

MPLA Newsletter

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

1992-93 Annual Report Issue

Blaine Hall
elected
Vice-President/
President-Elect

See election results
on page 10

President's Report

A primary concern this year was to implement the number one goal of the MPLA Long Range Plans: to increase the membership in MPLA. Several ideas from the Membership/Public Relations Committee which was chaired by Connie Lamb were brought to the Board. Clever ideas to raise awareness of MPLA were membership contests: free conference attendance for the person who obtained the greatest number of memberships, free token gifts to all who attend the annual MPLAA/CLA conference, and a brochure with a new design that described what MPLA is and what it offers to the membership. This brochure would be made available to State Representatives in order to distribute it to State Association and Section Committee meetings.

The Graduate Task Force committee, which was chaired by Corky Walters, is in the process of conducting a survey to measure the market for library student graduates. This survey will be critical in the region since many students are graduating from Distant Learning "Masters in Library Science" programs. In addition, a Conference Manual is being updated and will include examples of a sample contract for MPLA/State, a sample contract for Conference committee/speaker, and a sample contract for State/MPLA hotel as well as a payment schedule for speakers. This manual will be beneficial to future conference chairs.

Plans are in the making to promote an Interlibrary Loan Interest Group. This group is chaired by Julie Wessling. Since

In this issue

1993-94 Election Results	10
Lots of new members	10
1993 MPLA Awards	11
Professional Development Grant Report: Information Broker's Seminar	14
Joblist	15
Continuing Education	15

interlibrary loan service is of prime importance to library service, the plan is that group will be organized and ready to present a workshop at the Nevada Library Association/MPLA Conference in 1994.

As President I am keenly aware of the time, the dedication, and the contribution that some members give to the organization. Therefore, at the Award's luncheon I will present several awards to individuals that have made a difference to Mountain Plains Library Association. I will present a Special Presidential Award to Elmer V. Bachenberg, who served as Parliamentarian for 12 years and served on various other committees, for his dedication and professional service to MPLA. His professional attitude and knowledge is of significant value to the organization. I will also recognize Daniel Seager with a Special Award for the many years (17) which he served as MPLA Executive Secretary. It is individuals like Elmer Bachenberg and Daniel Seager that make the Mountain Plains Library Association a strong regional library association.

I have spent an enjoyable year helping plan the CLA/MPLA Conference in Snowmass. Individuals like Stephany Liptak, Conference Co-Chair; Robbe Sokolove, Program Chair; and many others on the Committee who made planning the joint conference a delightful experience. I am honored to have served as chair of the Board for the year.

Bunny Morrison, MPLA President

Chapter Relations

The Chapter Relations Committee encourages librarians from the MPLA region to run for ALA offices and urges MPLA members to vote for these candidates. This Committee also makes arrangements for the MPLA caucus at Midwinter and Annual Conferences where attending MPLA members can meet and discuss ALA Council issues.

As in previous years, At-Large candidates for ALA Council from the mountain-plains region were listed in the *MPLA Newsletter* and members were encouraged to vote for them. Dennis Day, Karen Whitney, and Bernard Margolis were successful in their bids for ALA Council seats. In 1993, the MPLA caucus was held in both Denver and New Orleans. MPLA state representatives, as well as members, are again urged to contact the Chapter Relations Committee with the names of librarians in their region who are running for ALA offices. In an effort to encour-

age more candidates for ALA offices from the mountain-plains region, all Chapter Councilors from this region whose terms have expired will be asked to consider running for At-Large Council seats.

Lynnette Anderson

Interlibrary Loan Interest Group

The ILL Interest Group is sponsoring two sessions for the MPLA/CLA meeting in Snowmass. There will be an ILL Discussion Session which we are sponsoring jointly with the Colorado ILL Committee. We are also sponsoring a program on commercial document delivery with Mary Lou Goodyear, Interim Director of Libraries at Texas A&M University.

The ILL Interest Group has explored the possibility of becoming a section. There is some interest in expanding our focus to encompass all aspects of resource sharing. This idea will be pursued during the coming year.

Metta Nicewarner, Head of Access Services at the University of Nevada, Reno, has agreed to take over as chair of the MPLA ILL Interest Group. I have had a change in job responsibilities and find it necessary to relinquish the chair position at this time. Metta will be actively involved in pursuing section status for the group and in planning programs for the meeting in Nevada in 1994.

Julie Wessling, Chair

New Members Round Table

The goals of the New Members Round Table are to aid new librarians in the MPLA region to orient themselves to the profession, to promote their participation in professional activities, and to encourage greater involvement of new librarians in the professional organizations. It is also a goal of the Section to help new attenders become familiar with annual conference activities. At this year's conference in Snowmass, we have arranged the Gathering Place, where new and old members can gather during open times to meet one another and socialize.

Each year the Round Table, in conjunction with the ALA New Members Round Table and Baker & Taylor Books, awards a grant to a library school student to help her/him attend the annual conference. This year Robert Shupe, vice chair of the NMRT, was the chair of the MPLA NMRT/Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grant Award Committee. News releases and application information were sent to library education programs and state association newsletters. The recipient for the Grassroots Grant for the 1992 Conference in Cheyenne, Wyoming was Pamela Belfor. Pam completed her MLS in August of 1992 and currently works at the Loveland (Colorado) Public Library. This year's recipient is Francella Springer who is a student in the University of Arizona Graduate Library School. Fran works at the American Graduate School of International Management where she is in charge of Periodicals and Interlibrary Loan. She will be attending the CLA/MPLA Conference in Snowmass.

A concern of this year's officers has been the decrease in membership of the Round Table. Why our membership is declining is a question which next year's officers will

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need to address. Hopefully, they will be able to take steps to increase the membership for the following year. We have asked that the application form be revised to spell out the name of the section instead of using just the initials, which do not necessarily mean anything to applicants. It is hoped that the new forms will have this correction and that this will encourage membership in the New Members Round Table. Robert Shupe will be the Chair of the Section for 1993\94.

Suzanne Taylor, Chair

Committees

Awards Committee

The goal of the MPLA Awards Committee is to give recognition to individuals and organizations who have promoted and supported libraries and librarians within the Mountain Plains region.

