffee, tea and/or other drinks and arrange for special food to fit the occasion. LSA provides paper supplies and utensils for all events and reimburses hosts for the cost of food if the event is not a potluck. We rely on the participation of all staff members to make the potlucks a success.

Statewide Electronic Bulletin Board

Nevada libraries can now call into an electronic bulletin board service over the state microwave network or by a direct telephone line from a PC with a modem. Federal-LSCA funds were used to cover the start up costs and demonstrate the utility of this service for all types of Nevada libraries. Some of the databases that have been loaded into the bulletin board deal with business and economics in Nevada, computer software, employment openings and opportunities, Nevada books and people, genealogy, records management, Nevada and US statistics. A sub-board for interlibrary lending messaging service is also in place. When combined with the fax network which will be operational on the network, two significant improvements to document delivery will be available statewide. (MPLA representative's report)

\$40,000 Dollar Gift For New Bookmobile

Lincoln County, a large and mostly rural area on the eastern border with Utah - with maybe 6,000 residents when everyone is home, got an unexpected surprise gift of \$40,000 from an anonymous donor. For several years the Bookmobile Committee has come up with a number of fund raising efforts to replace their old bookmobile. But up till now, none have brought in more than a \$1,000.00. Well this month, and to help mark National Library

Week, Lincoln County Library rolls out and puts on the road its brand new bookmobile! Shannon Hammond, a County Librarian sure wants to thank someone out there for such a generous gift for such a worthwhile service, and will now regularly reach residents across the whole country. (State representative report)

Transportation Research Center

The UNLV Transportation Research Center (TRC) was established in mid-1988 with the goal of developing a Nevada-based center for research and policy analysis to address

transportation issues at the local, tribal, regional and national levels. The TRC Library is a multiservice component of the Center.

The TRC Library location allows access to a wide range of professional journals, government documents and books that relate to transportation planning and research. The TRC Library office houses technical files that contain non-traditional library materials such as newspaper clippings, unpublished research and so on. (Communications From the Library, Spring 1991)

NDSU-UND Library Network Linked

An interface has now been developed and implemented between the MSUS/PALS network installation at North Dakota State University (NDSU) and the ODIN network academic libraries in North Dakota (plus the Fargo and Grand Forks public libraries and the State Library).

Anyone wishing to search the ODIN network, either from the NDSU Libraries or by their dial-up facilities, can simply type in "HOST ODIN" and continue to search using the same commands you would use to search the local database. NDSU and UND libraries are also linked by a once-a-day shuttle to provide document delivery service between the two libraries. (BiblioBits, Winter 90-91)

UND Designated Patent & Trademark Depository

Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota has been designated the 65th U.S. Patent and Trademark Depository Library. The UND collection will open for research by June 1 and will include information on patents granted from 1959 to the present. The Chester Fritz collection joins that of the Minneapolis Public Library as the two PTDLs in the Minnesota, North and South Dakota area.

3M contributed half of the \$160,000 needed to create the Chester Fritz PTDL. The collection's startup materials include 4000 reels of patents on microfilm and 20,000 pounds of patents in print. Many of the materials are housed in a special area of the Chester Fritz building addition while microforms and other materials will be kept in the Periodicals Department.

Odin At Work:Glenburn Public School

A group of ten high school seniors from Glenburn Public School (GPS) began a

program of independent study this month using ODIN - the Online Dakota Information Network. The program is the first application of the Academy Program — GPS's long-range plan of systematically introducing students to available research technology for purposes of independent study. The faculty and board at GPS believe that the school exists to provide a solid basic curriculum, while allowing students the opportunity to explore individual interests according to their capabilities. Their objective in designing the program was to provide students with the means to pursue areas of interest and need. ODIN - through the Higher Education Computer Network - is helping them meet this objective.

The Academy Program is provided for students headed for college and interested in learning valuable library skills and the latest in research techniques. At the outset of the program, students receive instruction in research technology, including the ODIN system. Using these techniques, students independently research two topics of their choice. During the course of the semester, they are required to complete a paper on each topic and give an oral presentation on the second paper. Oversight of the program is a joint effort of GPS faculty and Minot State University staff. Library Department provide technical assistance in operating the computer network. Circulation of library materials is monitored by the Glenburn school librarian.

