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MPLA Newsletter

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President's Letter

From Jean Hatfield

Hello MPLA Friends!

As I write this, the frost is on the pumpkin, the leaves are turning gold and the MPLA conference is over for another year. Whew!

As I look back on the past several months I realize that several of my most memorable times have involved MPLA members and have proven to me how valuable this organization is.



Jean Hatfield

First of all, in September I took a vacation to New Mexico. While I was there, I was treated to an adventure, courtesy of Charlene Greenwood, New Mexico state representative to the MPLA Board. Charlene took me to two Pueblo villages where I visited the libraries, met library staff, and toured the village. We were able to be at the Laguna Pueblo on their feast day, so I was able to sample some great cooking, see ceremonial dances, and buy some wonderful souvenirs. This is an example of the MPLA networking that so many of have experienced through the years.

In October, I attended the Tri-Conference in Fargo, but I took the trip in grand style by riding on a chartered bus with some other MPLA attendees from Kansas and Nebraska. Not only was the conference fun, but getting there was enjoyable as well! MPLA conferences are well known for being entertaining as well as informative and the Fargo

(Continued on page 4)

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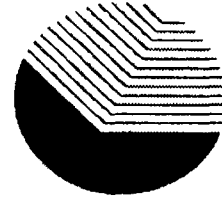
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First Institute a Success!

MPLA Leadership Institute Gets Rave Review from Montanan

By Melissa Heckard
University of Montana-Western

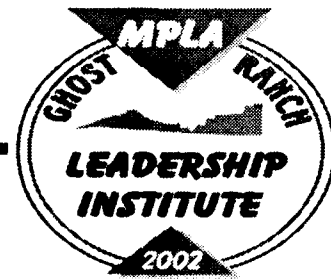
The coyotes howled, the snow fell, and the crimson mesas leant rugged inspiration, as 30 of the region's librarians convened at The Ghost Ranch, in Abiquiu, NM, for a week of leadership training at the first Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute. With some generous financial support from MLA, three Montana librarians attended: Sally Schmidt, Flathead County Library System; Jan Fandrich, MSU-Billings; and Melissa Heckard, University of Montana-Western. The six mentor librarians included Mary Bushing, MSU-Bozeman.

Presenter Maureen Sullivan took what might otherwise be perceived as dry or shallow information and gave everyone a solid, insightful grounding in leadership principles and practices. Topics included effective leadership strategies, leadership styles, interpersonal communication, managing conflict, power and influence, change, working with groups and teams, and personal planning. Maureen's expertise kept the group's interest high.

Meeting daily in a large conference room, participants were given time for morning "community review," frequent question and answer, breakout activities, collaboration with partners, and mentor feed-



Ghost Ranch, New Mexico. Photo by Pat Watkins.



back. Maureen was very approachable as our expert guide. Materials included summary articles, a bibliography of leadership publications, and a sturdy cloth briefcase donated by EBSO representative Barbara Kawecki, who also attended the Institute. Martin Garner (Regis University, Denver) served as the "librarian's librarian" by bringing along many of the recommended books for us to peruse during the Institute.

How many times have you attended conferences in a hotel setting, where the room is sterile, the pool has too much chlorine, the Jacuzzi is broken, or the continental breakfast leaves you longing for a home-cooked meal? To top it off, you raced back and forth between the city delights and scheduled workshops, wishing you had more time to just relax!

The Ghost Ranch was a perfect setting to truly get away from it all. Providing few amenities save hearty meals three times a day, a small museum and gift shop, a library (don't leave home without one!), and a clean cozy bed at the end of the day, The Ghost Ranch served as the perfect combination of educational facility and retreat center. Instead of squeezing in urban activities between our morning and afternoon meetings, we walked, talked, soaked in the beauty of the high canyon country, and took time out for sunrise hikes and evening campfires, rather than for shopping jaunts and vendor parties. In other words, we left feeling rested and reinvigorated rather than harried and spent.

For any librarian interested in becoming a more learned and effective leader (manager, developer, promoter, etc.), the MPLA Leadership Institute is worth your time and effort. Experienced librarians have much to offer as mentors and will come away enriched by the experience, as well. I guarantee that



The light at Ghost Ranch was always interesting, according to participants. Photo by Anna Moore.

at the very least you will ben-

efit from time for a personal retreat in such a stunning natural environment.

To find out more about this year's Institute and to inquire about next year, visit MPLA on the Web at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/>. For a virtual visit to The Ghost Ranch, which offers close to 200 other programs throughout the year, visit their Website at <http://www.ghostranch.org/seminars/>. Finally, these great shots taken by participant Anna Moore (Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma) capture the essence of The Ghost Ranch as "retreat" at <http://www.pioneer.lib.ok.us/Anna/>. Now, do you get the picture?



Above, mentors and facilitators for the Leadership Institute included (L-R) Randy Olsen, Marilyn Hinshaw, Mary Bushing, Dorothy Liegl, Facilitator Maureen Sullivan, Mona Carmack, and Lesley Boughton. Below are all the participants in the first-ever MPLA Leadership Institute held at Ghost Ranch, NM.



Stan Terry of Ebsco hands MPLA President Debbie Iverson a \$10,000 check at the MPLA Tri-Conference, the first installment of Ebsco's pledged support as a founding partner of the MPLA Leadership Institute for the next three years. Also pictured are L-R, Marilyn Hinshaw, Leadership Institute Committee Chair, Jean Hatfield, incoming MPLA President, and Linda Rea, Past MPLA President.

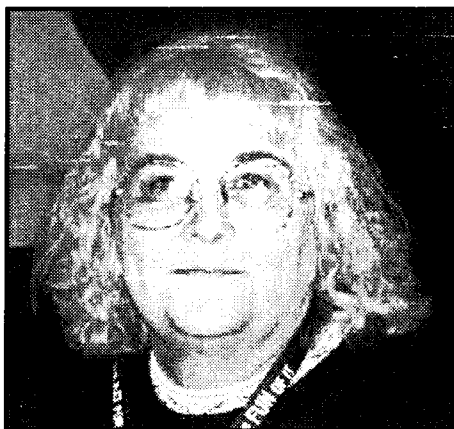
President's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

conference was no different. After a long day of learning new ways of improving library services, members relaxed in the hot tub, slid down the waterslide in the indoor pool, or relaxed and got to know each other better around tables of good food and good drinks.

Although it takes long hours to put together a good conference, the hours I spent were in the company of some of the nicest people you'd ever hope to meet. We met in person, on conference calls, and via e-mail. The spirit of collegiality that is the hallmark of MPLA was prevalent throughout the conference planning. Kaaren Pupino, conference chair from NDLA, Ann Smith, conference co-chair from SDLA, and Diane Briggs, local arrangements chair, were amazing to work with. My hat is off to them and to all of the section chairs who planned programs and "behind the scenes" volunteers who helped the conference run smoothly.

I'm looking forward to a great year as MPLA President. I hope to meet you all sometime in the next year - whether it is in a hot tub, eating fry bread at a festival, having a serious discussion around a dinner table, or online in our distribution group. If I haven't met you before, be sure to introduce yourself and say "Hi." That's part of what being in MPLA is all about.



