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MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

December 2003 **Volume 48 #3**

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MPLA Award Winners for 2003!

By Kaite Mediatore

At the joint MPLA/NLA Conference in Incline Village, NV, Nov. 5-8, 2003 the following individuals and organizations were recognized as the 2003 award recipients for MPLA. They were honored at the MPLA/NLA President's Banquet held Friday, Nov. 7 at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe.

MPLA News Media Support Award was presented to KOAA Channel 5/ 30 Television of Colorado Springs, CO. The Media Support Award recognizes the

news media organization in the MPLA region making the strongest effort, either in a single presentation, or in ongoing coverage, within the last two years, to promote libraries and library ser-

vices to the community.



James Jarman

In a series of ongoing investigative reports over several months in 2003, Greg Boyce



KOAA staffers Greg Boyce, Director of News & Internet Operations Manager, and James Jarman, Eyeteam Reporter, diligently covered the controversy surrounding the Pueblo City-County Library District. They uncovered alleged

questionable activities involving the board president's business dealings with the library and the subsequent termination of the library director for questioning those dealings. KOAA's efforts were a major factor in rescinding the firing of Director Richard Lee, in addition to continuing public awareness and igniting protest from taxpayers and the library workforce leading to the complete board's resignation. The determination and professionalism of Mr. Boyce and Mr. Jarman helped create positive changes in the library district

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and garnered renewed support of the library from the city council, county commissioners, community members, library staff and a new library board.

The **Carl Gaumer Exhibitors Award** was given to *Stan Terry, Vice President and General Manager of the Mountain Plains EBSCO Subscription Services.* The Exhibitors Award is given to the individual or company whose positive sup-



Stan Terry

port of MPLA is demonstrated by constant conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees, and professional activities.

For the past 12 years Stan Terry's vision and leadership has built a solid reputation of exceptional customer ser-

vice and personal involvement in the Mountain Plains states' EBSCO Subscription Services covers. Mr. Terry was instrumental in planning and funding of the MPLA Leadership Institute; he provided funding in the amount of \$30,000, enabling the Institute to kick off in 2003, fully one year ahead of schedule. Through his actions, with libraries, librarians, and library associations, Mr. Terry demonstrated the meaning of corporate commitment and leadership.

The **MPLA Beginning Professional Award** was awarded to *Julie Bartel, Associate Teen Librarian at Salt Lake City Public Library.* The Beginning Professional Award is given to an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service within the last five years after receiving a library/media specialist degree.

Julie Bartel joined the staff of the City Library of Salt Lake City 10 years ago, when she started as a Circulation Department aide and then moved to periodicals, first as a library assistant, then as an associate librarian. In February of 2003 Julie joined the Teen Department as the system-wide selector for



Julie Bartel

teen materials. Julie implemented one of the earliest and few zine collections in a public library by writing the proposal, creating the budget and conducting several workshops for library staff on how to manage a zine collection, as well as developing the City Library's current collection of more than 7,000 zines. Julie turned her experiences into an article published in the July/August 2003 issue of *Public Libraries* and will present a session on "Teens and Zines" at PLA 2004.

The **MPLA Youth Services Award** was presented to the *Public Libraries Serving Sedgwick County, Kansas.* The Youth Services Award is given to a library that exemplifies excellence in library services to youth.

For the summer of 2003, 13 public libraries in Sedgwick County, Kansas pooled their resources and talents to expand and enhance library services to children and teens throughout the county. With help from the Leonard and Celia Levand Trust, libraries were able to expand existing summer reading services from weeks to months; and teen reading programs were created where they did not previously exist. Activities, special events, and programs were offered with greater frequency and variety. As a result of these efforts, the number of children and teens participating in the 2003 summer reading programs reached record levels for Sedgwick County and finishing rates hovered at the 50% mark.



Front row: Judy Bennett, Derby Public Library; Ruth Clark, Haysville Community Library; Janice Sharp, Edna Buschow Memorial Library; Darla Cooper and Jackie White, McConnell Air Force Base Library; and Julie Linneman, Wichita Public Library.

Back row: Sandy Wise, Clearwater Public Library; Marjorie Fox, Mulvane Public Library; Nancy Maus, Colwich Community Library; Cynthia Berner Harris, Wichita Public Library; Betty Cattrell, Haysville Community Library; Julie Tomlianovich, South Central Kansas Library System; Carri Fry, Derby Public Library; Kendra Mork, Goddard Public Library; and Dawn Pilcher, Park City Community Public Library.

The **MPLA Legislative Leadership Award** was presented to the *Natrona County Recreation Joint Powers Board*. The Legislative Leadership Award is given to an individual



Ken Daraie, representing the Natrona County Recreation Joint Powers Board.

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.

In 2002 a unique entity was created in Natrona County involving six communities, Natrona County and Natrona County School District #1. One of the first missions of the Recreation JPB has been to

use \$450,000 to sustain Sunday library hours for two years. Four years ago, NCPL was one of the poorest per-capita funded public libraries in the United States. With the help of the Natrona County Recreation JPB, the library has been able to increase services, staff, programs, and hours to better serve a community of 68,000.

The MPLA Distinguished Service Award was given to Marilyn Hinshaw, Director of the Eastern Oklahoma District Library System and past President of MPLA. The Distinguished Service Award is given 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 performed exemplary service for an extended period of time.

Marilyn Hinshaw has served as founder and Committee Chair for the MPLA Leadership Institute, chair of the Long Range Planning Committee and President of MPLA 1999-2000. With the help of her strong leadership and vision, MPLA launched the Leadership Institute one year ahead of schedule. During her presidency of MPLA, Marilyn was faced with the



Marilyn Hinshaw

very real problem of declining membership. She championed the idea of Board Choice Awards as part of her "let's take responsibility" attitude. Marilyn made it a point to visit every state conference during her term, assuring that MPLA was a visible presence to all its members. As

President-Elect she proposed that MPLA invite New Mexico to join MPLA—an invitation New Mexico accepted, bringing the membership to 12 states.

The **MPLA Literary Contribution Award** was given to *Alan Kesselheim*. The Literary Contribution Award is given to an author whose published writings are most successfully furthering an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region.

A freelance writer, Al has lived in Montana since 1982, and has written extensively about the Rocky Mountain West and Great Plains since 1981 when he began writing about the outdoors, environmental issues, historical events, and many other subjects. Mr. Kesselheim has written nine books and is a regular contributor to *Big Sky*



Alan Kesselheim

Journal (Montana's literary magazine), Backpacker, Outside, and Canoe and Kayak magazines. Most recently, Mr. Kesselheim's excellent research and writing skills have been used to produce literature for the successful Bozeman Public Library bond referendum. Mr. Kesselheim has served on the Bozeman Public Library's Friends of the Library Board and is currently a library trustee.

The **MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award** was presented to *Joyce Meskis, owner of the Tattered Cover Bookstore.* The In-

tellectual Freedom Award is given to an individual or group making significant contributions to the enhancement of First Amendment Rights.

Joyce Meskis' defense of patron's rights reached new heights over the past several years. In 2000, she resisted local law enforcement's efforts to obtain records about the purchases made by a



Joyce Meskis

bookstore patron. Taking the issue to court, she appealed a Denver district court's decision that she turn over the records. In 2002, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled unanimously to reverse the lower courts' ruling requiring that she turn over the invoice of the purchase made by a patron suspected in a drug-making case. The Colorado Su-

preme Court found that the First Amendment and the state constitution "protect an individual's fundamental right to purchase books anonymously, free from government intervention." This decision is significant in advancing the intellectual freedom of bookstore patrons and, by association, library users--to read what they want without the scrutiny of government officials.