The Academy Program is Glenburn's response to the rural schools' dilemma of meeting the individual needs of their students with limited resources. The program is designed to stimulate learning by advanced students as well as students with special needs. Hats off to Glenburn Public School for their innovative approach to education! (Flickertale, Jan-Feb 1991)



Minimum Salary Recommended

In December 1990, the OLA Executive Board accepted a recommendation that the minimum salary for an entry-level MLS librarian in a public library be established at \$22,000.

Any minimum salary level established by OLA is not binding on libraries. It is intended to be a minimum goal for administrators to strive toward or even surpass. Members of the OLA Public Library Division had examined comparable school salaries for beginning professional librarians and salary data from the country. (Oklahoma Librarian, January/February 1991)

American Indian Libraries

American Indian Libraries, the official publication of the American Indian Library Association, is now based at the University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies. Dr. Mary Lockett, assistant professor, and Dr. Lotsee Patterson, adjunct faculty, are co-editors. Published quarterly, the Newsletter reports Association activities, information on tribal libraries, and continuing education and employment opportunities. (Oklahoma Librarian, January/February 1991)

Booksale Grosses \$94,078

Friends of the Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City, were elated the evening of February 24 when their chair announced the fundraiser had grossed \$94,078. The amount tops proceeds from the prior year. The sale

offered in three days more than 100,000 books, magazines and audio cassettes at bargain prices. Approximately 600 volunteers worked in advance, organizing, sorting, and pricing stacks of donated books. The sale began years ago as a small event held in the basement of one of the system's libraries. It moved into the huge Made In Oklahoma building at the State Fairgrounds about five years ago. (Library Hotline, March 18)

Song in Support of Libraries Emerges From Oklahoma Conference:

The Oklahoma Library Association's annual conference took place in April. A song emerged during a workshop led by folksinger, songwriter Larry Long, who is known as an activist for people's rights. Librarians from throughout the state brainstormed, rhymed and twisted phrases until a set of lyrics was born. Long provided a melody. The song will be copyrighted, taped and included in an album. An excerpt follows: What would it be like if there were no libraries? What would it be like if we had no dreams to dream? What would it be like if we had no books to read? What would it be like if we only had TV? Give us books, give us wings. Give us songs we can sing. What would it be like if we had no new ideas? What would it be like if we had no heritage? What would it be like if we had no hope to give? What would it be like for the future of our kids? (Library Hotline 6/3/91)



Siouxland Automation Cooperative Formed

The Sioux Falls Public Library (SFPL) and the Minnehaha County Rural Public Library (MCRPL) announced creation of the Siouxland Automation Cooperative (SAC), an intergovernmental agreement providing for the sharing of automation services by the two libraries. This agreement gives MCRPL the opportunity to automate its library operations through sharing of computer hardware and Dynix, Inc. software used by SFPL.

MCRPL will begin loading its holdings and patron files later this year, with most of 1991 to be devoted to developing bibliographic files. In 1992 the County Library will put its bookmobile and branches on line and bring up public access in the headquarters library in Crooks and on the bookmobile. The bookmobile on line link will use the same radio link as used by the City's bookmobiles. (News release)

Media Section Receives ABC-CLIO Grant

The School Library Media Section of SDLA was awarded the ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant for a proposed continuing education opportunity to be offered all school librarians in South Dakota. Additional funding will come from the Staff Development Office of the S.D. Department of Education, the State Library, and the South Dakota Library Association. S.D. librarians will be able to earn 3 credit hours for a course to be taught by Michael Eisenberg, Associate Professor of Information Studies at Syracuse University. The course, "Curriculum Concerns for Library Media Specialists," will be taught as a combination of independent study, lecture and seminar, June 17-21, with follow-up at a pre-conference seminar at the S.D.L.A. conference in October. (MPLA representative report)

Chinese Materials Grant

The Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange has given Northern State University in Aberdeen a grant of \$30,000 to enhance library resources in