**Way
to
go,
Linda!**

Linda Deacy, Nevada Librarian and MPLA Board member, has been chosen by the Nevada Library Association as this year's Librarian of the Year.

Don't forget to check out MPLA's Long Range Plan updated in October. It's at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/documents/lrp/longrangeplan.html>.

A Good Practice Reminder From Pattern Research:

Tight budgets shouldn't mean an end to opportunities. A workplace magazine article club is a quick way for employees to introduce other staff members to new ideas. Business, self-help, and specialty magazines and Websites are all good sources of concise articles on personnel management, and leadership issues. Take turns hunting for one-page summaries about consumer trends, new technology, the concerns of seniors, teenagers, and recent immigrants, education, and health, then present your new information at a 30 minute brown bag lunch.

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Reflections of a Conference Past

EDITOR'S NOTE: I received the following e-mail and thought I would share it with our readers.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who worked so tirelessly on the recent MPLA Tri-Conference. I am a newbie to the library field but an old timer at attending conferences. From my previous experience I can rate this one right up there with the best. The variety of subjects covered was awesome--I loved that fact that I had to make serious choices instead of having only one event during each timeframe to attend. The food was excellent and the networking, fellowship, and friendship of the attendees came through loud and clear. I worked the registration desk part of the time and I so enjoyed watching those individuals who met up with old friends either at the desk or elsewhere in the hallways. Hats off to all who were involved in the Tri-Conference--it takes a "whole village" to put on such a wonderful event!

Deb Igoe, North Dakota

A Review of Select Programs at the MPLA Tri-Conference

EDITOR'S NOTE: BJ Vinson, Audio Visual Coordinator and Cataloger at Rose State College in Midwest City, OK was kind enough to send me several reviews of programs she attended at the MPLA Tri-Conference. I have chosen to include three of these reports in the hope they would be helpful to MPLA readers.

MANAGING TECHNICAL SERVICES

Debra W. Johnson, of Johnson & Johnson Consulting, presented this all-day pre-conference. Although the title designates Technical Services, the issues discussed can apply to any organization or any section of an organization.

The primary issue to deal with in management is change. What are the elements of change? Resources, money, learning, temporarily decreased production, communication, the fact that each person moves through change at a different pace? Change means "different" (good or bad), process, planning, fear, resistance, technology, acceleration and enhancement, relief, forced motivation, and leading edge vs. bleeding edge.

The steps of different models of change were discussed. They include: Think about the stages of change: 1) methods change, but organization's business stays the same; 2) systemic (from card catalog to online). These transformations change working relationships dramatically; 3) reorganization.

The more information-based change is, the better. Look at the customer but remember that customer satisfaction is not close enough to the employee all the way through the change process to be a continual motivator. When change is imminent be sure to picture what the goal is, plan how to implement it, and clarify what part employees will play and what input they may have. Recognize what isn't going to change and don't forget the need to modify expectations during change; accountability must still be in place during change. Determine which functions will be set aside or delayed during change and emphasize key benefit(s) such as re-allocation of tasks, less paperwork, reducing duplication, increasing variety, improving access for the customer, and improving productivity.

(Continued on page 6)

Jackie Basaraba of Williston High School, Williston, ND was the winner of the "Name Your Favorite Vendor and Why" contest at the MPLA Tri-Conference (awarded Friday, Oct. 4 at the awards banquet). Jackie's winning answer appears below:

The vendors were so varied and necessary too,
That visiting with each of them was a joy to do.
3M had the stuff to help us guard our books,
Baker and Taylor's discount really made us look!
Dynix's lion bookmarks caused us all to smile,
And StopFalling's embroidered shirts made
us "spend" awhile.

The Master's programs from Texas, Arizona, and Kansas
were neat,

I only wish I were younger to I could accomplish the feat.

So you see to choose just one vendor, and I only
mentioned a few,

Would be quite impossible--they all deserve applause from
me and you!



Conference
Clicks!



(Continued from page 6)

In order to determine how change will be accepted, one needs to access the organizational culture. Do this by walking around and observing how the people interact, meet with each person and discuss the ways of doing things, see how people interact in meetings, watch actions between people after meetings.

Ways of inhibiting change were discussed. They included: Being suspicious of new ideas; insisting on many levels of approval; asking groups to challenge/criticize; withholding praise; instilling job insecurity; changing policies in secret; and rearranging policies. Additional barriers are how people feel about themselves, stress, low self-esteem, lack of understanding/communication, too much undifferentiated communication, and feeling unappreciated.

When making a change in your department, remember that it will affect other departments also. Communicate to the other departments what you are doing. To help employees deal with change, partner with another organization which has gone through a very similar change. Allow/encourage your employees to have discussions with a person (with the same duties) in the other organization and see how they handled aspects of their job changes.

ACTIVE LEARNING : TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR LIBRARIANS

Char Myhre from N. D. State University led a lively session on how librarians can get students to actually participate in Information Literacy classes. She began by addressing the issue of where did you learn to teach? Many learned by example on the job, some learned in library school courses, or had a teaching degree, etc. The next question was, "What is active learning?" It is "anything that students do in a classroom except passively listening to a teacher's lecture." Then it was on to, "Why active learning?" Because students learn more, retain more, and it addresses multiple learning styles. Some of the techniques she discussed were: Begin with a question on something of interest to your audience and determine various ways to ask it; guided note taking by giving an outline; one-minute write—allow a few

minutes to ask them to answer no more than two questions; muddiest point—ask them what is the muddiest point so far; hands-on sessions; incidental learning—content presented linked to game-based and fun activities; collaborate learning—students work in groups, each group member does some of the teaching; case studies and problem-based learning; and role-playing.

To effectively use active-learning techniques, you must identify your audience, identify your objective, match your objective with the appropriate exercises, set ground rules for the exercises, move around the room during the activities, and be prepared. Some topics she suggested were locating periodicals in the library, evaluating Websites, using print indexes, using Boolean search operators, gaining an understanding of LC or DD classification system, and using electronic databases.

Some of the game-based and other active activities presented were: library Jeopardy, crossword puzzles, word searches, worksheets to be completed by small groups, customized tour, a one-minute reaction paper, reading quiz, online tutorials, and using a deck of cards to teach how Boolean searching works. Give each student a card to hold up. Tell them to lower all cards which are black AND face cards, lower the ones which are red OR less than 7, lower all that are black AND NOT 10. You should have only 10 of spades or 10 of clubs left up.

You may contact Ms. Myhre at char.myhre@ndsu.nodak.edu to obtain a copy of her bibliography.

SACAGAWEA : HER LIFE & LEGEND

Our cultural treat after the Thursday night dinner at the MPLA Tri-Conference was a historical perspective on the life, and legend, of Sacagawea of Lewis and Clark fame. Amy Mossett who is a descendent of Sacagawea and the Director of Tourism for the Three Affiliated Tribes, ND, told Sacagawea's story.

Ms. Mossett is also very involved in the planning for the Lewis and Clark celebration from 2003-2006.

This presentation was not a "play," it was a relating of the factual events in Sacagawea's life and anecdotes of her husband, Toussaint Charbonneau, Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the crew in general. She also told the story of her dress and the use, or significance, of each item on the dress.