President's Letter

By Carol Hammond

The Best Job I Ever Had

For many years I felt the best

job I ever had was one that would never be considered a big professional success. I worked at the Flying W Ranch in Colorado Springs, a place that was popular with tourists and locals alike for its chuck wagon dinners and western entertainment. My job was making biscuits, many thousands of biscuits every day, and baking them in Dutch ovens. Sometimes I was asked to substitute on the reservation desk, which was considered a much more responsible position, although my performance as a biscuit maker could not have indicated anything about an ability to talk to customers over the phone and accurately record information. But I believed my superior talents were recognized and my hard work was being rewarded. Occasionally some of us would also stage an impromptu skit

during the after-dinner show, so that we got to be part of the entertainment before the audience. The management appreciated our creativity and initiative. Even though we had low level jobs, it made us feel more important to the operation, and we saw we could make another contribution to its success. We had a strong sense of teamwork and we helped each other. We loved going to work and we had a good time while we were there. I've had other jobs since, and making biscuits would not satisfy as a career, but I still remember that summer job as one of the best I've ever had.

Studies of job satisfaction point out that my experience was hardly unique. Often people identify an early job that may have been fairly menial as one of their best work experiences. Although the issues of pay and benefits get a lot of attention, neither of these are what most people identify as making a job satisfying. And money rarely is what really motivates workers to do well. I would not say they are unimportant, because they are, but camaraderie with fellow workers and being part of a team, knowing you are valued, being given the opportunity to do other jobs, learning to do new things and trying some new ideas within the organization count quite a lot. Often they count as much or more than the salary you earn in making a job one that you love to do.

As I start this term as president, I believe this is going to be one of the best jobs I have ever had. There is no salary, but it has all the other stuff that makes a job really great: good people to work with; being part of a team to get things done; a chance to make a difference in an

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Recognizing Potential MPLA Leaders Second Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute Happening

By Mary Bushing

As this issue goes to press, the second MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute will be winding down with participants saying their goodbyes "for now" to new friends and colleagues. After the six-day institute they will leave New Mexico with a new appreciation and understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses and their potential as leaders in MPLA and other professional milieus, including their own library organizations. MPLA members and EBSCO Information Services, as our founding partner, can pat ourselves on the back for another major contribution to the library community in the Mountain Plains region in the form of quality professional devel-

opment for 30 librarians from the twelve-state member area.

Consultant and nationally recognized trainer, Maureen Sullivan, will present three full days of leadership content along with reflective exercises, insightful discussions, and goal-setting activities to enable participants and mentors alike to grow and to plan for rewarding futures. The six mentors, chosen from the MPLA member states, all have made their mark on the profession as leaders, mentors, and dedicated and caring individuals. Their expertise and

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organization, an opportunity to try some new things. Friendship. Learning. Leadership. Creativity. Camaraderie

I'd like everyone in MPLA to find those things as well. However, just paying your dues and signing up won't make this happen. It will be what you choose to make of it. Give us some of your time and talent and get back much more than you put in. Here are some things you can do:

Go to the annual conference: Visit 12 different states. We're small, very friendly, and travel is more affordable within our region. Registration is reasonable. You will meet people with interests similar to your own, and you'll find excellent programs.

Run for office: I've made lasting friendships with colleagues I've worked with on the Board. Offer to run from your section or as a representative from your state. Contact the people currently in those positions about getting on the ballot. Elections are held in the fall. Serving on the Board requires some travel, since we meet at conferences and usually two other times during the year.

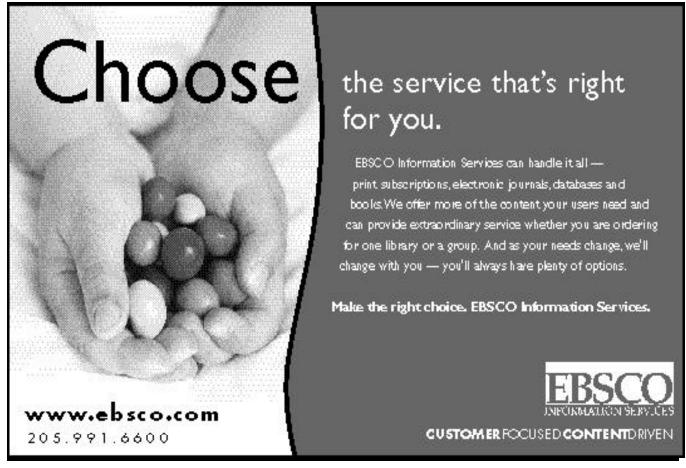
Work on a committee: Appointments are made once a year by in the incoming President; contact Beth Avery and let her know you are interested for next year. Committee work is done by e-mail, conference call or chat and does not require travel. Be prepared to contribute if you are asked!

Give a presentation at the conference: If you have an experience to share, contact the appropriate section chair – they put together conference programs. The academic section also sponsors a professional forum where contributors from any kind of library can give a paper. And there is a \$300 award for the best presentation,

Write for the newsletter. If you are a writer, submit an article. Contact the newsletter editor Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson if you have story ideas.

Check our Website: For information on upcoming events, conferences, and programs, as well as description of the duties of section chairs and state representatives, go to www.usd.edu/mpla.

This can be one of the best jobs you ever have too!



Continued from page 5

openness will serve as additional resources for the librarians selected to attend this year's program. The mentors this year are: Amy Owen, recently retired State Librarian of Utah; Debbie Iverson, MPLA Past President and Director of the Sheridan College Library; Dorothy Liegl, Deputy State Librarian of South Dakota and a popular presenter on many topics: Lola Todd. Manager of the Hardesty Regional Library in Tulsa, OK and a woman with many different types of library experience; Peter Kraus, an Institute participant last year, MPLA State Representative from Utah, and a Librarian at the University of Utah: and Jane Hatch. Administrator of the Coffev County Kansas Public Library who has been a key player for many years in the Kansas library community. These individuals have graciously agreed to give MPLA and the participants a week of their lives in professional service as a key component of the Institute. Be sure to thank them when you see them!

Participants selected for attendance at this year's Institute are: David Alexander, Brookings, SD; Kristen Becker, Salina, KS; Tracy Cook, Great Falls, MT; Angela Creel-Erb, Yuma, AZ; Elizabeth Cuckow, Cheyenne, WY; Tammy Gieseking, Las Vegas, NV; Scott Goldy, Wichita, KS; Wendy Holliday, Logan, UT; Cindy Jaye, Denver, CO; Katie Jones, Cheyenne, WY; Peggy Kaney, Tahlequah. OK: Cecelia Lawrence. North Platte. NE: Olivia Li, Los Alamos, NM; Britton Lund, Midvale, UT; Kim Martin, Bonner Springs, KS; Jeanie McCallister, Rapid City, SD; Jeanne Narum, Minot, ND; Nikki Ney, Phoenix, AZ; Valerie Nye, Santa Fe, NM; Shannon O'Grady, Golden, CO (EBSCO representative); Cassandra Osterloh, Albuquerque, NM; Al Peterson, Bismarck, ND; Lori Phillips, Laramie, WY; Todd Quinn, Madison, SD; Cylinda Richardson-Martin, Moore, OK; Tom Riedel, Denver, CO; Marla Roberson, Norman, OK: Susan Simmons. Broomfield. CO: Susan Spicer. West Jordan, UT; Michael Whitchurch, Salt Lake City, UT

If you know one of these outstanding librarians, be sure to encourage them in their further leadership development and service. Give them opportunities to grow and to learn so that this next generation of library leaders will be even more dynamic and wonderful than the previous one has been! We are a hard act to follow but these great people are up to it!

The next issue of the newsletter will include reports on the Institute as well as a summary of the evaluation based upon the opinions and experiences of all of those involved. Before we know it, it will be time to again begin recruiting good people for the Institute to be held in November of 2004. Be thinking about future leaders who ought to be encouraged to submit applications. The "class of 2002" is holding a no-host reunion dinner at confer-

MPLA Elections 2003

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PRESERVATION SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

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GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Ara Anderson

ence this year and it is expected that a similar event is likely to be held every year to enable Institute attendees to keep in touch in person and to further strengthen the friendships and professional ties forged in the Institute context.

As coordinator of this Leadership Institute, I want to say what a pleasure it has been getting to know the participants and seeing their contributions to date as well as recognizing their potential for the future. It is easier to slide into retirement knowing that we have so many quality librarians following us into roles of leadership. Look for these stars to shine a long time on behalf of libraries and MPLA.



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. E-mail me at anderson@julip.fcgov.com.)

What Do I Want to Be When I Grow Up?