The Awards Committee was charged with composing a standard nomination form. Copies of forms from member state associations were obtained and forwarded to the committee members. Members sent their comments to the chair who then used these comments to create the form. The form was presented to the Executive Board for approval at the January 1993 meeting in Denver. A copy was forwarded to the chair of the By-laws committee for consideration and inclusion in the manual.

This form was put in camera ready format and copies were sent to the editors of the MPLA and member state newsletters for inclusion in the spring newsletter. I will forward a disc with the form, and the list of these state association newsletters and current editors that I have compiled to my successor.

Nominations were gathered, and forwarded to committee members for their vote. Votes were tallied. The results were sent to Executive Board members, and are on attached sheets. Winners were notified by mail. Connie Lamb, Public Relations, chair, was sent a copy of the winners and will send each a press release to submit to local media.

The financial report cannot be completed until after the October conference. To date no MPLA monies have been expended.

Nancy French, Chair

Finance Committee

It is the charge of the finance committee to prepare the budget for the following fiscal year and present that budget to the executive board of MPLA. This is exactly what the committee did this year. The budget was prepared and presented to the executive board in Denver during its meeting in January, 1993. The budget was approved as presented.

Marcella Ratzlaff, Chair

Public Relations/Membership Committee

The MPLA Public Relations Committee worked very hard this past year to promote MPLA and encourage membership. Not much has been done in this area for the last couple of years and the officers and committee

realized how much needs to be done concerning MPLA membership. Therefore, much of the committee's work resulted in a foundation upon which future committees can build. The following is a list of activities and accomplishments of the committee.

1. Developed news releases (standard forms) that can be used to announce winners of MPLA awards or activities of MPLA members.
2. Developed a mailing list of addresses for large library systems where we can send promotional material for MPLA.
3. Began a list of library publications and newspapers where MPLA activities can be advertised.
4. Sent an announcement of the upcoming annual conference in Snowmass to seven national library journals.
5. Developed two different brochures which can be used to advertise MPLA. The four-fold brochure was sent with a newsletter in July to non-members as part of a membership promotional campaign. The second is a condensed three-fold brochure; two posters were also created which can be used with the brochures.
6. Sent to state MPLA representatives both the posters and brochures to use at their state library conferences. Also sent them an article about the importance of MPLA membership which they can revise as needed and publish in their state newsletter.
7. The chairman of the committee attended the two board meetings held in Denver in January and Snowmass in May and gave reports of the committee's work and plans.
8. The committee is planning to give a "freebie" at the Snowmass conference with a notice of the importance of MPLA membership.

Connie Lamb, Chair

Continuing Education Committee

Our Committee goals will be partially met as the three library schools in our MPLA region have been asked to send representatives to the Conference at Snowmass where they can recruit in the Exhibit area. An instrument to survey education needs, as requested by the Continuing Education Task Force, has not been started.

One Pre-Conference Grant was awarded to the Wyoming Library Association for an upcoming program, Oct. 16, 1993, on "What's New in Children's Literature".

Judy Johnson

Academic Section

The Academic Section of MPLA did not undertake any special projects during the past year, but the officers and members did attempt to provide a number of quality programs for the joint conference with the Wyoming Library Association and to prepare a similar number of conference programs for the conference in Colorado (see conference program for specifics).

Our Research Forum was again a success in 1992, with the timely publication of proceedings containing seven

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papers authored by MPLA members, but an inadequate number of papers were submitted in 1993. While the papers will be presented at the 1993 Conference, publication will be delayed until 1994 when a combined proceedings may be produced. With the budget restraints and the wide-spread cancellation of serials experienced by libraries within the Association membership states, the sales of the annual proceedings have been declining. One of the problems with the publications has been the lack of a specific theme for each, so that it is difficult to market the volumes except to those with an interest in an individual paper. It has been suggested that a monographic series with topical coverage might be more marketable while still providing a forum for publication of research by Association members. Another suggestion has been that of only publishing a research volume every other year rather than every year. These options and other possibilities will be discussed at the Colorado joint conference and during the coming year.

Another complicating factor for the Research Forum during 1993 was the resignation and departure from the region of Helen Josephine, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Academic Section and therefore Research Forum editor. We wish Helen success and happiness in her new position in Hawaii, but regret her departure at this time. After an exploration of the options available within the existing by-laws and an unsuccessful attempt to fill the position in a timely fashion, the present Chair, Mary Bushing, agreed to serve through the 1993-94 year.

Many member states are experiencing severe budget cuts in higher education. During the past year, these cuts, coupled with the crisis in scholarly publishing and journal prices, resulted in a state of siege for many institutional members. Academic librarians were occupied with massive journal cancellations and staff reductions. Recent legislative action from the membership region has not brought much optimistic news for academic and special members for the coming fiscal year.

Mary Bushing, Chair

Sections

Public Library/Trustees Section

The goals of this year's Public Library/Trustees Section were to focus on encouraging trustee attendance at the annual conference and to provide stimulating programs geared to people representing public libraries.

At the request of trustees who attended the section meeting at the Cheyenne conference in 1992, this year's conference will include a networking luncheon so people

can have more time to interact with one another and exchange ideas. A special mailing targeted at both MPLA and Colorado Library Association trustee sections was sent this summer to inform members of programs pertinent to trustees and to inspire people to come to Snowmass.

Two preconferences of interest to public librarians were submitted by the Public Library/Trustee Section. Lillie J. Dyson from the Maryland State Library (Department of Education) will present her training program on improving reference performance. Dr. Beverly Title will do a repeat half day workshop on conflict management, popular at previous MPLA and CLA conferences. She will also give a session on learning styles. The 1993/94 Chair will be Judy Zelenski (Colorado).

Robbe Sokolove, Chair

State Agency, Cooperatives and Systems Section

The purpose of this section is to act as a forum for ideas among agencies and individuals with statewide or regional responsibilities and to promote continuing education. In the pursuit of these goals the section networks to communicate ideas among the members. The program we are sponsoring at the conference "From Traditional Continuing Education to Fiber Optics" will demonstrate successful education formats that can be replicated. We will work throughout the year to exchange information on successful continuing education programs.

The section is also presenting a model of how to establish statewide multitype library patron access according to the blueprint established in Colorado.