Some of the many Websites about Sacagawea or the Lewis and Clark Expedition are:

<http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark>

<http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/inside/saca.html>

<http://encarta.msn.com/encnet/refpages/>

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/s_z/sacagawea.htm

http://www.linecamp.com/museums/americanwest/western_names/sacajawea/sacajawea.html

<http://www.meyna.com/shoshoni.html>

<http://www.meyna.com/shoshoni.html>

http://www.lib.virginia.edu/speccol/exhibits/lewis_clark/home.html

<http://staff.washington.edu/~muzi/LC/LCmap.html>

<http://www.lewis-clark.org/>

<http://www.lewisandclark.org/>

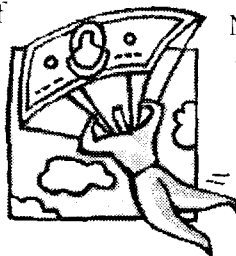
Strength in Numbers...

MPLA Professional Development Grants Awarded

Kay Christensen
Chair, Professional Dev. Grants Comm.

The old adage, "There is strength in numbers," could apply to MPLA Professional Development Grants. Working together as an Association, we can support continuing education and research experiences for our members and improve the quality of library services in the Mountain Plains region.

The Professional Development Grants Committee operates on a calendar year basis meeting in the middle of February, April, June, August, October and December to



consider grant applications. In 2002, the Committee has funded activities ranging from MLS coursework to research on the utilization of GIS within academic libraries. A new committee with a new cycle of funding begins in 2003.

We hope as you look over the grants funded in 2002, you'll be inspired to apply for an MPLA Professional Development Grant. Information and application forms are available from the MPLA Website at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla>.

Amelia Shelley, Laramie County Library System's Children's/Young Adult Services Division Manager, received a \$600 regular grant to attend a YASLA pre-conference, Getting Graphic @ your library, at the 2002 ALA Conference in Atlanta.

Cynthia Mielke, Library Associate at H.M. Briggs Library, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, received a \$150 mini-grant for coursework toward her MLS from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences.

Alice Trussell, Director of Fiedler Engineering Library at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, received a \$600 regular grant to attend The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) 2002 Annual Conference and Exposition in Montreal, Canada.

Amy DeNomme, Library Assistant at the Ronning Branch of Siouxland Libraries, Sioux Falls, SD, received a \$600 regular grant for coursework toward her MLS from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences.

Debora Robertson, Director of the Library/Resource Center at Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE, received a \$150 mini-grant to attend the MPLA Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, NM.

Pamela Bohmfalk, Assistant Director of Hastings Public Library, Hastings, NE, received a \$500 regular grant to attend The 2002 CODI/HUG Joint Conference in Orlando.

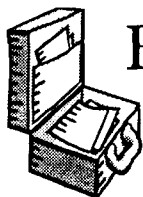
Lucie Osborn, Director of the Laramie County Library System, Cheyenne, WY, received a \$400 regular grant to attend a TGCI Grantsmanship Training program in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

JaNae Kinikin, Science Librarian at Weber State University, Ogden, Utah, received a \$600 regular grant to be used for a research project to survey Carnegie Classification Master's Colleges and Universities I and II and evaluate GIS utilization within the libraries at these institutions.

Lisa Brunick, Reference/Bibliographic Instruction Librarian at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD, received a \$600 regular grant to attend the Institute for Information Literacy, Immersion '03, Track II program in Rhode Island.

Phillip Jones, Instruction Librarian/Collection Development Coordinator, Adams State College, Alamosa, CO, received a \$600 regular grant to participate in a librarian exchange program between Adams State College and Universidad Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico.

Congratulations to these MPLA grant recipients!



Business Sense

Jean Anderson
Business Librarian
Fort Collins Public Library, CO

(Note: This column is designed to be a handout for public library business patrons. I would be happy to share this column and previous columns with you - Word format. Email me at anderson@julip.fcgov.com.)

Business Law

The Internet can be a free and rich source of legal business information for the business community. Try these Internet sites listed below to find free e-mail advice, full-text articles and books, downloadable legal and business plan forms. Also check out the national directory of lawyers and legal reference sources, such as law dictionaries and encyclopedias written in plain English.

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For years, FindLaw has been winning awards for legal information. Their Business page is chock-full of articles and guides on all aspects of business start-up and development. For instance, in the Human Resources section, users can find articles on employer's rights and responsibilities, termination forms, FAQs, and links to relevant regulatory agencies. Looking for legal information on business structure or finance or intellectual property? This site also offers an active message board on nearly 50 specific

business areas. Bookmark this site to catch the "FindLaw Topic of the Week" – an in-depth discussion of various business-related legal issues. Free.

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Findlaw offers this Website that focuses on corporate level legal issues. Check out this site for a broader look at industry-wide litigation and national legal issues. Areas of interest include antitrust law, environmental issues, mergers and acquisitions, securities, and white collar crime. Links include professional associations, news wire articles, government resources, and laws. Free.

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IRS: Tax Information for Business

www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/bus_info/

You can't ignore Uncle Sam, so have a look at the Internal Revenue Service's site for businesses. This site is a reliable source of updated information on business tax issues, rules and regulations. Take a look at the Business Library or the latest Internal Revenue Bulletin. Or order a free copy of The Small Business/Self-Employed Tax Calendar, Introduction to Federal Taxes CD-ROM, Virtual Small Business Workshop CD-ROM, or the Small Business Resource Guide CD-ROM. Find out more about the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002, including the special depreciation allowance. You can even scan through the new Tax Scams page. Free.

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Jean Anderson is the Business Librarian for the Fort Collins Public Library. Suggestions for future columns are welcome: anderson@julip.fcgov.com

Around the MPLA Region



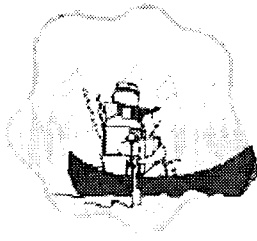
ARIZONA

Culture, Connections & Community is the theme of the 2002 Arizona Library Association's Annual Conference, December 4-6th -- Service Awards are: Newton Rosenzweig Distinguished Service: Caryl Major, Moon Valley High School; Library Leadership: Jan Elliott, Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records; Outstanding Library Service: Anne Owens, Glendale Public Library; Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician: Esther P.Solis, Casa Grande Public Library; Outreach Services Group Award: Patty Freeman, Florence P.L., Jan Custis, Lynette Hinojos, and Sandra Mendoza, Coolidge P.L.; Outstanding Decision-maker: Barbara Kile, Yavapai County Library District; Rising Moon Outstanding Youth Services: Carol Finch, Phoenix Public Library; Follett School Librarian of the Year: Linda Schallan, Desert Mountain H.S./Scottsdale Public Library

*AZLA Author Awards -- Arizona Highways Adult Fiction Award - Brad Udall for *The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint*; Arizona Highways Adult Nonfiction Award - Brad Dimock for *Sunk Without a Sound*; Judy Goddard/Libraries Limited Young Adult Author Award - Pete Hautman; Judy Goddard/Libraries Limited Children's Author/Illustrator Award - Sylvia Long.*

Complete information about the conference and awards is at <http://www.azla.org>.