Just starting to map out your career ambitions? Have you outgrown your present profession? Ready to dabble in a new sideline? Several Internet sites offer simple to complex personality, career, or vocational tests. Most of these tests are free and are interesting. If you like such tests, then you may enjoy this collection and perhaps find some helpful clues about future directions for your life and your work.

The Career Key

www.careerkey.org/english/

The Career Key measures how similar users are to six personality types, helps users identify occupations most likely to fit them, and uses information from the Occupational Outlook Handbook to describe occupations. The site offers a variety of self-help modules on the following topics: How to make quality decisions; tips for parents; how to choose an appropriate training program or college major; further steps to advance career development; and job skills required for jobs of the 21st century.

Keirsey Temperament Sorter II

www.advisorteam.com/personal/

The Keirsey Temperament Sorter II test sorts people into 16 type formulas and four temperaments. Users who complete the sorter will receive a free temperament description with the opportunity to purchase the full 10 page Temperament Report.

The Career Interests Game

career.missouri.edu/article.php?sid=146

This game is based on the RIASEC (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, and Conventional) model of occupations and is designed to help match user's interests and skills with similar careers. The game may help users to begin thinking about how their personality will fit in with specific work environments and careers.

Career Toolbox

www.myfuture.com/t3 career/t3ct workquizzes.html

This site offers two tests to assist with career exploration. The 60-item sample Work Interest Quiz is designed to acquaint the users with a national test called the Interest-Finder. Answers are analyzed and fit into two of the six RIASEC (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, or Conventional) work types. The second test offered is the Personality Test that is based on the Myers-Briggs Typology. Users may fall into four general temperament types: Guardian, Artisan, Idealist, and Rational.

Jung Typology Tests

www.humanmetrics.com

Users may take the Jung Typology Test and the results are returned immediately. Other tests are available such as the Small Business Entrepreneur Profiler and Risk Attitudes Profiler.

Enneagram

www.9types.com/rheti/homepage.actual.html

The Enneagram is a highly popular test consisting of 180 questions and the test results are divided into nine personality types: the perfectionist, the giver, the performer, the romantic, the observer, the trooper, the epicure, the boss, and the mediator. The Enneagram is useful for stimulating self-awareness, self-observation, and growth.

O*Net® Career Exploration Tools

www.onetcenter.org/tools.html

The Occupational Information Network has designed a set of self-directed career exploration/assessment tools to help workers consider and plan career options, preparation, and transitions more effectively. They also are de-

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Reference Databases * Interactive Electronic Books * Print Products



signed for use by students who are exploring the school-to-work transition. There are five free tests at this site.

Self-Directed-Search®

www.self-directed.search.com

The Self-Directed-Search (SDS) is based on the theory that both people and work environments can be classified according to six basic types: Realistic, investigative, artistic, social, enterprising, and conventional. The SDS can help you find careers or educational programs that match your own skills and interests. The Self-Directed Search has been modified for this Internet site and designed to incorporate the guidelines of the National Career Development Association. The test takes 15-20 minutes to complete online and you can receive an online personalized report and analysis of the test results for a fee of \$8.95.

Jean Anderson is the Business Librarian for the Fort Collins Public Library. Suggestions for future columns are welcome: anderson@julip.fcgov.com. Current and past issues of Business Sense are available at: www.fcgov.com/library/adult.php.

MPLA'er Recognized Nationally

For Amy Shelley of the Laramie County Library System, national recognition and accolades are becoming a regular part of her library life.

Previously named Wyoming's Librarian of the Year and honored this year as one of the nation's "Movers and Shakers" by *Library Journal*, Shelley can add another national award to her resume.

The Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) selected her as one of 10 dynamic men and women who aspire to be future leaders of the library profession to participate in LAMA's "Leaders of the Pack" mentor project.

Shelley is the Manager of Youth and Outreach Services at Laramie County Library System and a member of MPLA. Shelley will receive a host of benefits, including travel stipends for conferences, organizational memberships, LAMA Committee appointments, and a mentor. Selected from a large field of applicants across the county, she is the one of only five public librarians honored and the only youth services librarian to receive this distinctive acknowledgment.

Who's Taken the Cuts?

The following is a report prepared by Judy Zelenksi, Chair of the MPLA State Agencies, Systems, and Cooperatives Section. It outlines the current library funding status of states within the MPLA region.

Arizona – The Arizona State Library lost \$2.2 million and 16 positions in the latest downturn of the economy.

Colorado – \$6,500,000 in cuts were made from June 2002 – June 2003. The Colorado Resource Center was eliminated. State Funding for Libraries was eliminated. Payment for Lending was eliminated. New materials for institutional libraries were eliminated. One institutional library and several institutional staff were eliminated. New materials for the Talking Book Library were eliminated. Funding for the Colorado Virtual Library was reduced. Funding for the seven multi-type Regional Service Systems was eliminated, but a small one-time grant was provided. This reduced the 2003-04 systems funding by 77%, with more than half of systems' staff eliminated. One system closed. No funding is anticipated for next year.

Kansas – \$354,638 was cut from FY 2003 state aid to local libraries from the total of approx \$3.6 million, somewhat less than 10%. \$96,750 was lost out of 2003 operating funds, approximately 6%. For current year FY 2004 about half of each of the 03 reductions (\$150,000 state aid and \$50,000 operating) will be lost but revenues are improving so some of the 04 losses might be restored.

Montana – For 2004 Federation support was reduced by \$79,217; interlibrary loan reimbursements reduced by \$127,000; and per capita/per square mile funding reduced by \$12,675. The Montana State Library's staff is reduced by two FTE, materials reduced by \$44,150; administration reduced by \$10,081; and the National Resources Information System/Heritage project reduced by \$37,500.

Nebraska – The Nebraska State Library received a cut of \$139,215 (10%) per year from its Aid to Libraries and \$58,845 per year (2.7%) from operations, for a total of \$198,060 (5.5%)per year for the two years beginning July 1. 2003.

Oklahoma - The Oklahoma Department of Libraries experienced cuts adding up to \$540,976 or 7.85 percent of their state appropriations during FY 2003 and (so far) a further \$184,163 or 2.9 percent cut for FY 2004. As

part of these cuts, state aid to public libraries was cut 5.5% for FY 2003, and the department cut expenses to the bone, but without having to eliminate major programs or forfeit LSTA funds. The Oklahoma Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped came close to being eliminated for FY 2004, but escaped with a budget reduction.

Nevada – The Nevada legislature approved a \$780,000 grant program for school libraries and \$500,000 for the statewide databases. They did not approve \$1.2 million for the public library grant program.

New Mexico - Although New Mexico has been threatened and although the State Library's budget has been "flat" for two years (making an effective budget cut of 8-10%), state aid has not been cut.

North Dakota - The North Dakota State Library received funding at the 95% level for the general fund, making it a 5% reduction for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2005. Cuts in funding were mainly across the board with specific large cuts to salaries and state aid grants.

South Dakota - South Dakota does not have systems or regional libraries. The hardest hit libraries have been county funded libraries because of a tax freeze initiative that was passed more than 10 years ago. The results so far are one county that has withdrawn all support for library services, one county that is part of a two county bookmobile library that has almost completely eliminated funding, and one county that has reduced funding to the point that the budget pays salaries and keeps the lights on, but that is all. The State Library is holding its own but inflation transforms no increases to losses.

Wyoming - Due to prudent management and gas and oil severance taxes, the State of Wyoming has a budget surplus. The State Library has not experienced any budget cuts.

The winner of the 2003 MPLA Professional Forum

(sponsored by the MPLA Academic Section):

JaNae Kinikin, A Survey of Carnegie Classification Master's Colleges and Universities I & II to Evaluate Geographic Information (GIS) Utilization within the Libraries at these Institutions.

MPLA/REFORMA Partnership Deemed a Grand Success

By Jean Hatfield

The 2003 MPLA/NLA Conference not only was a success, but it broke new ground in developing partnerships with other library professional organizations. REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking, was invited to participate as a contributing partner in this year's conference. REFORMA Committee members, chaired by Maria Champlain of Las Vegas, planned five pre-conference sessions focusing on library services to Latinos. In addition, eight programs sponsored by REFORMA were presented during the regular conference.