The officers this year have been Donna Jones Morris, Chair; Venice Beske, Vice-Chair; Allison Cowgill, Secretary. The nominating committee included Brian Green, Allison Cowgill, and Donna Jones Morris. Candidates for office were: Ed Volz and Beth Hager for Chair-Elect and Judy Yeo and Diane Baker for Secretary.

Donna Jones Morris, Chair

Children's & School Section

During the past year the Children's & School Section reached a membership total of 166 - and what an enthusiastic group! I have been extremely impressed by the ideas which you either mailed or called to suggest. Your ideas have allowed us to sponsor four outstanding programs during the 1993 Joint Conference in Colorado. In addition, the CLA Youth & Education Services Division was so cooperative in working with us on programs that would be of interest to children's/school librarians that there are

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even more offerings for members to attend during the Joint Conference. There will be programs on working with day care providers, implementing change as a middle manager, story time ideas, and a panel discussion on extending your program into the community.

A great willingness to run for office was found among the members of the section. I know I speak for the Nominating Committee when I say 'thank you' for being willing to serve the section when we called.

I want to express my gratitude to Janet Norrod, Children's Librarian at the Laramie County Library System, who served as Secretary. The incoming Chair for this section will be Carla Rosenquist-Buhler, Assistant Professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Incoming Secretary is Heather McNeil Cromer, Head of Youth Services, Edwin A. Bemis Public Library, Littleton, CO. I'm sure that the newly elected officers will be happy to receive input from any member of the section on virtually any interest you want to pursue, program suggestions for the next annual conference, or any problems you may perceive.

Many, many thanks to all the members of this section who have lent moral support and enthusiasm during the past year.

Kathy Fredette, Chair

Member States

Nebraska

The past year has been a busy one for the Nebraska Library Association and for Nebraska libraries. A number of important activities were undertaken by NLA. A dues increase was approved by the NLA membership. All membership levels will increase by \$5 except for those librarians making \$5,000 or less, whose dues will increase by \$3. NLA's Membership Committee has been working on a revised membership brochure and membership form. To increase awareness of NLA, the Membership Committee also rounded up volunteers for Nebraska Educational Television's Pledge Drive in March. The NLA Centennial Committee held a contest to find a commemorative logo incorporating the theme "Sowing Ideas Across Nebraska: Nebraska Library Association 1895-1995." The Paraprofessional Round Table has become a full-fledged section of NLA. Planning is underway for a new Information Technology and Access Round Table. Ken Oyer (Bergan Mercy Medical Library) was appointed as NLA's new Executive Director.

"Celebration of Diversity" was the theme of the Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association joint convention held October 29-30, 1992 in Lincoln. The convention attracted 525 registrants. "Paradigms, Practices and Possibilities: Planning for the 21st Century" is the theme for the 1993 NLA/NEMA Convention to be held October 28-29 in Grand Island. A preconference will be held on October 27, and will include John Berry, Editor of Library Journal and Kaycee Hall, Executive Director of the Resource and Research Center of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles, California.

Clara Rottman, Director of Library Media Services for the Lincoln Public School System (1970-1992) received NLA's Meritorious Service Award for 1992. Nebraska Poet, Greg Kuzma, received the 1992 Mari Sandoz Award. Kay L. Paulson (Lincoln Public Schools) and Susan M. Ewing (Gering Public Library) were the recipients of the 1993 NEMA/NLA Duane Munson Scholarships.

Michael Phipps, Director of the Omaha Public Library (1983-1992), passed away on October 31, 1992 after a long struggle with AIDS. As a memorial, the OPL staff designed and made a panel for the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. From April to July, the panel was on display throughout the library system and was then scheduled to be sent to San Francisco as part of the National Quilt.

The Lincoln Public Schools received a \$20,000 planning grant as one of only nine 1993 Planning Sites in the United States for the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund's National Library Power Project. This grant was used to submit a three-year implementation proposal, which if accepted, will provide up to \$400,000 per year towards making library media centers a "focal point for the educational program in public elementary and middle schools." An announcement from the Fund is expected in September, and if approved, the Library Power Project in Lincoln will be administered by the Lincoln Public Schools Foundation. To carry out the Project, a Library Power Director and support staff will be hired.

October 1992 saw the appearance of Nebraska Online, an electronic information service "designed to help Nebraska individuals, community groups, and businesses succeed in the global economy." It is coordinated by the Nebraska Library Commission in cooperation with the Nebraska Development Network (NDN). In addition to the Nebraska Library Commission, which is one of most prominent members, the NDN currently includes more than sixty academic institutions, private industries, libraries and state, federal, local and regional government agencies.

The summer 1993 issue of the Nebraska Library Association Quarterly (NLAQ) was a special edition devoted to intellectual freedom. Among the seven perspectives on intellectual freedom included were an interview with Anne Penway, Assistant Director of the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom and an account of intellectual freedom in Nazi Germany by recently retired University of Nebraska-Lincoln librarian, Elsie Thomas, who lived in German-occupied Poland and Germany during the Second World War.

Bob Nash, MPLA Representative

North Dakota

The 86th annual North Dakota Library Association conference, "North Dakota Libraries: A Spectrum of Services," was held September 23-26, 1992 in Fargo. A preconference workshop was presented by Hannelore Rader, "Methods and Techniques of Bibliographic Instruction." Keynote address was by J. Dennis Day, "The

Second Russian Revolution—An Eyewitness Account.” ALA President, Marilyn Miller, addressed the convention during the annual banquet. Ruth Evert, Edgely, received the first ever Librarian of the Year Award.

The New Dimension Information Authority is a multitype regional library system in a four-county area of northwestern North Dakota. Among its growing membership are twenty-three schools, two public libraries, and one academic institution.

In September the full catalog resources of Bismarck Public Library, Mandan Public Library and the University of Mary will be loaded onto a cooperatively purchased online system from Dynix. The new system is called INFO*LYNX, and will start with a cooperative database of over 200,000 titles.

Dakota Radio Information Service, a radio reading service for persons unable to read regular print, has been awarded a grant which will allow it to expand its broadcasting area to the Jamestown area. The grant was awarded by the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Roann Masterson, MPLA Representative

Oklahoma

Another busy year of Oklahoma politics, Oklahoma libraries, and Oklahoma blessings and frustrations.