(Continued on page 15)



MPLA Featured State MONTANA



“Working Smart” with the Montana Library Association

“Working Smart” is one of the slogans expressing the philosophy of the Montana Library Association, a strong and growing organization of librarians, library students, trustees, and friends across the Big Sky State which has benefited the state’s librarians and patrons for nearly a century.

The Montana Library Association is popular among librarians in Montana because of the quality of its conventions and continuing education offerings, the camaraderie of its members, and its close and effective ties with the Montana State Library.

The organization maintains an active agenda throughout the year, including three board meetings and a board retreat as well as all of the programs for which all Montanans with a library connection are eligible.

Some of its offerings include:

1) A forum for exchanging information, for solving problems, and for learning about the changing world of libraries and information science.



The MLA Board Retreat at Camp on the Boulder in July.

- 2) Workshops, retreats, and special seminars for those working in libraries.
- 3) FOCUS, our newsletter which features upcoming events and reports news about the changing world of Montana libraries.
- 4) WIRED-MT (a.k.a. Wired-Montana) the librarians’ online listserv.
- 5) <http://www.mlib.org>, our Website which includes everything from application forms to current events and pictures to myriad information for MLA members plus links to other sites of interest.
- 6) Our annual late April convention which regularly brings 400 plus Montana librarians together for conversation, workshops, speakers, and fun.
- 7) Professional development grants and convention travel grants to encourage continuing education.
- 8) Awards recognition to individuals and libraries for outstanding contribution to library services.
- 9) Regional and national representation to the Pacific Northwest Library Association, the Mountain Plains Library Association, and the American Library Association.
- 10) Interest groups which promote special programs and projects for specific parts of the library community, including those involved in children’s and young adults’ activities, government documents and preservation, Offline (sponsors of a great annual retreat which offers the latest in technology-related information as well as plenty of chocolate!), paraprofessionals, and others.

The current MLA Board of Directors includes President Coby Johnson, an outstanding catalog librarian from the University of Montana Mansfield Library whose warm personality and professional knowledge make her a wonderful leader.

Coby is a weaver, and she has chosen “Libraries Woven Together . . . Common Goals + Cooperation = Strength” as her theme for the 2003 MLA Conference at the Copper King Convention Center in Butte.

Vice President/President Elect is John Finn, who has worked both at the Montana State Library and currently at Great Falls Public Library and who also brings

a high level of knowledge and professionalism to the board.

Secretary/Treasurer Susan Howe from the Bozeman Public Library rounds out the executive committee, which provides leadership to the entire board, which includes representatives to professional regional and national organizations, chairs of the academic/spe-

Montana’s Representative is a Mountain Climber and Canoeist

Cheryl Heser, MPLA Representative from Montana, is Director of Rosebud County Library in Forsyth, MT. She grew up in Billings, MT, where the Parmly Billings Library, a Carnegie building now listed in the National Historic Register, was one of the favorite parts of her childhood and created a lifelong love of literature and libraries.



Cheryl Heser performs.

An American and English literature major and enthusiast, Cheryl was both a high school and junior high English teacher before returning to college for a library science minor and teaching endorsement, after which she was a K-12 school librarian as well as an English teacher. In 1997 she decided to leave the school “scene” and began her work at Rosebud County Library, which has included automating the collection and developing a number of programs which have made the library a community center as well as a growing library, both in collection and circulation and in technology.

During college and her first several years of teaching, Cheryl spent her summers working for the National Park Service, first in Yellowstone National Park and later in Grand Teton National Park, where she was an ardent mountain climber and backpacker. The backpacking experience is still part of her life, and she has taken her three children for five-day back-

packs in a variety of places including the Teton backcountry and the “Beaten Path” jaunt from Cooke City to East Rosebud Lake in the Beartooth Range in Montana. Other outdoor loves include canoeing with her brother on the Border Lakes in northern Minnesota and the Namekagon and St. Croix Rivers in Wisconsin.

Cheryl has been married for 28 years to a rancher, and they have three children – Clint, a deputy sheriff who is the father of their three much-adored grandchildren, Anne, a bank officer whose marriage in 2002 was a major family event, and Josh, a diesel mechanic and horse trainer who still helps his dad some with the cattle.

Cheryl is a nationally published poet and also writes song lyrics, including those for wedding songs for her two older children, with the music written by her brother, who is a composer and orchestra conductor. Cheryl also teaches piano lessons and accompanies students for music festivals in southeastern Montana.

Cheryl’s library experiences in Montana include holding several offices through the past seven years with the Montana Library Association, including Director-at-Large East, Chair of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee, MPLA Representative, and Chair of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Task Force. As part of this last position, she has returned to working with the National Park Service as a “civilian” drafting a Memorandum of Understanding for collaboration between NPS and the fourteen “Trail States” library associations on Corps of Discovery II, part of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial observance.

cial, public, and school library divisions, and directors at large for the eastern and western halves of the state.

Anita Scheetz, Director-at-Large East, and John York, former Director-at-Large West, are “stars” in MLA’s firmament after an outstanding effort which resulted in a dramatic increase in the membership



MLA President Coby Johnson and Vice President John Finn.

numbers for the organization. Anita is now joined by Terri Dood as the new Director-at-Large West, and

they anticipate continued growth and active participation by members of MLA. Executive Director Karen Hatcher is the retired Dean of the Mansfield Library at the University of Montana, and she does a commendable job of keeping track of all of the information and business of the organization.

Currently, two task forces are hard at work for special projects for MLA, beginning with the Strategic Planning Task Force headed by Debbie Schlessinger and Bette Ammon, two of MLA’s honored librarians with long histories with the organization. Strategic planning has moved from surveys and investigations to the point of making recommendations for the mission, organization, and activities of MLA through the first part of the 21st century.

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Task Force, chaired by Cheryl Hesel, is working on a number of projects to ensure librarian knowledge and involvement in activities and public relations efforts during the bicentennial observance from 2003 – 2006. With two “Signature Events” in the state, one in Great Falls in 2004 and one at Pompey’s Pillar near Billings in 2006, there will be plenty of opportunity for library programming and participation.

Recent events of note within MLA included a lively retreat for the Academic/Special Library Division (ASLD) and the Public Library Division (PLD) at Chico Hot Springs Resort in October. Librarians at that get-together participated in online reference education, sessions on libraries and sexual harassment and censorship, a special presentation on libraries in China, beer tasting, an in-the-pool book discussion group, and great eating with plenty of visiting.

Montana attendees at the first MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute include Melissa Heckard of Western Montana College of U of M at Dillon, Jan Fandrich of Montana State University – Billings, and Sally Schmidt of the Flathead County Library District. MLA was proud to assist these fine prospective leaders with their expenses in attending the Institute, and we are looking forward to what they have to offer both in personal leadership positions and as advisees to the board as Montana plans its own leadership training.

MLA includes a Legislative Affairs Committee, led ably for a number of years by Carroll College Library Director Lois Fitzpatrick, and the committee and the MLA lobbyists anticipate a challenging legislative session beginning in January. Montana faces a large deficit which already has resulted in cuts in services, and both MLA and the Montana State Library will be fighting to keep further cuts from eroding the effectiveness and even the existence of Montana’s libraries.