These programs attracted conference attendees from states outside the MPLA region, such as Washington, Minnesota, Ohio, Texas, and California. In addition, several new exhibitors were present who were attracted by the possibility of finding new customers who serve Latino and Spanish-speaking communities.

The partnership enriched the conference program and the diversity of attendees. Libraries in states serving new immigrant populations and seeking ways to provide services and materials for these populations were able to receive information and support for their endeavors. This collaboration has opened the door to exploring other partnerships with organizations that have the same goals as MPLA – to provide professional development and cooperation in order to provide our library patrons with new ideas and services.



WHAT DID YOU MISS?

For great MPLA/NLA Conference photos, see http://www.usd.edu/mpla/conferences/2003/!

State Library Provides for Needs of all N.D. Citizens

The North Dakota State Library was established as the Public Library Commission in 1907. In 1909, the library's name was changed to the State Library Commission. The agency's name was changed to the North Dakota State Library in 1979 and in 1982 the State Library moved to the Liberty Memorial Building on the State Capitol grounds, its present location. The building is dedicated to the memory of the men and women of North Dakota who served the cause of liberty in World War I. It is typical of the federal-type buildings of the era and is designed in the classical style of architecture with a limestone exterior.

The North Dakota State Library provides for the information needs of state citizens by providing direct services; coordinating North Dakota's interlibrary loan sys-

tem; providing and coord in a ting grants; providing specialized programs such as services to persons with disabilities;



partnering with libraries to provide online magazine, newspaper, and online reference resources; and providing technical assistance to help other libraries develop and deliver their services.

<u>2003 Legislative Session</u>: The North Dakota State Library's final appropriation from the legislature includes the current services that are delivered by the State Li-

brary, with a five percent reduction that the Governor required, and a \$6,500 reduction for Information/Technology services.

The legislature did not fund the additional State Aid to Public Libraries \$1 million request, or the \$400,000 request for the online resources (Gale Group and ProQuest). As a result of this lack of legislative funding for the online resources, libraries will need to participate in funding this service from 2003-2005. The amount appropriated for state aid is 5% less than last biennium. Public library directors will be developing a strategy for the next session.

<u>Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):</u> In order to clearly present the options, discuss concerns, and make some critical decisions, the Public Library Filtering Com-

mittee held a meeting for all public library directors, IT staff, ITD staff, and State Library staff in August 2003. Committee members are:

Jerry Kaup, Chair (Minot Public Library), Tom Jones (Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library), David Haney (Grand Forks Public Library), Debbie Slais (Williston Community Library), Renee Paasch (Dickinson Area Public Library), Lynda Dunn (Edgeley Public Library), Stella Cone (ND State Library), Doris Ott (ND State Library), Tim Paulson and Dan Sipes (ND Information Technology Department).

Dakota Mysteries and Oddities

Lights blink on and off. The library door mysteriously locks behind the librarian who just unlocked it. Two young boys race out of the restroom when the lights go out unexpectedly. Lights DON'T go off when the librarian flips the switch to off. One night, after everyone had gone home, a heavy cart loaded with books was moved to block a doorway. The librarian and assistant couldn't move it back by themselves. Librarian Marlene Ripplinger at Harvey Public Library admits something irrational is happening in the library. When she can't explain the happening

ings, she replies, "Oh, Sophie, what did you do that for? Are you really here?" Rumor has it that the library is haunted by the ghost of Sophia Eberlein Bentz who was bludgeoned to death by her second husband in a house located on that spot in 1931. The most compelling evidence that Sophia haunts the library are the icy shivers both Marlene and her assistant Stephina sometimes get while sitting in a chair operating the computer in Marlene's office. The library was not only built on

Continued on page 15

During this meeting the filtering options were discussed. Public librarians were given until Sept. 13 to decide whether their individual library wanted to participate in a centralized filter that would be managed by the State Library and ITD or choose to purchase and manage their own filter-

ing software. This decision affects all public libraries that are part of the StageNet consortium, that receive individual E-rate funds for Internet connection, or that plan to apply for LSTA grant funds. A plan is being developed to include other actions that need to be taken.





I am Jeanne Narum, North Dakota's MPLA Representative since September 2002. Minot, ND has been my home for the last 30 years and the prairie winds, bitter cold winters, and dry climate are deep in my heart. But I was born in Indiana and still consider part of me a "Hoosier." I attended Indiana University for four years before transferring



to the University of North Dakota for my senior year. At the time my dad was heard to say to my mother privately, "Well, that's the last time we'll be in North Dakota-she'll be home within a year!" The 1960's were times of academic rebellion and the University of North Dakota had inaugurated a new elementary education program called the Center for Teaching and Learning which espoused the open classroom model for teaching. I graduated from UND with a BS degree in Elementary Education in December 1972 and married a North Dakota native on the same day. Most people who live here are second and third generation families who live on the land their grandparents homesteaded, so my soon-to-be husband said to me, "What are you?" I replied that my ancestors came over on the next boat after the Mayflower from England and my Irish "great-greats" right before the Potato Famine. It was difficult in my young life to

relate to those far away ancestors. I learned about the bonds the Norwegians and Germans have for their grand-parents and great-grandparents who labored on the wide-open prairies. Now their recognition of Norwegian heritage and ethnicity is celebrated in the 25 year old festival called the Hostfest (pronounced hoost-fest) each October in Minot. Thousands of people come from all over the world for the weeklong celebration. For ten years my husband and I have converted our home to bed and breakfast and welcomed those visitors, eight each year.

I wasn't able to get a position in the public schools after graduating from UND, so I applied at the Minot Public Library for a Circulation Supervisor position and started work in February 1973. My library career had started when I was in 5th grade and helped a teacher start our school library. I learned how to catalog, type cards, and check out books to my classmates. All four years of high school, I was a library page at the local county library: shelving, processing, and checking out books. When I was a senior, I researched reference questions. Recently while visiting the 93 year old lady who directed that library, she said to me, "And just think, I was the one who started all this!" After staying home with my children for nine years, I was a librarian and basic skills teacher for five years in the same grade school my children attended.

My daughter Katie is a missionary and English teacher in Japan, my son Kyle lives in Minneapolis with his wife and works for a "dot com" company, and my youngest son Kent lives in Chicago with his wife and attends seminary. Lots of places to visit and check out the local libraries. I returned to the Minot Public Library in 1989 as Circulation Supervisor, and Technology Coordinator was added to the job description in 1996 when I earned an MLS from Emporia State University. I have held offices in the local Souris Valley Library Association and North Dakota Library Association. I am currently Professional Development Chair for NDLA and will attend the MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute this year. One of my life passions is researching family history and I have researched my Irish and British ancestry in the Salt Lake City Family History Center, the Library of Congress, and the archives in Dublin, Ireland. I teach genealogists how to search their family history online. As North Dakota declines in population and economic difficulties prevail, I join with other public librarians in rising to the challenge of transforming libraries into a major participant in the information access field.

E-rate Program: During the 2002-2003 fiscal year, 30 libraries joined the Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education (StageNet)consortium. StageNet is the consortium managed by the North Dakota Information Technology Department (ITD), through which state agencies, county offices, public schools, and public libraries have access to the Internet. The cost of the Internet connection to the public libraries is funded through Erate and state government funds. Libraries that are connected to the Internet through StageNet have been provided T1 or DSL connection to the Internet through the ITD consortium.

Services for Persons with Disabilities: The North Dakota State Library provides talking books and a radio reading service program to qualified citizens of North Dakota who are print impaired. The radio reading service is available in the western half of North Dakota. The State Library works with the volunteer staff at the State Library to record books and magazines by North Dakota authors or about North Dakota. State Library volunteers have produced over 500 books and magazines. There are over 2,000 North Dakota citizens currently receiving talking books.

Dakota Radio Information Service (DRIS) is a radio reading service that provides qualified patrons access to both local and national newspapers and magazines. On a local level, State Library volunteers read newspapers from Bismarck, Mandan, Minot, Williston, Dickinson, Jamestown, and Valley City. Volunteers read news items that will not be on a local radio or television news show, grocery ads, legislative material, and special programs during the Christmas season. The State Library subscribes to a national radio reading service, InTouch, for the national newspapers and magazines. There are over 500 North Dakota DRIS patrons.