Chinese Studies. The grant will provide approximately \$10,000 each year for books, periodicals, reference materials, and audiovisual materials/equipment. (Media Mania, June 1991)

Marriott to Test Patent Access

The Marriott Library of the University of Utah was selected by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Department's Patent and Trademark Office to be one of 14 libraries in the nation to be a test site for access to the Automated Patent System. APS is a full-text on-line patent search system and will be available without cost for the first year of the project which is scheduled to begin in July. Marriott is already one of 69 Patent Depository Libraries. Dave Morrison, patents librarian in the document division, says the new system will help him continue to provide electronic patent information to industrial companies, patent attorneys, research firms, public schools, individual inventors, and the general public. (Directions for Utah Libraries, January 1991)

UCLC CD-ROM Union Catalog

A CD-ROM union catalog for members of the Utah College Library Council should be available early in the new year. This product will contain nearly 3,000,000 machine readable records of the 14 library member collections. The Brodart Company will produce the union catalog on a CD-ROM which utilizes its Le Pac software. This software can download records which can then be forwarded as interlibrary loan requests via a state library network. A secondary benefit of this CD-ROM catalog is its back-up feature as another public access for the several integrated college and university library systems. (Directions for Utah Libraries, January 1991)

MARC News for Library Media Teachers

School library media teachers in Utah will soon have an economical way to create MARC records for their collections. Through a Utah State Office of Education Productivity Grant, the Salt Lake City School District is creating a school library media MARC data base. The intent of this grant is to provide an inexpensive means for allowing districts to create their own MARC records so that the work of developing a machine readable database will not have to be repeated in the future. Provo District is adding the MARC records of their school library media centers and Granite District is contributing

records for the video holdings of the Utah Film & Video Consortium.

These records will be compiled on a CD and made available, at no cost, to each school district in the state by July 1, 1991. The software is included in the package. (Directions for Utah Libraries, January 1991)

Earthquake Preparedness

Salt Lake County Library System is doing its part to help County residents become better prepared for any natural disaster, particularly since the Wasatch Front has a 20 percent change of an earthquake within the next fifty years. Earthquake preparedness programs, maps, books, pamphlets and a video cassette on earthquake preparedness are all available within the system. Each County library has a large map on display that shows fault lines and degrees of liquefaction intensity. (WordsWorth, Winter 1990/1991)

Consumer Connection Center

On May 9th, Utah governor, Norman H. Bangerter, announced the formation of a new consumer information campaign to get useful and often critical information into the hands of Utahns. The Salt Lake City Public Library's Main Library is the first site in the state to have a Consumer Connection Center.

Governor Bangerter, David Buehler, Director of the State Department of Commerce, and Richard Kieffer, Chief Executive Officer of First Interstate Bank of Utah unveiled the new service at a press conference held on the first floor of the Main Library on Thursday, May 9.

The service is a joint venture of the Department of Commerce and First Interstate Bank. First Interstate is providing necessary funds to produce all 50 of the information centers which will be placed in city libraries, business offices, city halls and chambers of commerce throughout the state.

The information included in the centers includes brochures and booklets on subjects ranging from telephone fraud, real estate information, and a list of consumer agencies to the "Operating a Business in Utah Guide" which provides business people with essential information on starting, expanding and

operating a business in Utah.

"The goal of this program is to get important consumer and business information into the hands of all Utahns," stated Governor Bangerter. "The best way to fight fraud, unprofessional conduct, and deceptive business practices is to arm people with information to help them become wise consumers. In the same fashion, the best way to encourage that our business people are able to meet state requirements and operate their businesses efficiently is to provide them with information on what they need to do." (News release)