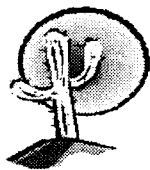
We are proud of the Montana Library Association and look forward to a strong and bright future.



Folks gather for fun at the annual ASLD/PLD Retreat at Chico Hot Springs.

Around the MPLA Region

(Continued from page 11)



Arizona receives Gates grant -- Arizona recently received a \$377,592 grant from the Gates Foundation for the Native American Access to Technology Grant Program. This grant will support the program assisting Arizona tribes developing strategies for long-term technology information sustainability.

AzLA receives \$140,000 -- The Association received a check for \$140,000 from the Horner estate to support the Horner Fellowship Program. AZLA has previously had a small Horner Fellowship supporting their work with the Japan Library Association. This year's Horner Fellow is Mimi McCain from Phoenix Public Library. This generous new funding will allow the Association to expand its connection with Japanese librarians.

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Regional Conservation Center Collection donated to the Myra Jo Moon Collection at Jefferson County Public Library -- Myra Jo Moon is remembered as a pioneer in the field of library preservation in Colorado. As Preservation Librarian at Colorado State University from 1982 until her death on March 15, 1993 she was the spearhead of Colorado's preservation efforts. The formation of the Colorado Preservation Alliance (CPA) was particularly important to Myra Jo. The CPA is a non-profit consortium of libraries, archives, museums, historical and genealogical societies, government agencies, and other interested organizations and individuals committed to preserving cultural and historical resources in the state of Colorado to insure their availability for present and future generations. In May of 1989, over a hundred librarians, archivists and interested individuals attended a meeting to express concern and to focus on the future of Colorado preservation. The Colorado Preservation Alliance was created as a result of that meeting.

Myra Jo had made a tremendous personal investment

in preservation and had amassed a large collection of reference material. This collection was donated to the Colorado Preservation Alliance in May 1993 by Rosemary Whitaker. The Myra Jo Moon Memorial Preservation Reference Collection started with approximately 140 items. It currently contains over 220 books, videos, SPEC kits, periodicals, and pamphlets. The collection includes extensive information on the subjects of disaster planning, statewide planning, book repair, care and handling of specific media, etc. It includes both current and historical information. It is the most comprehensive collections preservation reference resource in the state.

This circulating collection is housed at Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL) in its professional collection at the Lakewood Library in Administrative Services. It may be accessed in the JCPL catalog <http://jefferson.lib.co.us> under the subject heading: "Myra Jo Moon Memorial Preservation Reference Collection." All of the titles in the collection are available through interlibrary loan.

First report from CAL available -- The Colorado Association of Libraries First Annual Report (2002) is available from the CAL Website at <http://www.cal-webs.org/atyl.html>. This year has been a busy one for the new association as it continues to revise the bylaws and incorporate member associations into the structure.

Tips for dealing with legislators -- The CAL Legislative Committee has a Webpage devoted to information and resources related to state cuts to library programs. The page (<http://www.cal-webs.org/leg.html>) includes resources such as bookmarks, posters, quotable facts, how to call your legislator, and vital links.

Advocating for libraries -- Colorado's @ your library advocacy campaign is promoting an opportunity to learn first-hand, with colleagues, how to plan and implement advocacy on behalf of your library. This project will be conducted under the purview of the Colorado Association of Libraries. It is a three-pronged, statewide advocacy campaign, including

elements of public relations, marketing, community relations, and related areas, to build visibility and support for Colorado libraries within the state. More information about this campaign can be found at: <http://www.cal-webs.org/atyl.html>.

Sounds tasty -- The Colorado Summer Reading Program for 2003 is "Chews to Read," a potluck of ideas on how to bring a tasty, fun summer of reading to Colorado's youngsters. Receive the "Blue Plate Special"... all Colorado public libraries will receive a basic kit of posters, bookmarks, and stickers. Take Out Available: Additional quantities, plus other items including T-shirts may be ordered from JanWay. Check out the SRP Website - <http://www.aclin.org/cys-lib>

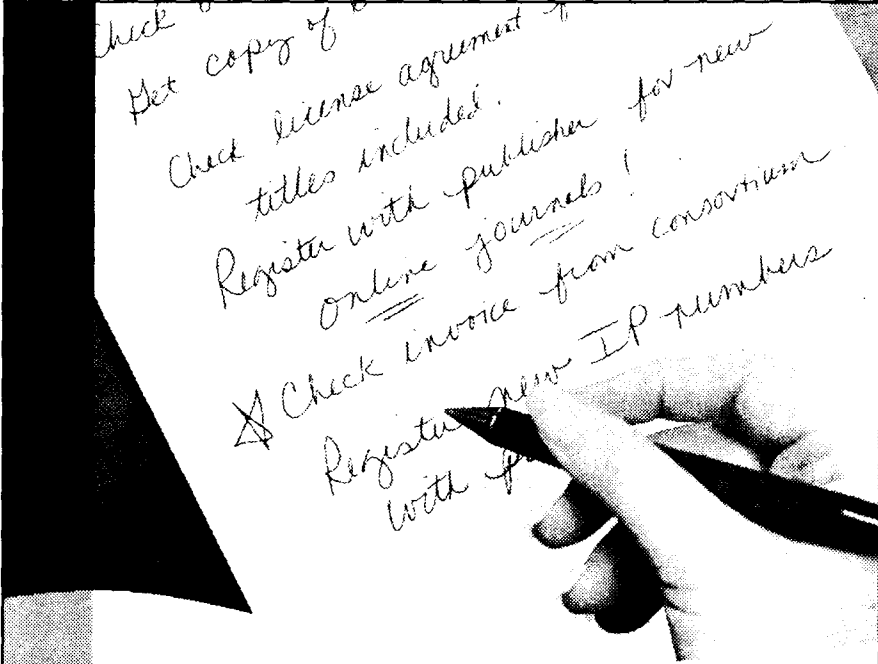
New downloadable stuff -- The Colorado Library Card Program, now in virtually all public libraries and nearly all school libraries, has improved tools so that libraries can better inform staff and patrons about

the unique cooperative program. New downloadable bookmarks, sample articles for staff and public newsletters, FAQs and ideas will be available shortly on the Colorado Library Card Statewide Borrower's Program main Website at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/images/CLClogomedium.gif>.

KANSAS

Evergreen branch opening an unqualified success! -- The grand opening of the new Evergreen District Branch Library in north Wichita was held Nov. 15-17. Director of Libraries Cynthia Berner Harris reports that the opening was "an unqualified success" with attendance and library use during the first weekend exceeding expectations.