One of the most note-worthy deeds accomplished this year was the hiring of Richard Wheatley as the official lobbyist for the Oklahoma Library Association. Having wrestled with the questions of why we should employ such a professional, what possible duties he might perform, under whose direction he might be placed, and (most importantly) how we might pay such a professional, the Association employed Mr. Wheatley in September, 1992. His services during the session were helpful in keeping membership informed and ready to address library issues in a timely manner.

Award-winners for children's and young adult fiction claimed their prizes at the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference held in Oklahoma City, March 30-April 2, 1993. Once again, hundreds of school children voiced their opinions, and gave Sequoyah Awards to Cynthia DeFelice for Weasel and Annette Curtis Klause for *The Silver Kiss*. Over 500 conference participants heard keynoters Kaycee Hale and Will Manley encourage them to "Discover the FutureExplore Oklahoma Libraries." Of special note, was the preconference on Internet which drew some 150 participants to a full-day session. This is a record for any preconference, and highlights the demand for more technologically-based training.

Progress on the Oklahoma Libraries Technology Network is painfully slow, due in part to the hesitancy of state funding through the legislature. An up-dated OLTNcat was issued in the fall, with over 7 million holdings on over 3 million records. The fiber optic linking of all sites is not yet a reality, but efforts continue.

1993 was named the year to "Celebrate Literacy!" by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. Posters, bookmarks, and certificates were made available to any who

wanted or needed them. Once again, grants for up to \$500 were made available for the purchase of high interest/low level materials. This effort continues through 1994.

As a continuation of the Joint Task Force on Public Library Certification named earlier, a similar joint committee from the Oklahoma Library Association and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries was named. Their work is only beginning, but the concept of certification has been approved; the task of implementation and procedures remains.

Oklahoma continues to work to provide high-visibility for Mountain Plains Library Association. Once again, an MPLA President was able to attend our annual conference and presented two programs. The booth display solicited a number of contestants for the free membership drawing. While our membership totals are still well below what we would like, awareness is growing as a result of two mailings to all OLA members as well as numerous articles and reports presented throughout the year.

Jan Sanders, MPLA Representative

South Dakota

After careful planning from representatives of both states the University of Arizona now offers the video-based Master of Library Science degree. Classes will be available at sites in Aberdeen, Madison, Rapid City and Sioux Falls. They are delivered via satellite and videotaped for classroom use. Students and a qualified instructor meet at a regularly scheduled time to view the tape. Student access to materials and information is facilitated by the on-site instructor. Most students can complete the course work in four years with only one or two summers on the campus of the University of Arizona. Ethelle Bean is the director of the University of Arizona Library Program in South Dakota.

The 1993 Cooperative Summer Reading Program was entitled "Hooked on Books" with emphasis on fishing for great titles and great fun at the library. Libraries in South Dakota, Minnesota and North Dakota cooperated in this joint venture.

Gary Johnson, a former technical support manager for Unisys Corp., has been named Network Operations Director for the South Dakota Library Network. Gary is the first full-time network director. He began his new responsibilities in August of 1992 at the SDLN operations center in Spearfish.

At the 1992 annual Conference the following awards were presented: Jim Oliver (Sioux Falls Public Library), New Librarian of the Year Award; Ethelle Bean (Dakota State University) Librarian of the Year Award; Jane Kolbe (South Dakota State Library) Distinguished Service Award. President Raney also presented awards to Donna Fisher, Jane Kolbe, DeAnn Hilmoe, Elvita Landua and Gary Johnson.

Ann Smith, Augustana College, was chosen to visit Israel for a month visit as a member of the Rotary Group Study Exchange team sponsored by the Rotary Foundation.

Jane Larson, MPLA Representative

Utah

As of the June 1993 membership report Utah Library Association has a personal membership of 609 and an institutional membership of 19.

This year the ULA Board appointed a Strategic Planning Task Force to assist in establishing its goals for 1992/93 and to recommend action the Association should take to strengthen its support of Utah's libraries and library employees. The Task Force made several recommendations, which gave the Board areas to focus on for the year.

One recommendation focused on the multiplicity of library associations in our state and the need for greater cooperation and coordination of activities. The boards of ULA and the Utah Educational Library Media Association (UELMA) met together in January and passed a number of motions that will foster a closer working relationship between the two associations. The motions passed provided for ULA and UELMA boards to meet together at least annually, encouraged changes in the dues to encourage individuals to join both ULA and UELMA, provided for a liaison between the two associations, and working together to foster greater multitype library cooperation in Utah. Plans are being made to hold a joint ULA/UELMA conference in February, 1994.

Another recommendation from the Planning Task Force was for ULA to sponsor a Great Issues Forum. Scheduled for this fall, this forum will bring together government officials to discuss the future of libraries in Utah and will provide an unusual opportunity for librarians and public leaders to discuss the impact of new technology on library services.

Another of the recommendations was the ULA "Foster the best continuing education effort in any state." This led to Regional (Continuing Education) Workshops on local history collections, basic cataloging, computer basics, reference hints and helps, young adult programming, children's storytelling and a variety of other topics. The workshops were presented in four different areas of the state, allowing over 150 librarians from all around the state to be trained.

Last of all, the annual ULA conference was held in Cedar City, May 12-14, with 271 attendees, 40 sessions and activities, 69 presenters, and 38 exhibitors. The conference offered a broad diversity of activities...from workshops and sessions on the Utah Library network, effective leadership, achieving excellence, serving service providers, discussing the future of scholarly communication, and an engaging keynote address by Leslie Norris, to a prime rib dinner with a Shakespeare Costume Cavalcade and a 5K fun run. The following awards were presented at the conference: Sandra Collins, Associate Director of the Weber County Library was presented the ULA Distinguished Service Award; Warren Babcock, Reference Librarian at the Merrill Library, Utah State University, was presented the Librarian of the Year Award; Mary Southwell, Director of the Murray Public Library received the ULA Special Recognition Award; The Book Group received the Special Service to Libraries Award; and Deanna Adams, MLS student at Brigham Young University received the Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grant Award.

Vickie Turner, Margaret Baca and Joan Thomas received the ULA/Certificate of Achievement for Paraprofessionals.