Spring Workshops: The North Dakota State Library's annual Spring Workshops were held in April in Fargo and Bismarck. The workshops included training on the Gale Group online resources, ProQuest online newspapers, netLibrary's e-books, Electric Library, fundraising, grant writing, public awareness, and library advocacy.

State Agency Collections: Several years ago, the State Library's Technical Services Department began a project of cataloging the collections housed at various state agencies into ODIN (Online Dakota Information Network). The collections are maintained by the individual state agen-

cies, appear in the State Library's catalog in ODIN, and are available for use.

Collections for the following agencies are available in this manner: Prevention Resource Center, Department of Transportation, Water Commission, Children's Special Health Services, Division of Emergency Management, Protection and Advocacy Project, North Dakota Geological Survey, and Business Information Center.

<u>State Documents — Electronic Document Project:</u>

The North Dakota State Library collects documents from all executive, legislative, and judicial agencies, boards, commissions, and institutions of higher education.

Currently over 70 state agencies are publishing documents electronically and making them available over the Internet because of greater accessibility and cost efficiency. Since preserving these documents is imperative to the state, the North Dakota State Library has begun using an automated Webspider (Teleport Pro) to retrieve state documents from the Internet.

Summer Reading Program: Terri Wilhelm, the State Library's Public Awareness Coordinator, is responsible for coordinating North Dakota summer reading programs for public libraries and for the State Library's summer reading program for children with print impairments. Each year she attends the annual conference of the Collaborative Summer Reading Program (CSLP). CSLP is a consortium of states working together to provide high quality summer reading program materials for children, at the lowest cost possible for their public libraries. By combining resources and working with a commercial vendor to produce materials designed exclusively for CSLP members, public libraries in participating states can purchase posters, reading logs, bookmarks, certificates, and a variety of reading incentives at significant savings.

E-books: E-books are electronic versions of entire printed books including photos and illustrations. These books can be viewed online from any computer connected to the Internet for 15 minutes for quick reference, or borrowed for 48 hours and read at leisure. Recently, an additional book load was made to complete a new collection (Shared Collection II) of 2000 e-books that were purchased for North Dakota citizens and paid for by ODIN. These new titles build upon Shared Collection I that consists of 5,000 e-books. You can register to use e-books at http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us or at any participating North Dakota library.

Grants: On Nov. 6 – 7, 2003, the Library Coordinating Council met to award the first round of grants from 2003-2004 LSTA funding and for 2003 –2005 State Technology Funds. Annually approximately \$100,000 is available from LSTA and \$125,000 is available in state funding for technology.

Training: The North Dakota State Library offered a series of workshops this summer. Graduate credit was

available through North Dakota State University (NDSU), Minot State University (MSU), and the University of North Dakota (UND). The workshops focused on all aspects of the statewide online library catalog: Gale Group's Periodical/Reference Package, ProQuest newspaper database, LaND (Library access North Dakota), Electric Library, and netLibrary electronic books collection. The workshops were held in Minot, Jamestown, Dickinson, Devils Lake, and Velva.

North Dakota -- "The Peace Garden State"

- Population: 642,200 (2000 census)
- · Distribution of Population: 53% urban, 47% rural
 - o About a third of the population lives in 4 cities: Fargo, 90,599; Bismarck, 55,532; Grand Forks, 49,321; and Minot. 36.567
- Area: 70,704 sq. miles including 1,710 sq. miles of inland water (yes, there is water on the prairies!)
- · Ranks 17th in size among all the states
- Elevation: Highest point is at White Butte, 3,506 feet above sea level. Lowest point is in Pembina County at 750 feet above sea level
- · Climate: Highest recorded temperature was at Steele on July 6, 1936 at 121 degrees F.
 - Lowest recorded temperature was at Parshall on February 15, 1936 at -60 degrees F.
- Statehood: November 2, 1889, the 39th state: In February 1889 Congress established the present boundary between North and South Dakota, passed an enabling act, and in November the President signed documents granting statehood to North and South Dakota
 - State Capitol: Always has been in Bismarck since the beginning of statehood
- State Song: "North Dakota Hymn" words by James W. Foley (always be ready to hum it or provide sheet music for your patrons!)
- Economy: Agriculture includes farming, fishing, and forestry and accounts for 9% of gross state product; Industry includes construction, manufacturing, and mining and accounts for 16% of gross state product. But the service industry is valued at 75% of gsp and includes finance, government, trade, transportation, and communication
- · Chief Products: wheat, beef cattle, barley, sunflower seeds, sugar beets, flaxseed, potatoes, milk, petroleum, coal, natural gas, food products, and machinery



Continued from page 13

the lot of Sophia's home, the librarian's office is where Sophia's bedroom was located.

A buffalo cow and calf found their way back home 40 miles to the north unit of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park near Medora in July 1998. After a roundup, the cow and calf were transferred to a buffalo project near Mandaree. The cow put her head

down and trudged back home. Officials say they won't try to move the buffalo cow again who was born in the park 15 years ago.

General George Armstrong Custer actually wasn't a general when he led the Seventh Cavalry in the Battle of Little Big Horn. He was a lieutenant colonel. However, he was usually referred to as General Custer because he held the rank of Brevet Major General during the Civil War.

North Dakota's first journalist to die in battle was Mark Kellogg who marched off to the Big Horn with General George Custer in 1876. Kellogg, a former *Bismarck Tribune* employee was hired by Clement Lounsberry to cover the campaign. His last journal entry reads, ..." by the time this reaches you, we will have met and fought the red devils, with what result remains to be seen. I go with Custer and will be at the death."

Around the MPLA Region

ARIZONA

New lobbyist for Arizona Library Association -- As a result of the retirement of AzLA's longtime and legendary lobbyist, Charlie Stevens, AzLA's Legislative Committee recently interviewed a number of lobbying firms to find a new lobbyist to represent the organization and be a voice for Arizona library issues within the state legislature. In September, the AzLA Executive Board selected the firm of Capital Consulting, LLC. AzLA has previous experience with Capital Consulting as that firm also handles AzLA's association management duties and helps plan the annual conference.

AzLA Horner Fellowship -- With the passing of Marian Horner, a longtime library supporter, in 2002, a large bequest was given in support of the AzLA Horner Fellowship. Mrs. Horner and her husband, the late Dr. Layton "Jack" Horner, established the fellowship in 1989 to foster cultural understanding and informational exchanges between Arizona and Japanese librarians. To date, the Fellowship has received \$540,000, as well as a collection of memorabilia (scrolls and figurines) with an estimated value of \$4,000. This year, AzLA Treasurer Carol Damaso worked with the Horner Committee to develop an investment strategy for the trust. The Committee has also been in contact with the Japan Library Association to plan for reciprocal visits by librarians from both Arizona and Japan.

AzLA service award winners announced -- The following individuals and organizations will be recognized for their contributions to Arizona libraries during the December annual conference:

• **Follett School Librarian of the Year:** Ann Dutton-Ewbank, Washington School District

- Library Leadership: Charlotte Cohen, Glendale Community College
- Library Support Staff Scholarship: Kristine Cwengros, Scottsdale Public Library
- Outreach Services Award: Maria Mucino, Southeast Regional Library, Maricopa County Library District
- Outstanding Decision Maker: Representative Marian McClure, Arizona House of Representatives
- Outstanding Library Board: Sierra Vista Library Advisory Commission
- **Rosenzweig Distinguished Service:** Agnes Griffen, Tucson Public Library (retired)
- Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician: Aileen Plumb, Scottsdale Public Library

Complete information about these individuals' accomplishments may be found at http://www.azla.org/2003/ awards.html.

COLORADO

Book Art Exhibits in Denver -- The Guild of Bookworkers, the national organization for all the book arts, held its annual convention in Denver Oct 23-26. In conjunction with that event, these exhibits extend that event: 2003 Round up--The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Guild of Bookworkers presents works by its members Nov. 7 - 28 at the Dayton Memorial Library on the Regis University Campus; In Flight--The Guild of Bookworkers presents a national juried theme exhibit. Oct. 23 - Dec. 22 at the Central Denver Public Library.