Weekend festivities began on Friday evening with a Friends of the Library sponsored reception and preview of the new facility for elected officials, donors,



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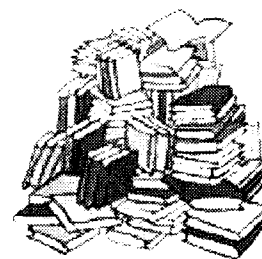
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Welcome to MPLA



New Members

ARIZONA

William Easton, student
University of Arizona

COLORADO

Patricia Anderson
Arthus Lakes Library

Gwendolyn Henderson
Pikes Peak Library District

Margaret Kleszynski
University of Southern Colorado

Richard Lee
Pueblo City-County Library
District

Erica Mac Craigh
Arapahoe Library District

Leif Madsen
Front Range Community College

Nancy McCain
Lake County Public Library

K. Mrozek
Colorado College

Candace Story
Governor's Ranch Elementary

Norm Union
Adams County Library System

Davette Zinik
Auraria Library

KANSAS

Carol Grant, student
Emporia State University

Mark Sinclair
EBSCO

Mary Tuytschaevers
Dodge City Public Library

NEBRASKA

Bill Beck
Wahoo Public School

Evelyn Bingel
Omaha Public Library

Robin Brooks
Kilgore Memorial Library

Barb Chilton
Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public
Library

Jan Gorman
Baright Public Library

Stephen Hunt
Plattsmouth Public Library

Donna Jurena
Doane College

Mary Stratman
St. Wenceslaus School

LaVilla Van Boening
Longfellow Elementary School

Sandra Wallick
Lincoln City Libraries

NEVADA

Joyce Cox
Nevada State Library & Archives

OKLAHOMA

Twila Camp, student
University of Oklahoma

SOUTH DAKOTA

Ernetta Fox
Wegner Health Science Info. Center

UTAH

Carrie Freckleton, student
University of North Texas

WYOMING

Cheryl Davis
Kelly Walsh High School

Linda Harris
Centennial Junior High School

Elaine Hayes
Laramie County Library System

Alta Hepner
Wyoming State Library

Janice McCracken

Mary Rhoads
Johnson County Library

Valerie Roady
Bighorn County School District #4

Dawn Rohan
Wyoming State Library

Troy Rumpf
Laramie County Library System

Crystal Stratton
Laramie County Community
College

and representatives of the Library, ACTS on Truancy, and Head Start – the three tenants of the new facility. More than 125 attendees enjoyed the opportunity to tour the remodeled building and to express appreciation to the many donors and vendors that helped to make the facility a reality.

The public grand opening of the building was held on Saturday morning when city council member Sharon Fearey made dedication remarks and officially opened the building in front of approximately 50 neighborhood residents. Through the day, families enjoyed a variety of special programs including musicians, authors, and a storyteller. Pizza Hut, one of the Library's numerous private partners for the Evergreen branch, provided free pizza to guests. On Sunday, special events continued with two puppet shows and Hispanic folk dancers.

Minisa and Marina Lakes neighborhood branches were combined and enhanced to provide better service to customers, and the first results indicate the neighborhood's support of the new facility. During the seven hours of service on Saturday, more than 200 library items per hour were borrowed from Evergreen. More than 100 library customers received their first Wichita Public Library borrowers' cards during this first day as well. The volume of activity for the first two days of operation at Evergreen equated to nearly one half month's use of the former Minisa branch and well over one week's use of the former Marina Lakes branch. Library staff noted attendance and library use by many of the customers that had expressed concern or hesitancy about the new location. "We were pleased to see so many of our former Minisa and Marina Lakes customers during our opening weekend," noted Evergreen branch manager Jaime Prothro. "As we had always believed, once our former customers visit this new facility and see the service enhancements we can provide, we know they will be regular customers here as well."

Kansas libraries rate high -- The results of the Hennen American Public Library Rating have been posted and, once again, Kansas libraries have landed in the top ten in several categories. Kudos to the Marry

Cotton Public Library in Sabetha (pop. 2,355), the Morton County Library in Elkhart (pop. 3,440), and the Johnson County Library in suburban Kansas (pop. 346,046). To see the results, go to: <http://haplr-index.com/HAPLR100.htm>. There were other Kansas libraries that received high scores but weren't in the top ten in their category. These included Garnett, Hays, Hiawatha, Stanton County, Marion City, Meade, Moundridge, Seneca, and Stafford.

Kansas Library Association gets ready for the new -- After 19 years, Kansas Library Association is ready for two major changes. In September, Rosanne Goble was named its new Executive Director. In December, KLA will move from Hutchinson to Topeka. Goble is the immediate past director at Dodge City Public Library. She'll continue as director of the Southwest Kansas Library System into November. Her earlier positions included Newton, KS, and Ridgeway, VA. "We are pleased to have someone of Ms. Goble's extensive experience in both management and the library field," said KLA president Robert Walter of Pittsburg State University. "As we embark on a new century, it is very important for the library profession to have a presence in the state capital. Libraries are a keystone of our educational system. We need to remind people of their importance and advance the role of libraries and librarians in the education, economic and cultural life of all Kansans." Goble will try to fill the impressive shoes left by long-time KLA Executive Secretary Leroy Gattin, who is also director of the South Central Kansas Library System and of the Hutchinson Public Library. His tireless efforts permitted KLA to successfully celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2000.

MONZANA

One of country's largest Wallace Stegner collections debuts at MSU library -- One of the country's largest collections of publications written by and about the late Wallace Stegner, author and Western thinker, has been acquired by the Renne Library at Montana State University, Bozeman, and is now available to scholars and researchers. The collection includes correspondence and memorabilia as well as publications.

Stegner was an author, historian, Western environmental writer, biographer, essayist and former director of the Stanford Writing Center. The MSU Wallace Stegner Collection includes nearly a thousand pieces of memorabilia, including letters to his publisher, books, journals and articles and is thought to be one of the largest public collections of Stegner material. It has been shelved in the Renne Library's Special Collections Room.

Bruce Morton, dean of MSU Libraries, said the collection would enhance Western scholarship at MSU. "Stegner's work, and this collection, crosses many disciplines," Morton said. "This collection affords opportunities for undergraduates and graduate students in history, literature, environmental and Western Studies."

MSU's Stegner collection resulted from the acquisition of personal collections from two Stegner scholars, according to Gordon "Corky" Brittan, MSU professor of philosophy and the director of a group raising funds for the endowed Stegner Chair at MSU. Brittan is also a founding member of The Wallace Stegner Society.

The first and largest collection that MSU acquired belonged to Nancy Colberg, Stegner's bibliographer and retired owner of Willow Creek Books, a used and rare book store in Denver, CO. The second and smaller

private collection combined to form MSU's Stegner collection belonged to the late T. H. Watkins, who was writing Stegner's official biography. Watkins also was serving as first Wallace Stegner Distinguished Professor of Western American Studies at MSU when he died in February 2000. The collections were purchased with a combination of endowment funds from the Stegner Endowed Chair as well as library acquisition funds.

Brittan worked with Mary Bushing, retired professor and former director of acquisitions at MSU Library, in acquiring the two collections. Bushing negotiated a deal with the Colbergs and they personally delivered their part of the collection to MSU.

"Stegner is a writer that helped to define the meaning of the modern West and the relationship of the Western environmentalist to the mind of the West," Bushing said. "It is a perfect fit to our institutional commitment and goals."

NEBRASKA

U of N librarian wins for best reference transaction -- Steve Coffman of Library Systems and Services LLC is pleased to announce that Janette Shaffer of the University of Nebraska's Medical Center Library has won the latest award for the best transcript of a virtual synchronous reference transaction.

In selecting the best electronic transcript of a chat or live and real time transaction (but not an e-mail transaction), the panel considered relevant quality factors such as accuracy of the answer, user as well as librarian satisfaction, and utility of the answer to the user. In support of their selection, members noted that the "Librarian kept the patron informed of her search strategy and gave helpful advice for searching on their own; librarian answered the question; librarian used a casually professional tone that seems to work very well in the virtual setting; patron was happy with the results."