Brigham Young Library School to Close

After a faculty review committee report and a unanimous vote by the trustees of Brigham Young University, the administration of BYU's library school was notified on May 13 that the school will accept its last class for the fall 1991 semester and close effective with the end of classes in April 1993. Although as a private institution, BYU did not release its reasons administrators released a long-range mission statement saying that its focus is on being an undergraduate teaching university with

selective graduate schools. The university has put a cap on faculty and student body size. Current enrollment is 27,000 so to make room for growth under the cap, something had to go. A final factor, which everyone agrees made the library school vulnerable, is that within the next two years, four of the seven full-time faculty members are due to retire. Nathan Smith, BYU School of Library and Information Sciences director, sums up the reason for the closing in one word, "Money." Amy Owen, Utah's state librarian said, "It's a blow to lose an accredited program, particularly with the dearth of library education opportunities in the intermountain states." She is working on salvaging some opportunity for professional education, which may involve teleconference or remote site programs run by other schools, or a program in a state university, but she calls it a "cloudy future" at the moment. Dennis Day, director of the Salt Lake City Public Library says it's a difficult position to be in, but he is confident that the state library, library association, and the professional community will accept the unique challenge to reach a creative solution. (Library Hotline, May 20)

Wyoming

LC Databases Available

On line access to the Library of Congress bibliographic databases will be available to the nation's state library agencies for a two year trial period beginning January 15. The State Library should have access to the database in April. LC Direct is a sophisticated on line electronic searching and cataloging reference tool according to Beth Rulli, government information services program manager. The service will provide access to bibliographic, subject and name authority records, in addition to records summarizing current federal legislation.

While service is currently available to state libraries and library commissions, Rulli said she hopes to expand dissemination of the information through shared authority access with the University, community colleges and eventually the county libraries.

LC Director provides for unlimited searching of Library of Congress files, in depth training user documentation and user support. (Outrider, January 1991)

Libraries Receive Inauguration Dollars

It wasn't a call from Ed McMahon,

Publisher's Clearing House or the Reader's Digest, but it was close to it for two Wyoming libraries. Platte and Niobrara Counties received phone calls in November which resulted in checks for \$5000 a piece from the American Bicentennial Presidential Inauguration Committee.

The caller was Bobby Holt who, along with Penne Percy Korth, chaired the inauguration committee which produced the ceremony for President George Bush.

When a surplus of funds existed after the ceremonies, they were given to libraries across the country at the request of Mrs. Barbara Bush. Two libraries were selected from each state.

Jeannie Mitchell, director of the Platte County library, said she plans to use the money for highly visible things and may include the library's literacy program efforts, framed prints for the branches which appeal to young readers and possibly a video monitor for the Guernsey branch.

Niobrara county has tentative plans to use the check for seed money toward the cost of providing handicapped-access. (Outrider, January 1991)

Wyoming Centennial Imprints

MPLA member Jean Johnson, at the University of Wyoming Libraries, has published *Wyoming Centennial Imprints: a Bibliography*. It was a special publication commemorating the millionth volume added to UW Libraries. The preliminary bibliography lists books with a Wyoming connection published in 1989 and 1990. The bibliography is arranged according to Wyoming books of a general nature; books of fiction and poetry by Wyoming authors and materials on counties and Yellowstone National Park.

State Library Enters New Era of State Government

It's a new era in Wyoming State Government. On April 1, 1991 a new Department of Administration and Information (A&I) officially came into being.

In the first sweeping reorganization of state government ever done in Wyoming, 79 executive branch agencies are being systematically clustered into cabinet-level principal agencies were recommended and in the first two years of the process eight were created: Audit, Commerce, Employment, Administration and Information, Health, Family Services, Revenue and Transportation.

Several options were considered for the placement of the State Library, but its final location with Administration and Information was based on the compatibility in areas of information dissemination and service. Suzanne LeBarron, state librarian sat on the task force which created the plan for the reorganization of A&I, programs and functions.

Within the new department of A&I, headed by Phil Kiner, are eight divisions including the State Library. The others include: budget division, computer technology, economic analysis, personnel management, procurement services, telecommunications, and facilities management.

This is a real change for the State Library, one of the few agencies which has been in continuous service since Territorial days. The State Library was created on December 16, 1871 by the second Territorial Legislature primarily as a law and documents depository.