The year has been progressively effective in both large and small ways in improving the effectiveness of both the state's libraries and librarians.

Gwen Page, MPLA Representative

Wyoming

The search continues for a Wyoming State Librarian. Although several candidates have been interviewed, none was selected and the position remains open. Jerry Krois has served as acting state librarian since the resignation of Suzanne LeBarron last spring.

Pathki Nana by Ken Thomas was selected to receive the Indian Paintbrush Book Award by 598 elementary students. Runners up were *Doll in the Garden* by Mary D. Hahn and *Totally Disgusting* by Bill Wallace.

Four library employees received Nora Van Burgh Development Grants to attend classes or workshops. They were Alice Meister of Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, Marsha Bradbury of Natrona County Library, Sue Knesel of the Campbell County Public Library and Mary Rhoads of Johnson County Library.

Efforts to pass legislation that would allow counties to form library districts were unsuccessful. Despite a very active campaign, much of it from grass roots supporters, the mineral industry proved to have a stronger voice.

Prompted by a cash flow problem, WLA will hold an auction of donated items at their annual conference to be held in Rock Springs October 13 through 16. Items range from needlework and books to GEAC linking, services and supplies. It is at this conference that a new MPLA representative will be announced.

Marcia Wright, MPLA Representative

Newly Minted

- After the Electronic Revolution, Will You be the First to Go?, ALCTS, ALA \$18.00
- Censorship and Selection: Issues and Answers for Schools, rev. ed., Henry F. Reichman, ALA \$18.00
- The Challenge of Technology: Action Strategies for the School Library Media Specialist, Kieth Wright, ALA \$22.00
- Preferred Library Futures II: Charting the Paths, RLG Distribution Services Center, 1200 Villa St, Mountain View, CA 94041-1100, free
- CONSER Cataloging Manual, LC \$60.00
- Directions for Library Service to Young Adults, 2d ed., ALA \$10.00
- Financial Management for Small and Medium-sized Libraries, Madeline J. Daubert, ALA \$38.00
- Forming and Funding Library Foundations, Faye Clow, PLA, ALA \$12
- Home Schoolers and the Public Library: A Resource Guide for Libraries Serving Home Schoolers, PLA, ALA \$12.00
- Is it Ethical: Sin List II, ALA \$1.00, discounts for multiple copies
- Library Symbol Clip Art, LEI Inc., RR 1, Box 219, New Albany PA 18833, \$21.95 book, \$24.95 disk

1993-94 Election Results

Vice-President/President-Elect

Blaine K. Hall
Stephen C. Skidmore

ELECTED

Recording Secretary

Heather McNeil Cromer
Elizabeth Parang

ELECTED

Academic Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Deborah Hagemeyer

ELECTED

Ann McKee

Jim McPhee

Secretary-Treasurer

Katherine L. Rankin

Louise Stwalley

ELECTED

Technical Services Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Lois Schneberger

ELECTED

Secretary

Carolyn W. Myers

ELECTED

State Agencies, Cooperatives and Systems Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Ed Volz

Beth Hager

ELECTED

Secretary

Diane L. Baker

Judy Yeo

ELECTED

Public Library/Trustees Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Lucie Osborn

ELECTED

Sandra K. Long

Secretary

Jane Larson

ELECTED

Douglas Murdock

New Members Round Table

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Metta Nicewarner

ELECTED

Sally Dockter

Secretary

Joan Beam

ELECTED

Children's and School Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Jean Hatfield

ELECTED

Deb Tuma

Secretary/Treasurer

Linda Deacy

Elaine Warner

ELECTED

Preservation Section

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Blanche Clegg

ELECTED

Diane W. Martin

Secretary

Martha Hanscom

ELECTED

Government Documents Section

Vice-Chair-/Chair-Elect

Maggie Parhamovich

ELECTED

Secretary

Janita Jobe

ELECTED

MPLA Welcomes These New Members

Arizona

Claudia Bakula, Northern Arizona University,
Flagstaff

Jane Barnard, Tempe Public Library

Philip Bonfanti, Student, Yuma

Mary Beth Chambers, Northern Arizona
University, Flagstaff

Iris Collard, Student, Yuma

Nancy Cummings, Yuma County Library District

Jeannette Daane, Mesa Community College,
Tempe

Merle Earnshaw, Peoria

Carol Elliott, University of Arizona College of
Law, Tucson

Pattie Fransen, Phoenix Public Library

Karen Gardner, Flagstaff Medical Center

Hatsuyo Hawkins, Retired, Tucson

Leesa Jacobson, Graduate Student, Tucson

William Johnson, Univ Of Arizona Grad Lib
School, Phoenix

Sharon Kivisto, Arizona Western College, Yuma

Maureen Nelson, Tucson-Pima Library, Green
Valley

Louise Pate, Mtn. View High School, Tucson

Irene Schwartzbauer, Payson Junior High School

Francella Springer, American Graduate School of
International Management, Glendale

Beth Van Kirk, Phoenix Public Library

California

Edward Erjavek, Student, Lytle Creek

Colorado

Pearl Alperstein, Jefferson County Public Library,
Lakewood

Deborah Bernau, Colorado Dept. Of Education,

Dayna Buck, Geac Computers, Englewood

Katherine Gully, Denver Museum Of Natural
History

Joan Horigan, Arapahoe Library District Trustee,
Littleton

Ruth Larson, Vail

Diana Lunde, Colorado

State University, Fort Collins

Alice Ruleman, Student, Emporia State Univer-
sity, Colorado Springs

Nadine Salmons, Colorado Springs School Dis-
trict, Elbert

continued on page 13

1993 MPLA Awards

Carl Gaumer Exhibitors Award

Awarded to the individual or company whose positive support of the MPLA is demonstrated by constant conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees, and professional activities. Mr. Gaumer, who is now deceased, was a bookseller to MPLA libraries, and a person who set high standards for himself and others in the conduct of business.

EBSCO Subscription Services, - Stan Terry, General Manager, Denver Office

Nominated by Dorothy Middleton, Cheyenne East High School.

Those who have attended state and local library conferences will agree with Dorothy Middleton when she says "This company always comes through for us." EBSCO goes out of its way to give librarians everywhere benefit of its professional services. Their representatives are friendly, cheerful, and easy to work with.