Colorado has a new library law -- The Colorado Library Law Bill (SB03-326) took effect on Aug. 15, 2003. The full text of the law can be found at http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LibraryLaw/Index.htm Major provisions of the law include changes in the regional library authority allowing any combination of two governmental units to establish a separate "Regional Library Authority," a provision that allows existing library districts to vote on a bond issue to build a library in their community, and clarifications, deletions, and additions to the principal section of library law including definitions, powers and duties of the state library, establishment of libraries, and privacy of user records.

New virtual reference service -- AskColorado is Colorado's new virtual reference service at http://lib.colostate.edu/reference/AskColorado.html. Forty-two libraries are participating in this free online information service where

real people in real time assist users with research needs. After a rather slow start, the service is becoming more popular and most of the initial glitches have been corrected. It is working very well so far.

KANSAS

WSU libraries have new Dean -- Pal Rao was appointed Dean of University Libraries at Wichita State University effective Sept. 1, 2003. Dean Rao was formerly the Dean of Library Services at Central Missouri State since 1988. He holds a Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University in Educational Media, a Master of Science in Library Science from the University of Illinois, a Master of Sci-



ence in Educational Media from Southern Illinois University, a Diploma in Library Science from Osmania University, and a B.A. in English Literature from Andhra University. Before becoming Dean of Library Services at Central Missouri State, he developed and headed the Information Systems and Media Services Department at Eastern Illinois University.

Dean Rao is dedicated to promoting collegiality and developing harmonious working relationships among divergent professionals. He received the Ronald Bohley Award from the Missouri Library Association in 1998 for his contributions to the development of a statewide consortium for sharing information resources. At Central Missouri State he served on the Academic Planning Committee, the Information Technology Policy Council, and the Council of Deans, where he was chair of the academic deans group. His record of leadership there includes mobilizing academic community support for a new building program that resulted in the construction of a new \$26 million library building, which was dedicated in 1999. He also collaborated with the University Development Office to raise additional funds from private donors to furnish the new building.

The Dean of Libraries leads a faculty of 20 librarians, one functional specialist, 34 classified staff, and 23 FTE student workers.

Special collection moves -- The MIRC (Multicultural Information Resource Center) has moved. This collection was housed at A.R. Dykes Library at the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, and has moved across the street to 2017/2001 Wahl Hall, West. The MIRC Library office is temporarily in 2017 Wahl Hall, West. Collection focus is on health care issues related to cultural and ethnic minorities and medical education opportunities for the underserved in the U.S. The public has use of this collection and enjoys check-utprivilegsalogy ith edical Centerpescription (www2.kumc.edu/oced/mirc.htm).

Information on public library salaries -- The Kansas Public Library Salaries Project Website, http://www.skyways.org/KSL/development/salaries, was recently introduced. It is the latest achievement in a project that began in 2001 in an effort to improve public library salaries to reflect the market value of the lifelong training, extensive skills, and strong commitment of public librarians.

Welcome to MPLA New Members ARIZONA

Morris McNitt Chaparral College

COLORADO

Sylvia Hall-Ellis University of Denver

KANSAS

Erin Howerton Hays Public Library

Cheryl Jorgenson
Dorothy Bramlage Public Library

Kendra Mork Goddard Public Library

Vikki Jo Stewart Kansas State Library

MONTANA

Colleen Major University of Montana

NEBRASKA

Bobbi Janda Friend of Kilgore Memorial Lib.

NEW MEXICO

Dexter Katzman Dona Ana Branch Community College

SOUTH DAKOTA

Jeanie McCallister Rapid City Public Library

UTAH

Mary Chapman Brigham Young University

Ruby Cheesman Salt Lake County Library System

Patricia King Salt Lake Community Library Included in the Website are a collection of PDF documents including sample justifications for increased administrative salaries, examples of recent successful salary negotiations and the Northeast Kansas Library System Library Salary Improvement Program. Another Web utility, Links to Trustee Topics, was also recently introduced. It offers links to documents of particular interest to library trustees and administrators. Included among the topics covered are recruitment and selection, orientation, board organization, effective board meetings, documentation, library policies, board responsibilities, staff compensation, budget issues, legal issues and responsibilities, marketing and library advocacy. This site can be accessed at http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/development/trusteetopics.html.

MONTANA

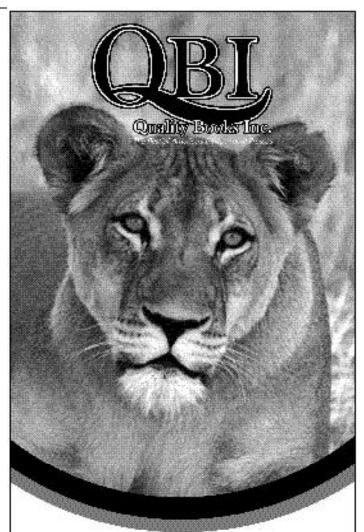
Bozeman Library one of best in nation -- The Bozeman Public Library does a lot more than lend out books — so much more that it has just won a \$10,000 national award for its outstanding service to its community. Only three libraries in the nation will receive this year's National Award for Library Service from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington, D.C.

"We're thrilled, absolutely thrilled," Alice Meister, library director, said recently. What's unique about the Bozeman library, Meister added, is that it tries to go "above and beyond" as a partner with community groups, in offering educational programs and assisting adults and children.

An example of its public outreach is a unique partnership with public radio, enabling the Yellowstone Public Radio (KEMC) in Billings, MT to operate live from a recording booth in the library and give voice to local experts, including library directors, in the broadcasts.

The library also provides innovative programming. Summer reading programs enable children to interact with Intermountain Therapy Dogs and read aloud to these non-threatening canine listeners. From classes in Japanese conversation and dialogues with Mongolian economists to Sunday music concerts, the library has something for everyone.

Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., nominated the library for the award. Meister said the \$10,000 will likely go toward the building fund for the new library building, a \$14 million project. When asked to support a \$4 million bond



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issue for the new library, voters said yes by a two-to-one margin.

Need it? Find it! wour library -- As part of a new statewide marketing campaign, and in conjunction with the Montana State Library, the Montana Library Association recently began running radio and television commercials encouraging support for Montana libraries. The advertisements feature authors Wylie Gustafson, Thomas McGuane and Stephanie Ambrose Tubbs. A statewide marketing Website for Montana libraries has also been developed at http://msl.state.mt.us/

@yourlibrary/.

"It's a Matter of Speech" -- The MLA 2004 Conference will be held April 24-27, 2004 in Bozeman. The theme is "It's a Matter of Speech." Information about the conference is on the MLA Website http://www.mtlib.org/conf/conf2004.htm). First on the list of programs is the key-

note speaker, Greg Mortenson, co-founder and Executive Director of the Central Asia Institute, a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy, women's vocational skills, and awareness of public health and environmental issues through community-initiated education programs in mountain regions of Central Asia. No one understands the power of the books and education more than Greg Mortenson who was in Pakistan, near the Afghanistan border, on 9/11/2001. In fact, Mortenson was the last American and one of only a handful of foreigners to remain in northern Pakistan after 9/11; he stayed on to continue his education programs. Greg dedicates his lifework to educating children, especially girls, in the mountainous regions of Central Asia because he sees the education of girls as the single-most long-term tool against terrorism, poverty, and inequity.

NEBRASKA

New Humanities Librarian named -- Marvel Maring has been named the Humanities/Fine Arts Reference Librarian at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Library. She will begin her new duties on Jan. 5, 2004. Maring received her MLIS from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. Maring also has MFAs in Book Arts and in Painting and Drawing.

NLA/NEMA 2003 Conference -- The Nebraska Library Association (NLA) and the Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA) invited Nebraska library staff and supporters to join them for "Many Faces, One

Voice...Enriching Our Profession," Oct. 29-31, 2003, at the joint NLA/NEMA 2003 conference held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Omaha, NE. Conference keynote speakers were: Thursday, Oct. 30, John M. Budd, Professor and Associate Director of the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies, University of Missouri-Columbia, "The Next Generation: Recruitment, Retention, and the Future of the Profession" (sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission); and Friday, Oct. 31, Cory Doctorow, Outreach Coordinator, Electronic Frontier Foundation, "Slashdot the Vote: How the Net is Changing Governments and How Governments Are Trying to Change the Net."