Only the positions of treasurer, auditor and three commissioners of the penitentiary preceded the Territorial Librarian. Six years later the territorial assayer was appointed and abolished in 1882. The territorial geologist and mining engineer position was created in 1879.

Territorial veterinarian, insurance commissioner, followed in 1884 beginning a long list which followed as the area and government developed.

During the Third Legislative Assembly, the territorial librarian was given the additional duty of being the ex officio superintendent of public instruction. This practice continued until statehood in 1890.

Another duty was added when the Eighth Legislative Assembly authorized the librarian "to act as superintendent of weights, measures and balances for the Territory."

The state librarian has on different occasions also been an ex officio member of the State Historical Society and even State Historian. With those positions came the custody of historical books, manuscripts charts and maps and other articles

Through the years the idea was bantered about of a "traveling library system" to make the volumes more accessible to people throughout the state. Although the ideas was first documented at the turn of the century, it was 40 years later that the legislature authorized the state librarian to assist county libraries.

When the federal Library Services Act, later known as the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) came into being 35 years ago, the Wyoming State Library was able to expand its book collections and offer additional services toward library development.

Other libraries benefited from the influx of money through the increased services which included the purchase of large print book and specialized collections, reference and interlibrary loan, production of specialized publications, telephone credit cards, centralized acquisitions, general consulting and automation.

The second way libraries benefitted was through direct grants to public and institution libraries for use in purchase of library books and materials and equipment, staff development and training and for many years public library construction.

A two-fold mission was adopted officially in April 1990: to serve as the information service agency for state government and to serve as the library development agency, providing consulting, planning and coordination for librarians throughout the state.

With the new role, major portions of the generalized collections have been dispersed across the state. Purchases are being geared

primarily toward state agency use with provision for some special collections that have been retained.

The statewide library database, managed by the State Library, offers the mechanism for interlibrary loan and a committee to establish a multi-type network has been formed. The transition has brought its share of rough road, but there has been a "map" guiding the systematic changes and avoiding gaps in service.

Beginning April 1, 1991 a State Library Board

came into existence. The board is advisory which is consistent with reorganization legislation which converting the majority of policy making boards into advisory boards. It is now a seven member board from the respective appointment districts and members represent three-four countries.

The State Library has a long history and reputation for service, flexibility and adaptability. That heritage isn't likely to change in the immediate future either. (News release).

About You

Barbara Chandler, Nebraska Library Commission Interlibrary Loan Librarian, died May 9 after a brief illness following a stroke... **Gail Dow**, Director of Technical Services for the Denver Public Library is a new at-large trustee for BCR... **Carol Hansen**, Assistant Professor/Librarian at Weber (UT) State University, is the incoming President of the Utah Library Association... **Jane Hatch**, Director of the Southwestern Kansas Library System, was elected to the BCR Executive Committee... **Randy Olsen**, BYU, was chosen vice president/president elect of the Utah Library Association... **Rowena Olsen** of the McPherson College (KS) Library is the Kansas Library Association's new MPLA representative... **Amy Owen**, Director, Utah State Library, was elected President of the BCR Board of Trustees... **Marcella Ratzlaff**, Assistant Director of the Hutchinson (KS) Public Library, is the new treasurer of the Kansas Library Association... **Marilyn Ridgeway** has resigned as School Library Media Consultant for the Arizona Department of Education... **Thomas Tollman**, Associate Professor in the Reference Department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Library, spent the months of February and March in Quito, Ecuador as a Fulbright Lecturer.

Joblist

Deadline: Until filled

Assistant Children's Librarian (\$22,000)
Topeka Public Library

Primary responsibilities include preschool programming/services, supervising 2 outreach storytellers, collection development through Grade 2 and parent collection. By Fall '91 expansion/remodeling of Children's Unit and computerization will be in process. The Children's Unit conducts approximately 20 programs per week and has an annual circulation of 400,000. This is a challenging and fast-paced position working with a Unit

Manager, 4 full-time and 4 part-time staff.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS or equivalent degree with professional experience required.

Send letter of application, resume, and 3 professional references to: Jane Kluge, Personnel Services Director, Topeka Public Library, 1515 W. 10th Street, Topeka, KS 66604-1374.