MPLA Distinguished Service Award

Awarded to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession, has furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time.

J. Dennis Day - Director, Salt Lake City Public Library

Roger Jones, President, Salt Lake City Public Library Board of Trustees

June Garcia states "In my opinion, Dennis has consistently exhibited those characteristics of leadership in professional organizations and success in promoting library services throughout the MPLA region which the award was established to recognize." Dennis has held numerous offices including president of ULA and MPLA, and has served on the Executive Board and Council of ALA. His professional activities include formation and management of the Snowbird Leadership Institute, planning of two Governor's Conferences on Libraries, and fighting for intellectual freedom.

MPLA Legislative Leadership Award

Awarded to an individual or group in recognition of exemplary legislative leadership or support for growth and development of a library or libraries in the MPLA area within the last two years.

Arizona Library Friends - Linda Perkins, ALF President

Nominated by Carol Hammond.

Arizona Library Friends "are highly motivated, very responsive, well informed, and organized to take appropriate action quickly," says Carol Hammond. They initiated an annual luncheon for the legislative secretaries, which has given Arizona librarians an edge when they need to meet with a legislator. They have worked with librarians to get favorable library legislation passed, and have made legislative issues a top priority.

MPLA News Media Support Award

This award recognizes the news media organization in the MPLA region making the strongest effort, either in a single presentation, or in on-going coverage, to promote libraries and library activities in the community within the last two years.

Brookings Daily Register - Stacey Kratz, reporter

Nominated by Elvita Landau, Director, Brookings Public Library.

The Brookings Daily Register has consistently supported the programs of the Brookings Public Library through articles focusing on upcoming events as well as a number of special features, such as "Libraries Change Lives," which ran during National Library Week this year. Local libraries are also featured in a monthly column written by library director, Elvita Landau. Editor, Amy Dunkle, sums up the *Register's* support with "We are a small local daily paper and include the Brookings Library in our strong commitment to covering community news and organizations."

MPLA Literary Contribution Award

Awarded to an author whose published writings most successfully further and understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region.

John E. Miller - Professor of History, South Dakota State University

Nominated by Leon Raney - Dean of Libraries, South Dakota State University.

Dr. Miller is well known for his research of the history and people of South Dakota. Leon Raney says Dr. Miller's most recent work, *Looking for History on Highway 14*, "is an informative and nostalgic look at several South Dakota towns that lie along the historic Black and Yellow Trail...[that] highlights local history and instills pride in small towns."

MPLA Beginning Professional Award

An award which recognizes an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service within the first five years after receiving a library/media specialist degree.

Richard AmRhein - Music Librarian and U. of Arizona Distance Learning Program Nevada State Coordinator

Nominated by Elizabeth Parang - Head Serials Librarian, James Dickinson Library, UNLV.

* Ms. Parang will be accepting the award for Mr. AmRhein as he will be giving a presentation at the Nevada Library Association Conference on October 2nd.

Mr. AmRhein has made a tremendous contribution to Nevada Libraries and a variety of levels in the one year since he moved here. His primary contribution has been as music librarian where he is responsible for collection development and the planning and development of a campus music center which would include a branch music library. He also has served as the on site coordinator for the University of Arizona's Distance Learning program, responsible for facilitating smooth operation here at UNLV. In his spare time, Richard has prepared and presented seminars, and assumed leadership roles in state, regional and national organizations.

Special Presidential Awards

Awarded for exemplary service to libraries and library organizations in the Mountain Plains region.

Elmer Bachenberg - Past Parliamentarian, MPLA

Nominated by Bunny Morrison - President, MPLA.

Letters of support for presenting Elmer with this award read like an MPLA VIP roster. "Elmer has made notable contributions to the library profession for many years," says Bunny Morrison. "He has always been available to MPLA and its members to offer positive, constructive advice..." J. Dennis Day states. "...has been a fine example of long-term professional commitment," Thomas Jones. "I will miss Elmer's ever-friendly, quiet, and steady influence," Corky Walters.

Dan Seager

Nominated by Bunny Morrison - President, MPLA

Dan Seager's commitment to MPLA as its' executive secretary did not end with his departure from office and eventual retirement from library work. He continued his work on behalf of MPLA by providing special advice and a

helping hand to newcomers to the organization. Jim Dertien writes, "Dan's interest in a MPLA has always been characterized as intense, almost as if MPLA was a member of his family. Important, too, is Dan's ability to provide historical perspective. MPLA's past contains many useful lessons for those of us facing typically the same kinds of challenges Dan and other librarians addressed during MPLA's middle years."

MPLA Special Recognition Award

Awarded for providing support of libraries and library associations through participation in MPLA, and provision of professional education opportunities in the Mountain Plains region.

Past faculty of the School of Library and Information Science, Brigham Young University

Nominated by Connie Lamb and Blaine Hall - Librarians, Harold B. Lee Library, BYU

Over the twenty-seven years of its existence, the BYU School of Library and Information Science has graduated over a thousand students, many of whom, along with the faculty, have made significant contributions to the library profession through membership, leadership, research, and program presentations on the state, regional, and national levels. Faculty include:

Dr. Marsha Broadway (1985-1993)	Dr. Dorothy Shields (1974-1993)
H. Thayne Johnson (1966-1983)	Dr. Nathan Smith (1973-1993)
Hattie M. Knight (1965-1973)	Dr. Keith Stirling (1972-1993)
Dr. Merle E. Lamson (1966-1981)	Lucile Thorpe (1966-1974)
Dr. Maurice Marchant (1969-1992)	Dr. H. Curtis Wright (1969-1993)
Victor Purdy (1966-1993)	