Promotion at UNO -- The University of Nebraska at Omaha Library announces that Dorothy Willis has been promoted to Department Chair of Public Services. Willis began her new duties Oct. 1, 2002. Willis served as Access Services Librarian at the UNO Library since June 18, 2001. Willis served as Director of Library Services at Dana College, Blair, NE from August 1997 to June 2000.

Award winners! -- The following were recipients of Nebraska Library Association and Section Awards in October:

Mentor of the Year:

Tom Boyle

Meritorious Services Award:

Carol Conner

Trustee Citation Award:

Wally Seiler

Mari Sandoz Award:

Dr. John Janovy

Presidential Award for
Excellence:
Mary Nash
Paraprofessional Award:
Peggy Engle
Excalibur Award:
Kathleen Griepenstroh
Houchen Bindery Beginning
Professional Award:
Scott Childers
College and University
Distinguished Service Award:
Dorothy Willis

Western trails soon to be available to all -- The Nebraska Library Commission is coordinating a project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Studies to digitize documents, photographs, diaries, maps and other materials related to Nebraska's rich trails heritage. Information on historic overland trails, railroads, highways and modern recreation trails will be posted on the Internet via a searchable database. For more information, point your browser to: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/westerntrails>.

NEVADA

Only Basque film repository in U.S. -- The Basque Studies Library isn't one to be flashy. You never hear it banging drums for recognition or demanding publicity. That's just not its style. Instead, librarian Marcelino Ugalde and his staff work quietly and conscientiously on its collection of Basque materials, the most comprehensive outside of Europe.

It's the tree trunks that grab your attention when you walk into the

Basque Studies Library. One greets you at the door while two others are tucked in odd corners among the stacks. The tree trunks bear carvings -- what we might call graffiti these days -- done in the early 1900s. The artists were Basque sheepherders, longing for their homeland and loved ones. While tending their sheep in the mountains, they carved messages and images on Aspen trees. Their artwork ranged from initials within a heart to female figures. These trunks in the library came from fallen trees found in the Reno area.

For a library that began in 1969 with 3,200 volumes and now has approximately 50,000 volumes, isn't that worth some claim to fame? Add to that, this recent news: The library is now the site of the only Basque film repository in the United States. The subjects range from animated children's films promoting the Basque language to full-length features from Basque directors, the leading filmmakers of Spanish films today. See <http://www.library.unr.edu/depts/basqlib>.

UNLV Librarian of the Year -- Vicki Nozero was recently honored as McPhee Librarian of the Year by the faculty of the UNLV Libraries. Nozero, who holds an MLS from the Catholic University of America and a JD from George Washington University, has been with the UNLV Libraries since 1995. In addition to serving as interim head of both

Instruction and Technical Services, she has lead several successful process improvement committees in the library which have recommended improvements in work processes and unit organizational structures. Active in both library and campus service, she has an excellent scholarship record, including a recent article on process improvement published in the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. Currently, Nozero heads Research and Information 2, the newly created department in Lied Library that includes microforms, periodicals, and government publications.

'Basque' in knowledge @ your library -- It's not too soon. Planning is underway for the 2003 MPLA/NLA Conference, Nov. 4-8, at Incline Village, NV. Reforma National is a contributing program sponsor. Look here for pictures of the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe <http://www.laketahoehyatt.com>. Basque food, a cruise on Lake Tahoe, 24-hour entertainment -- oh, and a great conference, besides.

NEW MEXICO

"Your Medium, Your Message @ your library" -- The NM Library Association had its annual Mini-Conference in scenic Ruidoso Nov. 1 -- just two days prior to the snow to help its ski season get started. The conference was an enormous success with over 100 participants. The theme was "Your Medium, Your Message @ your library." It was designed to continue the momentum of the po-

litical season. Author, reviewer, and retired Texas school librarian Sherry York presented a program entitled "Using Culturally-Relevant Children's Literature to Win Friends for Your Library." In her presentation York discussed how the use of minority-authored children's literature can reap positive results in public and school libraries. Booktalks included 40 children's books by Latino and Native American authors. Authors ranged from the well-known like Sandra Cisneros, Rudolfo Anaya, and Joseph Bruchac to a number of lesser-known writers such as Marisa Montes, Loretta Lopez, Michael Lacapa, Rodney Johnson, Joy Harjo, and others. Also included were three authors who recently attended the National Book Festival. Pat Mora, Cynthia Leitich Smith and Luci Tapahonso were invited guests at the Washington, D.C. festival sponsored by the Library of Congress and first lady Laura Bush.

Statewide library bond issue passes -- There has been a multi-year political drive to improve libraries in New Mexico -- especially in the schools. There was a statewide bond for \$16 million for school, public, and academic libraries that was up for a vote Nov. 5. The outcome was inspiring. It won by 60% o/40%. More people voted on this bond issue than any other and it had the highest percentage of positive votes of the any of the other statewide bonds. The previous statewide library bond issue in 1994 barely passed. Two of the state's most populated

counties also had library bond issues on the ballot and they won by great margins also.

NMSL breast cancer book project -- New Mexico State Library selected and sent breast cancer materials to every public library in New Mexico in 2002. NMSL partnered with two other organizations to implement a Breast Cancer Book Project. Funding was received from the St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation and they also partnered with the Nancy Floyd Haworth Cancer Lectureship. The NMSL committee consisted of Ben Wakashige, State Librarian; Renee Payne, Office of Marketing and Communications; Stephanie Gerding, Library Development Services; Minnie Murray, Circulation; and Tricia Hewitt, Cataloging.

These books and videos are valuable additions to existing library collections on breast cancer that increase awareness about good breast health, the importance of early detection, and treatments and recovery from breast cancer. These recommended reading materials will empower citizens to be better informed and in more control when faced with making important health decisions. Included in the collection were eight books, a three video set, a CD with links to Web resources, and a magazine subscription to *M-AMM Magazine: Women, Cancer and Community*. Over 100 libraries received these materials.

NORTH DAKOTA

Fritz Outstanding Support Staff announced -- Kathy Spencer, Manager of the University of North Dakota Geology Branch Library and longtime NDLA member is the 2002 recipient of the annual Chester Fritz Library Outstanding Library Support Staff Award. Kathy manages the 50,000 volume collection which includes 100,000 maps and faculty and students say she knows the resources very well. She created a map locator guide for the Chester Fritz Library Website located on the In-Library Resources Page (<http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/library/resources/maps.jsp>). Ms. Spencer barcoded 17,000 Minnesota topographic maps and relocated all the US Bureau of Mines publications from the geology periodicals area to the government documents area. The award includes \$250 and a framed certificate.