Deadline: July 15

Computer Search Services Librarian
(\$22,000)

I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota

Publication Statement

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, SD 57102-0386; telefacsimile number is 605/335-4312. Voice phone: 605/339-7115.

Advertising: There is no charge to MPLA personal or institutional members for Joblist or classified advertisements. Non-members pay \$1.25/line. Display advertisement copy rates are available from the Editor (see address above).

Copy Deadlines: Articles, news information, advertisements and other copy deadlines are the 7th day of all odd-numbered months, with publication thirty days later.

Membership/subscription business: Matters pertaining to individual or institutional membership, address changes, and claims or orders for back issues should be sent to Joseph R. Edelen, Jr., MPLA Executive Secretary, c/o USD Library, Vermillion, SD 57069. 605/677-6082.

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Faculty rank, tenure-track. Serves as principal database searcher; trains other searchers; maintains the library's CD-ROM products and instructs patrons on their use; works assigned hours at the reference desk; prepares bibliographies and assists in reference collection development; provides library instruction.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS, plus experience with DIALOG or BRS. Additional desirable qualifications: 1) second masters degree in a subject field (will be required for tenure and promotion); 2) experience with CD-ROM databases; 3) experience in reference.

Send letter of application, resume, and names and telephone numbers of three references to: John Van Balen, Chair, Search Committee, I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota, 414 East Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069-2390. Anticipated date of employment: September 1.

Deadline: August 1 or until filled.

Interlibrary Loan Librarian (\$23,198 plus 5% after 6 months)

Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln

Bring your expertise in ILL to a key position in a challenging, team-oriented environment. Serve as statewide resource person for ILL procedures, policies, and issues such as copyright. Develop and present workshops on ILL, particularly using the OCLC ILL Sub-system. Supervise paraprofessional staff, assist in performing ILL activities, and provide reference service to patrons.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS; experience with ILL and reference including use of electronic information resources; ability to design and deliver workshops; excellent communication skills; ability to work cooperatively with a variety of people.

High quality, low cost living in university and state government community of 200,000.

Send letter of application, resume, and names of 3 references to Doreen Kuhlmann, Business Manager, Nebraska Library Commission, 1420 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508. EEO/AA employer

Newly Minted

New Intellectual Freedom Packet

A newly revised edition of "Intellectual Freedom for Children: A Packet of Materials," assembled to help children's librarians deal with censorship issues, is now available from

the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC).

Prepared by the ALSC Intellectual Freedom Committee, the packet includes:

- tips on responding to book challenges;
- articles on censorship and intellectual freedom;
- examples of famous censorship cases affecting children;
- a copy of the Library Bill of Rights and its interpretations;
- support materials from the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom;
- brochures and policy statements used by several libraries; and
- a bibliography of additional sources.

The new packet contains nearly twice as much material as the last edition, published in 1986.

The 1991 edition is \$15 (\$13.50 for ALA members) from the ALA Order Department.

SPECIAL JOBLINE INFORMATION

The MPLA Jobline lists jobs available within our eleven-state area at no charge to institutions within this region. Jobs from institutions outside the MPLA region can be listed for \$10/week.

The Jobline updates its listing each Friday morning.

Send listings to Joe Edelen, I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069. 605/677-6082.

JOBLINE #s

The following numbers may be used in calling the MPLA Jobline: 605/677-5757 (nationwide 24 hours/day) or 800/356-7820 from any of the eleven MPLA states, during the following hours:

Sunday—Thursday 11 pm—8 am each day; Friday—5 pm to Sunday—5 pm your local time.

NEWSLETTER JOBLIST

MPLA institutional members may place job advertisements in this newsletter's Joblist section at no charge.

All other institutions may list jobs at \$1.25/line.

Send Joblist ads to Jim Dertien, MPLA Newsletter, Sioux Falls Public Library, 201 N. Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57102.



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- Opportunities for professional involvement
- Continuing education programs
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- Support of regional library efforts
- News of people and programs in member states



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Archives: Albert Winkler
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 for address & phone number)

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