64% of public libraries accredited -- As of Oct. 1, 2003, 174
Nebraska public libraries meet the Accreditation Guidelines for public libraries. Of those, 56 meet at least 16
of the Advanced Guidelines. Over 64% of all public
libraries in the state are now accredited, with 31% of
those accredited at the Advanced Accreditation level.
This accreditation, awarded by the Nebraska Library
Commission, indicates that a library meets basic Accreditation Guidelines as adopted by the Library Commission

Commission, indicates that a library meets basic Accreditation Guidelines as adopted by the Library Commission and approved by the Nebraska Library Association. These guidelines describe services and programs that provide enhanced library service for Nebraska communities. Accreditation status entitles libraries to apply for both state and federal grants for library improvement projects. Accreditation of public libraries is a cyclical process, with approximately one-third of all libraries scheduled to apply for re-accreditation each year.

The current Accreditation Guidelines are being revised, based on the Library Commission's experience administering the Guidelines for the past 10 years, and statewide input collected during the past ten months. A draft of the revised version of the Accreditation Guidelines was presented at the Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association Annual Conference. A final version will be approved by the Commissioners of the Nebraska Library Commission and implemented in July 2004.

Little Nebraska rep. -- After serving his three-year term as Nebraska's State Representative to the Mountain Plains Library Association, Paul S. Hoffman will be stepping down and welcoming Nine Little to the post.

Nina Little received her undergraduate degree in Library Science and English from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Giving definition to the term life-long learner, she followed her B.S. degree with an M.S. in Reading and an Ed. Specialist degree in Administration, both from UNO, and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In 1993 Nina reached a life-long goal by completing the M.L.S. degree when it was offered in Nebraska by Emporia State University.

NEVADA

Memory of pioneer not forgotten -- When UNLV opened the Lied Library in January 2001, James Dickinson slid into temporary obscurity. Dickinson was UNLV's first full-time professor and a leader in Las Vegas' efforts to establish its own university and break away from the University of Nevada, Reno. His name was emblazoned on the university's library.

Then the Lied Foundation donated millions for a new University of Nevada, Las Vegas library. The old library was to become space for the Boyd Law School and bears the names of the program's chief donors.

Not wanting to ignore Dickinson's contributions, university officials pledged to name the new Lied Library's plaza in Dickinson's memory. That was done 1 1/2 years after the new \$58 million library opened.

Today, students can find a plaque honoring Dickinson's accomplishments on a pedestal along a pathway leading to the Lied Library's main entrance. There also is a reminder of Dickinson in the library's quiet Special Collections room, where his portrait hangs above the dictionary table supporting a copy of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*. A plaque beside the portrait describes Dickinson as a pioneer in Southern Nevada higher education.

Annual crime writers' convention -- Crime fiction writers Ruth Rendell, James Lee Burke, Ian Rankin, and Lee Child were the guests of honor at Bouchercon 34, the annual crime writers' convention held Oct. 16-19, at the Riviera in Las Vegas.

Attendees included David Morrell (First Blood); Robert Ferrigno (The Horse Latitudes); Harlan Coben (No Second Chance); Walter Mosley (Devil in a Blue Dress); Michael Connelly (Blood Work); S.J. Rozan (Winter and Night); Jan Burke (Nine); Carol Higgins Clark (Decked); Max Allan Collins (Road to Perdition); Warren Murphy (The Destroyer series); G.M. Ford (Who in Hell Is Wanda Fuca?); and Terry Devane (a.k.a. Jeremiah Healy).

Attendees took part in four days of programming, including the Anthony Awards Brunch on Sunday and admission to 102 panels on writing mystery fiction, book collecting, conversations with authors, and presentations by special agents, criminal investigators, district attorneys and a member of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's Canine Corps.

Attendees bid on having their name used for a character in a book by their favorite authors during the Bouchercon auction. A signed, full-size quilt of book covers of authors attending Bouchercon was auctioned off, along with signed books and first editions. Proceeds from the auction go to the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District.

Nevada Program Cohort -- The School of Library and Information Sciences will begin a second Nevada Program Cohort in the Fall of 2004. The School is committed to the Cohort approach because of the structure and community that it provides. The Cohort is limited to 40 students who must begin together in the Fall of 2004. This program is available to persons in Nevada and Utah, as well as the surrounding states.

Onsite instruction includes two four-day institutes (Sept. 3-6, 2004 and Jan. 7-10, 2005) held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with the remainder of the instruction delivered online. Additional information is available at the University's Website: http://www.unt.edu/slis/distance/nevada/Nevada%20Flyer.pdf.

NEW MEXICO

Jim Veatch was appointed Techncial Services Librarian at the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library in Las Cruces in July. Most recently the Library HQ SiteSource Project Director, Veatch is the former director of the Nashville Tech Library in Nashville, TN. In addition to regular duties, Veatch will be focusing on electronic information initiatives and federal government information. He has recently been appointed to the MPLA Continuing Education Committee.

In addition, the Branigan Library has begun offering BookLetters, a content-rich online and e-mail service from the BookPage people. It consists of a number of genre newsletters about new books and reading lists that include pictures of book covers, reviews, and links to the Web-based version of our catalog. The Meet the Author section contains an interview with the author and a list of the author's books. The Meet the Author items are all

archived for easy access to information about a large number of current authors. BookLetters also provides a number of lists of award-winning books, again with links back to the catalog, and a toolkit that allows libraries to create their own lists and newsletters. BookLetters is available from the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library Homepage (http://library.las-cruces.org/).

New State Librarian named -- Richard G. Akeroyd, Jr. has been named as the new State Librarian for the State of New Mexico. Mr. Akeroyd comes to New Mexico as his previous position as director of library programs with the Bill & Melinda Gates Library Foundation winds to a close. In that capacity, he became acquainted with the public libraries in New Mexico when the Foundation's program placed computers, software, related hardware, Internet connections, technical support, cash grants, and training into the state's 89 public libraries.

In a long and distinguished career, Mr. Akeroyd studied at the University of Pittsburgh where he completed his Master's of Library Science degree in 1969. He has served in various capacities at the Denver Public Library, the National Commission On Libraries and Information Science, the Connecticut State Library, the University of Connecticut Library, and the Manchester Public Library. From 1986 to 1997 he was the State Librarian of the Connecticut State Library where he managed an annual budget of \$10 million. In addition, Akeroyd has chaired the Advisory Committee for the second White House Conference on Library and Information Services, and co-chaired the White House Conference in 1991. He was on the U.S. Department of Education Working Group on E-Rate Implementation to bring large savings to schools and libraries in telecommunications and Internet costs. Mr. Akeroyd has also served on the Council of State Library Agencies of the Northeast and on the Board of Directors of the Northeast Document Conservation Center.

New GO Bond -- The Library Bond Task Force has been re-established. New Mexico librarians are organizing a legislative effort to improve public, school, and academic libraries. The 2004 New Mexico Library Bond Task Force is a group of public, school, and academic librarians working together to win legislative support and convince the Governor to allow a \$41 million bond package on the November 2004 ballot for books and other materials, such as periodicals and electronic databases. The last statewide library GO Bond initiative was passed in 2002. Librarians asked for \$35 million and received \$16 million.

The Task Force hopes to pass another bond using the impetus of the last bond, which would bring libraries in New Mexico up to a healthy and sustainable level.

OKLAHOMA

Library receives first-ever Federal Depository Library of Year award -- Forward thinking, superior customer service, and Internet savvy: That is how a third of a million library users in Tulsa, OK describe their public library. Those reasons, paired with excellence in providing public access to government information through the U.S. Government Printing Office's (GPO) Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), is why the Tulsa City-County Library has been named the first-ever Federal Depository Library of the Year. The U.S. Government Printing Office's (GPO) Public Printer of the United States Bruce James, presented the award to the Tulsa City-County Library at the 2003 fall Federal Depository Library Conference in Arlington, VA.