Two attended Ghost Ranch -- North Dakota Library Association sponsored two candidates to the Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute Nov. 10-14, 2002. The candidates were selected based on applications, references and qualifications. The two NDLA members who attended were Karen Chobot, Director of the Mildred Johnson Library, ND State School of Science, Wahpeton, ND and Suzanne Morrison, Librarian to the US Federal Courts Library in Fargo, ND. Chobot is a past NDLA board member whose contributions include chairing the Intellectual Freedom

Committee, helping develop a number of the policy handbooks and bylaws changes, and advising board members on the protocols for writing and conveying them when she was chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Morrison is active in the American Association of Law Libraries, has taught courses on legal bibliography, and has helped train staff and organize law libraries in several eastern European countries. Currently she serves on the NLDA Executive Board as Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair. The NDLA Executive Board voted to support the two Leadership Institute candidates up to \$1000 for each person. Committee selection members were Susan Dingle, past-NDLA representative to MPLA and NDLA President LaDean Moen.

High speed access in ND -- Twenty-nine public libraries now have high-speed Internet access through the North Dakota network. The libraries are connected to the Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education (StageNet). Connections are provided using a T1 line or a DSL line. The libraries were connected to StageNet in September and early October.

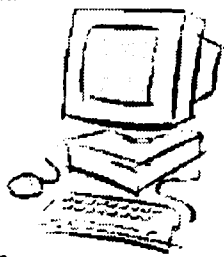
Funding to connect public libraries to StageNet is provided through E-rate funds and legislative appropriations to the North Dakota Information Technology Department (ITD). Tim Paulson, state telecommunications analyst, says libraries that opted for

StageNet will see many advantages including video-conferencing. "This connection is the first step to a statewide library consortium to support both small and larger libraries." The purpose of StageNet is to provide accessible Internet connection to the citizens of North Dakota. It will also benefit communities with economic development as well as providing substantial cost savings to participating public libraries. For more information about StageNet contact Stella Cone at (701) 328-2185.

SOUTH DAKOTA

I.D. Weeks gets LTA grant -- The University of South Dakota's I.D. Weeks Library was recently awarded a Library Technology Access (LTA) initiative grant. LTA is a strategic initiative developed from a relationship between Hewlett-Packard (HP) and the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (a division of ALA) to provide public and academic libraries a solution in offering accessible computer workstations to patrons with disabilities. I.D. Weeks is one of two academic libraries in the United States to receive the LTA initiative grant.

LTA offered six award packages—four to public libraries and two to academic libraries as a pilot project for this grant initiative. Besides the University of South Dakota, grant initiatives were



also awarded to Cleveland Public Library, Milwaukee Public Library, Johnson County Public Library (Kansas), San Diego Public Library, and Arizona State University. Explaining the impact of the first round of LTA grant initiatives Jim Weynard, vice president and general manager for HP Public Sector Organization said, "The Library Technology Access program demonstrates the power of public-private partnerships that increase the access to technology for persons with disabilities."

The LTA initiative grant award includes ergonomic furniture, a Compaq Evo PC, an HP Scanjet scanner and HP LaserJet printer, Microsoft(c) Office software and a wide array of assistive technology products which will aid in "leveling the playing field" of library use and research for patrons with disabilities. These workstations are designed to address specific needs by patrons with visual, hearing, mobility, or learning disabilities.

WYOMING

Her name is Patty Patterson -- And she is the new Wyoming Association representative to MPLA. Patty is originally from Maryland but has had many adventures and lived in many areas. After living and traveling on a sailboat for 13 years, she decided to reinvent herself and became a librarian in 1990. She received her master of library science degree from Florida State University. Prior to being youth services coordinator

for Park County, Patty was reference librarian at Tallahassee in FL, branch manager at Glenwood Springs Public Library in CO, and information services manager at Natrona County Public Library in Casper, WY.

Librarians in new position -- The new UW Dean of Libraries is Maggie Farrell, formerly of Montana State University. She completed her masters of library science at the University of Arizona State University and received her masters in public administration at Arizona State University. She served in the military as a Russian linguist. Lincoln County welcomes Brenda McGinnis as its new library director. Joan Harris has accepted the position of branch librarian at the Wamsutter Library.

Hartmann chosen VP -- At this year's Wyoming Library Association Annual Conference in Casper, Carey Hartmann was elected by her colleagues as the organization's vice-president. Hartmann is the assistant county librarian at the Laramie County Library System. The person elected to this office also serves as the president-elect, so she will become president of the WLA next fall.

As vice-president, Hartmann will chair the conference committee, which is made up of six separate groups within the association. Additionally, Hartmann is now responsible for planning, coordinating and implementing the WLA's 2003 annual conference.

"I have a strong commitment to providing our people with every opportunity to learn, achieve their goals and see their dreams become a reality. The library is where these opportunities are made available in all our communities, on our campuses, or in special environments," Hartmann said. "The individuals that make up the Wyoming Library Association have a humbling responsibility; without our special skills this wealth of information and knowledge might never be put in the right person's hand at the right time."

Hartmann holds a B.A. in theatre and speech from

UPCOMING EVENTS-2003

March 26-28	Oklahoma Library Association Conference, Oklahoma City
April 9-11	Kansas Tri-Conference, Salina
April 23-25	New Mexico Library Association Conference, Albuquerque
April 23-26	Montana Library Association Conference, Butte
May 7-9	Utah Library Association Conference, Sandy
Sept. 24-27	North Dakota Library Association Conference, Bismarck
Oct. 1-4	Wyoming Library Association Conference, Sheridan
Oct. 15-17	South Dakota Library Association Conference, Sioux Falls
Oct. 16-19	Second Annual Colorado Association of Libraries Conference, Keystone
Oct. 29-31	Nebraska Library Association/NEMA Convention, Omaha
Nov. 4-8	MPLA/Nevada Library Association Conference, Lake Tahoe, NV

UPCOMING MPLA CONFERENCES

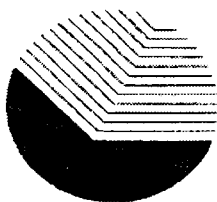
2003:	Nov. 4-8	North Lake Tahoe (joint with Nevada Library Association)
2004:	Oct.	TBA (joint with Colorado Library Association)
2005:		TBA (joint with Wyoming Library Association)
2006:		No joint conference
2007:		TBA (joint with New Mexico Library Association)

the University of Wyoming and an M.L.S. from the University of Arizona. Previously, she was selected to attend the Snowbird Leadership Conference, and she served as a member of ALA, MPLA, and the Wyoming Library Association, as well as the WYLD Users Council. She has been employed at LCLS since 1980.

BCR Board elects officers -- The Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR) Board of Trustees has elected officers for the fiscal year July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003. Lesley Boughton, state librarian for the Wyoming State Library, is the new president of the board.

MPLA Newsletter

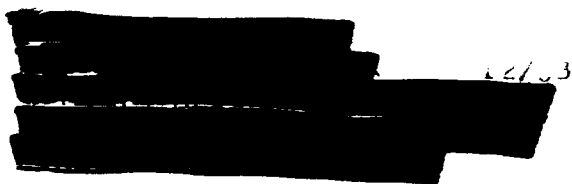
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- Opportunities for professional development
- News of people and programs in member states
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- Professional development grants
- Support of regional library efforts



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Under \$100,000	\$50/yr.	\$300,000-499,999	\$100/yr.
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It is important to indicate section preferences if you would like to vote for section officers!

I am interested in serving on the following committee(s) Awards Finance Bylaws & Procedures Continuing Education
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For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website at www.usd.edu/mpla

Mail to: Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary
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