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MPLA

Mountain Plains Library Association

Newsletter

August 2006

Volume 51 #1

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NMLA/MPLA

2007

Albuquerque
New Mexico

March 14-16, 2007

MPLA "Board Choice Award"

Board Members Make Selections for 2006



MPLA Board Choice Awards were first given in 1999 to recruit new members. As a personal initiative each board member designates a person with demonstrated ability in a library setting to receive a free membership in the Mountain Plains Library Association.

MPLA Board members consider this award a personal quest to identify and recruit future library leaders, those who will serve their own library, their state and regional associations well.

Winners are chosen for their potential to benefit MPLA and the profession in a broader sense. Each Board member of MPLA may name one recipient per year.

Recipients receive free one-year memberships in the association and free registrations for the next joint conference. This year Board Choice winners will have registration fees waived for the New Mexico Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association Conference in Albuquerque.

Find out more about this year's Board Choice winners beginning on page 5.



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President's Message

With the reorganization of MPLA almost finished, the amount of business the board needs to deal with is slowing down. At our in-person board meeting scheduled for July 14th, there are two main items of business the board will address.

The first is updating the long-range plan. Almost every section of the document needs some work due to the changes we made with the organization. Vice-President Wayne Hanway plans to divide the board into small groups in order to finish the updating in a timely fashion.

The second major item on our agenda is fund-raising. MPLA is currently in the changeover cycle from the winter to spring state conferences. This means that we go a year and a half between the Jackson and Albuquerque conferences. As a consequence, MPLA does not have any conference income in 2006 and the organization is dipping into cash reserves to meet this year's budget. It is time for the board to work on other avenues of possible income. I am hoping that everyone will think outside the box and come up with some unique and interesting ideas. If you have an idea that you would like to share, please contact your MPLA state representative.

The Leadership Institute Committee is in full swing preparing for the fifth Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch this October/November. Thirty candidates have been chosen to attend. This is one of the most successful programs that MPLA has instituted. We have seen many of the Institute attendees blossom in their professional careers as a result of attending the Institute. We hope for the same continued success with this year's class!

---Sharon Osenga
MPLA President

NMLA / MPLA 2007 Joint Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico
March 14-16, 2007
Albuquerque Convention Center

Libraries: Launching the Future
See the conference web site
www.nmla.org/abq2007/home.htm

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* Scholarships are made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Board Choice Award Winners

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Since the beginning of this year Board members have chosen the following winners of 2006 memberships:



Alan Aldrich

Instructional Services Librarian
University of South Dakota
I.D. Weeks Library
Vermillion, South Dakota

Alan has a master's degree in Communication from the University of Arizona and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Iowa. Alan's research interests include intercultural communication, language and social interaction, argumentation, and digital libraries. He is currently developing a digital library for the International Society for the Study of Argumentation at the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Current research includes examining library mission statements and developing electronic based teaching tools for students learning methods of doing academic citations.

*--David Alexander,
New Members Round Table Chair*



Victor Baeza

Director of Library Graduate and
Research Services
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Victor came to Oklahoma State University from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth where he was a business librarian. Victor provides leadership to the OSU Libraries in the areas of services for and communication with faculty and

graduate students. As a 2000 Track 1 graduate of ACRL's Immersion Program, he has continuously worked to develop new outreach opportunities for information literacy and collaboration with faculty. His 12 years of involvement in library instruction has given him diverse experience in designing, directing and delivering workshops, training sessions, and seminars to the academic community. Victor has a BS in Communication from Eastern New Mexico University. He earned his MLS from the University of North Texas and received his MBA from Texas Christian University.

*--David Oberhelman,
Oklahoma Representative*



Jodie Barker

ILL/ Public Services Librarian
Dakota Wesleyan University
Mitchell, South Dakota

Jodie received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College in 1995, obtaining double majors in English and history. She was awarded an MLS degree in 1998 from Indiana University. Since 1998, Jodie has served as ILL/ Public Services Librarian at Layne Library, Dakota Wesleyan University. She also holds the rank of Assistant Professor. Currently, Jodie is the Chair of the South Dakota Library Association Bylaws Committee and the South Dakota Library Network Reference Users Group. Jodie actively participated in the South Dakota Library Network's conversion process from Pals to Aleph software. She served as the Chair of the OPAC Task Force, which assisted with developing the OPAC for the South Dakota Library Network (SDLN).

*--Colleen Smith, South Dakota
Representative*

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Board Choice Award Winners

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Dana Belcher

Assistant Library Director and Acquisitions/Periodicals Librarian. East Central University Linscheid Library Ada, Oklahoma

Dana is the Assistant Library Director and Acquisitions/Periodicals Librarian at the Linscheid Library, East Central University, in Ada, Oklahoma. She says other hats she wears include electronic resources maintenance, webmaster, and student personnel director. Dana has been working at the Linscheid library since 1985 - first as a student, then as support staff, and now as librarian. She received her MLIS degree in 1997 from the University of Oklahoma. What Dana loves best about her job is working with the patrons. She

was afraid, after her promotion, that she would be buried in administrative tasks. However, that's not the case. She loves working in the trenches and dealing with the various patrons that come in. Dana is highly involved in SIGALO (Serials Interest Group for All Libraries in Oklahoma) and OKULS (Oklahoma Union List of Serials). She is the webmaster for both organizations and maintains the membership lists,. Dana is also state trainer for OKULS. She has twice been chair of the Interlibrary Cooperation Committee for the Oklahoma Library Association, and has also served on OLA's Local Arrangements Committee. MPLA appeals to Dana because of the opportunities it offers to further her networking, leadership, and day to day skills.