continued from page 10 - MPLA Welcomes These New Members

Robert Sorgenfrei, Colorado School of Mines,
Golden

John Steinmetz, Arapahoe Library District Trustee,
Littleton

Rachel Stoddard, Englewood Public Library
Trustee

Idaho

Janet Higgins, Idaho State University, Pocatello

Kansas

Jean Anderson, Student, Emporia State Univer-
sity, Dodge City

Marilyn Black, Dodge City Public Library

Jane Dean, Wichita Public Library

Carole Dibben, University of Kansas, Lawrence

Penny Donaldson, University of Kansas, Lawrence

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Abilene

Holly Engle, McPherson Public Library

Linda Kobs, Meade Public Library

Manhattan Public Library

Eldora McMinimy, Ashland Library

Kay Morse, Wichita Public Library

Matthew Pettit, Topeka & Shawnee County Pub-
lic Library

Virginia Prather, Fort Scott Community College

Robert Richmond, Friends of Kansas Libraries,
Topeka

Julie Sherwood, Salina Public Library

Lois Teegardin, Southwest Kansas Library
System, Dodge City

Marlene Thomas, Dodge City Public Library

Julie Tomlianovich, South Central Kansas

Library System, Hutchinson

Carla Welsh, Salina Public Library

Montana

Barbara Bruno, Great Falls Public Library

Colleen Campbell, Heritage Research Center,
Missoula

Nancy Szofran, Eastern Montana College,

Billings

Nebraska

Mary Anderson, Anderson Associated, Kennard
Bellevue College Library

Pam Bohmfalk, Hastings Public Library

Northeast Library System, Columba

Nevada

Richard Amrhein, University of Nevada, Las
Vegas

Sonja Breen, Beatty Community Library

Maria Champlin, Clark Cty. Library, Las Vegas

North Dakota

Harold Aleshire, Minot Public Library Trustee

Marlene Anderson, North Dakota State Library,
Mandan

Melanie Ball, North Dakota State University,
Fargo

Debbie Musselman, New Dimensions Info Au-
thority, Williston

Margaret Wieland, Valley City State University

Oklahoma

Ann Brown, Altus Public Library

Beth DeGeer, Bartlesville Public Library

Daniel Gibbs, Chickasaw Library System,
Ardmore

Bertha Innis, Medford Public School

Nancy Jurney, Oklahoma State University,
Stillwater

Karen Nichols, University of Oklahoma, Norman

Donna Norvell, Oklahoma Department of Librar-
ies

Joan Singleton, Bartlesville Public Library

Karen Smith, Tulsa City-County Library System

Laurie Sundborg, Tulsa City-County Library Sys-
tem

Linda Taylor, Stillwater

Colleen Ward, Oklahoma City University

Desiree Webber, Moore Public Library

South Dakota

Maureen Battistella, Lommen Health Sciences
Library, Vermillion

Judith Howard, Canton Public Library

Joyce Jensen, Viborg Public Library

Mary Kraljic, South Dakota State University,
Brookings

Amy Kreitzer, I.D. Weeks Library, USD,
Vermillion

Connie McKnight, Brookings Public Library

National College, Rapid City

Steve Peschong, Mitchell Public Library Trustee

Dana Ruby, South Dakota State University, Pierre

Margaret Salzer, Dewey County Library, Timber
Lake

Donna Uttenhove, Huron Middle School Library

Utah

Lori Andreason, Weber State University, Ogden

Lisa Baer, Brigham Young University, Provo

Joan Christensen, Park Library, Taylorsville

Carolyn Klatt, Utah State Library, Salt Lake City

Marie Rasmussen, Salt Lake City Public Library

Jane Smith, Utah State Library, Salt Lake City

Wyoming

Jackie Barnall, Campbell County Public Library,
Gillette

Patricia Brose, Campbell County Public Library,
Gillette

Leslie Carlson, Uinta County Library, Evanston

Jennifer Martin, Sweetwater County School Dis-
trict, Rock Springs

Barbara Mechels, Laramie County Library Sys-
tem, Burns

Sidney Stanfill, Laramie County Library System,
Cheyenne

Linda Waggener, Natrona County Public Library,
Casper

Marlene Wane, Laramie County Library System,
Cheyenne

The Information Broker's Seminar

A report by Jim Dertien, City Librarian, Sioux Falls, SD, on The Information Broker's Seminar by Sue Rugge and The Information Professionals Institute, a seminar offered fifteen different times in the U.S. and overseas in 1993, and one which will probably be offered with the same frequency in 1994 and subsequent years.

If, on occasion, you have considered the possibility of leaving the library profession and entering the for-profit sector as an information broker then perhaps you may want to read on. I recently spent one day in Chicago with Sue Rugge and fourteen others receiving the training that Sue's firm has developed for beginning information brokers.

Why was I there? Several reasons. Probably like you, I was curious. It would be unnatural for a young old-timer like me not to wonder what life might be like outside of municipal government. I was also seeking ideas that I could adapt to my own public library operations so we could be more sensitive to the increasingly sophisticated needs of our clientele. And, finally, I felt that a better understanding of information brokering would be useful in developing contacts and contracts for these services when my library needed the expertise in order to assist our own customers.

This seminar emphasizes the business side of brokering. Online searching and the accessing of public records are covered in two other seminars, frequently held in conjunction with this one. Sue Rugge's credentials as one of the founders of information brokering make her a natural to conduct this training. She has not lost sight of the uphill effort new business start-up requires, and she has consistently been a leader in this business. She founded Information Unlimited in 1971 and later went on to found Information on Demand, both being very successful. Today she is a principal in The Information Professionals Institute and she is the director of The Rugge Group, a coalition of information specialists providing information brokering services.

Before discussing the training I received, I would first like to share a few observations gleaned from discussion during the seminar. At an annual income of an estimated \$50 million for all information brokers in the United States, it is obvious that this is still a very small field. In another direction, information brokers have discovered that librarians feel threatened by their presence and their potential, sometimes worrying about the impact on their relations with their existing customers or sometimes simply being jealous. Actually, experience has shown that there is little to fear, and that there are really advantages to having good relations with brokers, either in your community or elsewhere. The relationships are naturally complimentary. Often, for instance, librarians refer client's needs to brokers in situations where they do not have the time or expertise or the materials necessary to do the work.

The seminar attracted an interesting group, including ex-librarians, active librarians, professionals from engineering and other technical fields, a couple of practicing information brokers, and an owner of several successful women's clothing shops who was just discovering her fascination for computer searching. As I understand, the make-up of this group was typical of most of the seminars. The presence of practicing brokers was valuable for the types of questions they asked and discussions they started.