"This award recognizes a passion to connect government information to customers when and how they want it," said Linda Saferite, Tulsa City-County Library's CEO. "While our collection is small, our passion to maximize the collection is great." Not only is the library moving forward by introducing innovative information access options, but also the paper collection is still maintained by staff and retrospective cataloging has increased the circulation of the collection. Outreach is a goal of the staff and a supply of free promotional materials is kept on display. The library also acts as a liaison for local community officials.

Come on and Read Y'All — The Governor of Oklahoma, Brad Henry, held a press conference on Oct. 15 to announce the Read Y'All Campaign. The campaign is to increase awareness of the problem of illiteracy in Oklahoma and to promote the libraries, literacy organizations, and others who offer assistance to those who want to improve their reading abilities. The Governor and First Lady are featured on a poster for the campaign. Their photograph was taken by the noted photographer, David Fitzgerald. The Read Y'All campaign is a joint project of the Metropolitan Library System, the Oklahoma Library Association, the Tulsa City-County Library, and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

The Russians are coming – A delegation of Russian library managers visited the Southeastern Public Library System of Oklahoma the week of Oct. 5 - 12, sponsored by the

Open World Leadership Program at the Library of Congress. Some highlights of the week included a meeting with the Public Library Directors Council, a meeting with the OLA Public Relations Committee, visits to nine southeast Oklahoma libraries, a hard hat tour of the nearing-completion new downtown library in Oklahoma City, seeing a high school football game, and a day in Tulsa visiting the Gilcrease Museum and then shopping.

SOUTH DAKOTA

First Festival of the Book held -- The first South Dakota Festival of the Book was held Oct. 3-5 in Deadwood, SD. Over 100 national, regional, and SD authors participated in the event. Activities included author readings and talks, children's activities, author receptions, and book signings. Organizers and participants considered the event a success. Next year the Festival will be held in Sioux Falls, Aug. 27-28.

Stamp happy -- Peggy Williams and her husband, Bruce, joined SD author, Kathryn Akipa, to represent South Dakota and the State Library at the National Book Festival. One of the activities at the pavilion of the states is to collect a stamp representing a literary tradition of each state on a map provided by the organizers. Peggy reported that the demand "to be stamped" kept them very busy all day.

Creative Partnering going on in SD -- South Dakota Li-

brary Association, in conjunction with the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association, held their annual conference in Sioux Falls, Oct. 15-18. The theme was "Creative Partnering." Kristin Anderson, co-author of *Delivering Knock Your Socks Off Service* was the keynote speaker on Thurstations included a panel discussion on the

tations included a panel discussion on the US Patriot Act and a moving speech by author, Ben Mikaelsen. A very special event was an energized luncheon performance by Brulé, contemporary Native American recording artists.

SDI A was pleased to appounce their annual awards for

SDLA was pleased to announce their annual awards for 2003: New Librarian of the Year: Pam Chamberlain Kringel, S. D. State Library; Friend of the Library Award: Warren Wilson, S.D. Board of Regents; Library Support Staff Award: June Harrison, Brookings Public Library; Librarian of the Year Award: Deb Hagemeier, Augustana College Mikkelson Library; Distinguished Service Award:

Ann Eichinger, S. D. State Library.

UTAH

Kearns Library wins national award -- Salt Lake County's Kearns Library is one of 25 nationwide to win an award in the Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults Project. Recognized for its after-school program for atrisk youths, Kearns Library receives a \$250 stipend from the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Kearns' staff members are also invited to showcase their program at the American Library Association's 2004 Annual Conference in Orlando, FL, June 24-30.

The after-school program at Kearns Library offers innovative activities to preteens and teens whose aggressive behavior has caused numerous problems. The youths fought with one another and intimidated staff and patrons, both verbally and physically. Working with Salt Lake County's Youth Services Division, Kearns' staff solicited help in designing the program from an unlikely source—the kids themselves. Harmonica lessons, make-up demonstrations, skateboarding and rock wall climbing are just a few of the activities included in the program which has substantially improved the youths' behavior. "Involving the kids in the process made all the difference," said Youth Services Librarian Trish Hull.

Mining Utah's cultural heritage: The Mountain West Digital Library -- A relatively new partnership among cultural heritage institutions, libraries, and other organizations in Utah and Nevada is building a digital collection of unique and rare resources of special regional interest. The Mountain West Digital Library is a consortium of digital collections from universities, colleges, public libraries, museums, and historical societies in Utah engaged in digitizing selected special collections. Its purpose is to support and promote life-long learning for Utah and Nevada students at all levels.

Four hosting institutions operate specialized servers that support their own digital collections, and also support client institutions or organizations by providing scanning and hosting services. A multi-site aggregating server automatically harvests metadata from the hosting institutions on a regular basis and provides the search engine. These hosting institutions are: Marriott Library, U of U; Merrill Library, USU; Gerald Sherratt Library, SUU; and Harold B. Lee Library, BYU. Client institutions to date include: Great Basin Association; Murray City Library; Uintah County Library; Museum of Fine Arts, U of U;

and Utah State Historical Society. Current digital collections from these clients may be viewed at http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/mwdl/collect.html.

Grand County Library becomes a grant resource center -- Recently, the Grand County Library became one of The Foundation Center's 200 Cooperative Collection sites across the country. The Foundation Center, based in New York City, is a premier resource for non-profit funding. The Grand County Library will house a core collection of the Center's materials, print and CD-ROM directories, and how-to-guides on corporate, foundation, and individual giving as well as an online database to search for donors based on need, project or geography.

Library Director Eve Tallman received initial training in New York this summer and will provide two grant-seeking sessions a year and instruction in the use of the materials to members of non-profits groups in the community.

WYOMING

LCLS wins national award for service to young adults — The Laramie County Library System recently received a national honor for its service to teens and young adults. Presented by the Young Adult Library Services Division of the American Library Association, the library is one of only 25 winners selected from around the country to receive recognition for the Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults Project.

LCLS won for Home Pages, a young adult book club for homeschoolers. This program began at the library in January 2002, providing opportunities for home school students and their families to participate in activities that support home school curricula including book discussion groups, author visits, and special programs.

The library will receive a cash stipend and be included in the fourth edition of the book *Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults*, set to be published in the spring of 2004.

Participants meet monthly September through May to discuss the selection or join a special program. When an author or guest speaker visits, the young adults explore the process of writing at a professional level or create artwork related to a specific title.

Welcome to Wyoming—Joe Ermer has joined the Park County Library System as Cody Branch Manager. He began on June 20. Joe received his MLS in Library Science from Syracuse University He comes from Buffalo & Erie

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 9-11, 2003	Arizona Library Association Conference, Phoenix
March 31- April 2	Kansas Tri-Conference, Wichita
April 14-16	Oklahoma Library Association Conference, Tulsa
April 21-23	New Mexico Library Association Conference, Las Cruces
April 24-27	Montana Library Association Conference, Bozeman
May 5-7	Utah Library Association Conference, Ogden
Oct. 6-8	South Dakota Library Association Conference, Spearfish
Oct. 13-16	Wyoming Library Association Conference, Rock Springs

UPCOMING MPI A CONFERENCES

2004: Oct. Denver, CO (joint with Colorado Library Association)

2005: Jackson Hole, WY (joint with Wyoming Library Association)

County Public Library System (New York) where he held various positions. Welcome to Wyoming, Joe!

Inventors Database Honored -- The Machine Assisted Reference Section of American Library Association recognized the Wyoming Inventors Database created by the Wyoming State Library by adding it to the list of Innovative Web-Based Reference Services. These lists serve as an information resource for other libraries to model or create similar projects.

Wyoming explores Western Trails -- The Wyoming State Library is coordinating the Wyoming portion of the Western Trails Digitization Project. Wyoming, along with Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado are testing the Colorado Digitization Program collaboration model. Erin Kinney explained that the definition of western "trails" in the project is very broad. "It included everything from foot traffic, wagon trains, highways and even records documenting tuberculosis across the West. The Oregon Trail was chosen because most of the institutions already have this information in their collections." The Wyoming inprogress project site can now be visited at http://will.state.wy.us/trails or the CDP site at www.cdpheritage.org/westerntrails.

MPLA Newsletter

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