Ms. Rugge's seminar is fast-paced, thorough and complete. She provided extensive handouts organized in a binder, plus brought to the seminar samples of a number of key journals, other publications, and promotional items from information brokers currently doing business.

As I noted earlier, this seminar covered the business end of information brokering. This includes analyzing your potential, developing a business plan, other start-up details, record-keeping, partnerships, taxes, billing and fee-setting, marketing, and much more. In an ideal situation, Ms. Rugge recommends that a new firm be started by two people, one to handle the business matters and one to do the research. In order to succeed, a firm must have a regular flow of business, so each day's work must include contacts with not only old and current customers, but with potential clients. Solo brokers find it very difficult to meet research deadlines and at the same time maintain these contacts and keep up with all the other business routines.

During the day many first-rate tips were provided, which give an edge toward being successful. An example of a simple, but effective, suggestion was the one offered by one of the new brokers attending the seminar. He had his wife record his business phone answering machine message, thus giving a caller the impression of an operation involving a staff. It was also noted that you should have a business phone line which is separate from your home phone line if you

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.
- Joblist appears in issues for the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December.
- Send Joblist ads to Jim Dertien, MPLA Newsletter, Sioux Falls Public Library, 201 North Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57102.

work out of your home.

Ms. Ruge showed many examples of how not to prepare promotional literature, and similarly, examples of how it should be done. She showed a constant awareness of the impact of start-up costs and what most people can afford when starting a business.

The seminar included a lot of emphasis on marketing and a similar amount of emphasis on how to maintain your firm's integrity.

While librarians bring with them training and experience that can be useful in this kind of business, they do not necessarily bring with them other advantages. Whatever your background, you must understand there are risks. Starting a business can be a complicated, but gratifying effort. You must understand that you will suddenly become totally responsible for securing income to keep your business going, and for providing employment for yourself and possibly others. The hardest work comes at the beginning, when you see your savings being drained by start-up expenses and you wait for your client base to grow. While this is not for everyone, those who have succeeded would not give it up for anything. Ms. Ruge takes a great deal of pride in the work she has done and the work being done by others who make up the small membership of the Association of Independent Information Professionals. One participant, a broker specializing in chemical engineering research, said, "The only thing worse than keeping a mistress is being an information broker." Fortunately, his wife helps him with his business, so she understands the long hours and seven-day weeks.

Did I go away satisfied that my curiosity and some of my questions had been answered? Certainly! This seminar gave me an opportunity to give concentrated attention to a fascinating career alternative, and to learn what makes information brokers tick. Have I applied anything I learned? Well, not yet. I wrote this report the morning after completing the seminar, so you will just have to check with me later.

The cost of this one-day seminar is \$225, which includes lunch and a binder full of useful material. To find out more information and to secure a schedule of future sites and dates, write: The Information Professionals Institute, 46 Hiller Drive, Oakland, CA 94618.

Joblist

Deadline: Open until filled

Catalog/Reference Librarian (salary negotiable in low \$20's with benefits)
Dugway Proving Ground Technical Information center

Duties include both reference and original cataloging skills.

A bachelor's degree in a science field is preferred and an accredited MLIS required. Some reference experience in scientific or technical fields desired.

Send letter of application and resume to Rich Holder, 8765 Snowbird Circle, Sandy, UT 84093.

Deadline: October 22

Public Library Consultant (\$29,827 plus benefits)
Oklahoma Department of Libraries

Seeking a service-oriented, enthusiastic individual who would enjoy traveling across North/Central Oklahoma to deliver consultant services in the areas of administration and management, performance measures, the planning process, and technology. Person in this new position works closely with consulting team of five general consultants and two specialists.

Qualifications: ALA/MLS and 5

years experience, preferably in a public library.

Submit letter of application, resume and three references to Donna Skvarla, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, 200 NE 18th, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Continuing Education

October 28-29, 1993

Crisis Management for Library Staff

Carson City, NV

Plan your strategy before a disaster strikes your institution. Seminar led by Laurence Barton.

For information contact: Joyce C. Lee, Nevada State Library and Archives, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710. 702/367-1007.

November 8-9, 1993

SLA State-of-the-Art Institute
Washington, DC

Latin America: The Emerging Information Power. The Institute will interrelate two themes: access and exchange of information, and the impact of recent economic and political developments in Latin America.

For information or to register

contact: Lauren M. Emmolo, Manager, Communications, SLA, 1700 18th St NW, Washington, DC 20009. 202/265-9317.

January 23-25, 1994

InfoTech '94 *The Technology Conference for Information Professionals*

continued on page 16

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.



MPLA Newsletter
414 E. Clark
c/o Univ. of South Dakota
Libraries
Vermillion, SD 57069

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Vermillion, SD 57069

- Opportunities for professional involvement
- Continuing education programs
- A forum for the exchange of ideas
- Professional Development Grants
- Support of regional library efforts
- News of people and programs in member states



continued from page 15 - Continuing Education

INFOMART, Dallas, TX

This SLA Winter Education Conference will offer continuing education courses, seminars and exhibits on information technology. Paul Evan Peters, director and founder of the Coalition for Networked Information will be the keynote speaker.

For program and exhibition information, call Trudi Bellardo Hahn, 202/234-4700.

March 22-26, 1994

Public Library Association Fifth

National Conference

Atlanta, GA

Theme: "New Ideas: A PLA Tradition" including over 120 continuing education programs. Program tracks cover: community relations, management, resources, services, and technology. Preconferences on collection management for small to medium-sized libraries, fund raising, and trustees building community partnerships are scheduled immediately preceding the conference.

For more information, 800/545-2433, ext. 5PLA.

May 12, 1994

Customer Service Teleconference

Hardy R. Franklin, ALA president has scheduled a teleconference on customer service and libraries. In his inaugural address, Franklin urged that librarians adopt a "can-do spirit" and take themselves off the reference desk and into the streets. To receive information on site locations or share information on your library's exemplary customer service program, contact Peggy Barker, ALA Associate Executive Director of Communication, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. 800/545-2433, 3xt. 3229.

Professional Development Assistance

**Seminars
Institutes
Workshops
Coursework
Conferences
Independent
Learning/Research
Projects**

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. (Members are eligible after one full year of membership.)

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.

Next deadline: November 5