*--Wayne Hanway, Vice-President/
President Elect*

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Board Choice Award Winners,

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Sharon DuBois

Director

Jay Johnson Public Library

Quinter, Kansas

Though Sharon officially began her library career as an adult, she credits an early influence for her interest in the profession. “*Nancy Drew Mysteries*, discovered in the third grade, created my life long reading habit. I haven’t been without a book, or two, or twelve since then. As a frustrated accountant, this passion for reading, and to be surrounded by books, convinced me I was qualified for the position of librarian at the Phillipsburg City Library in Phillipsburg, Kansas! Growing into the library world and getting to know the great people of Phillips County became the new love of my life. I found that connecting people of all ages and stages with authors and information fulfilled me.” Sharon’s love affair with library work has continued for more than twenty years and includes service on the Budget and Planning Committees of the Northwest Library System. She also works with an active “Friends of the Jay Johnson Public Library” group and has just recently completed a building expansion that nearly doubled the size of the library. The completed project experiences a broad base of support in the community and was a recent ‘Library of the Month’ selection by WebJunction. This comes as no surprise to Northwest Library System Director Leslie Bell who says “Sharon DuBois is an enthusiastic and dedicated librarian. She has helped to create a beautiful and well used library that is a source of pride for both Quinter and Gove County.”

--Susan Moyer, Kansas Representative



Laurie Canepa

Regional Federal Documents and
Public Services Librarian

New Mexico State Library

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Laurie Canepa is currently the Regional Federal Documents and Public Services Librarian at the New Mexico State Library where she has worked for the last 15 years. She has worked in federal depository libraries and law libraries since 1976 in Portland, Oregon and Salt Lake City, and Utah. Laurie instituted New Mexico *News Plus* a website that connects daily current news with government documents. You can visit *News Plus* at: http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/services_more.php?id=361_0_13_0_M64. Due to Laurie’s outstanding creativity and promotion of Federal Documents, the New Mexico State Library was granted the 2005 Federal Depository Library of the Year Award.

--Valerie Nye, New Mexico Representative



Evonne Edgington

Adult Reference Librarian

Omaha Public Library,

W. Dale Clark Library

Bellevue, Nebraska

Evonne grew up in South Dakota and received a BS in History from South Dakota State University. She spent eleven years in the United States Air Force as a weather forecaster. After leaving the Air Force, she received a Bachelor’s of Science in Education with endorsements in history and K-12 school media University of Nebraska at Omaha. She worked at St. Bernadette Catholic School as the school librarian for two years, then was assistant director at the Offutt Air Force Base library. She has been with the Omaha Public Library

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Board Choice Award Winners

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since 2001 where she started as the Young Adult librarian at the Abrahams Branch. In December 2005 Evonne received her Master's of Arts in Library Science from University of Missouri in Columbia. Her enthusiasm for the library profession and the energy and ideas especially when it comes to working with children and young adults is impressive.

--Nina Little, Nebraska Representative



Suzanne Goodman

Librarian
Park High School Library
Livingston, Montana

Suzanne's library career began at Livingston Public Library under the mentorship of Library Director June Phillips who expected her employees to attend the Montana Library Association Conference annually. It was there that Suzanne fell in love with librarians and the work they do and wanted to become "one of them." With two small children at home, she decided to pursue certification to become a school librarian and share the same schedule. She also enjoys teens and knew in high school library she would have more teen contact than in a public library. Suzanne earned her certification from Montana State University-Bozeman and was immediately hired at Park High School in Livingston where she continues to work. Suzanne is active in the Montana Library Association having served on committees, then as chair of the School Library Media Division of MLA, and then as president of MLA. She was chosen as the recipient of the MLA Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award for taking a stand against an administrator to keep a particular magazine in the school library. Although

the magazine was removed, she and her students learned much about civil involvement and the price of freedom, with many of the students involved later becoming active in student politics at their various institutions.

--Bridgett Johnson, Montana Representative



Chad Hutchens

Electronic Resources Librarian
Montana State University
Renne Library
Bozeman, Montana

Chad has B.A. and M.A. degrees in Classics from the University of Colorado, and his MLIS from the University of Texas. He is a member of ALA, ACRL, and NASIG. Prior to coming to Montana State University in January 2006, Chad was the Digital Learning Services Librarian at Augsburg College in Minneapolis. In addition to other online projects, Chad was a web developer for the Texas Legacy Project, which garnered recognition in the Houston Chronicle in 2003.

--Jan Fandrich, Academic Section Chair



Monica Martens

Assistant Law Librarian
National Indian Law Library
Boulder, Colorado

Monica holds a BA in Journalism from the University of Florida, an MA in Sociology from Colorado State University, and earned her MS in Library Science from the University of Illinois in 2001. Monica's enthusiasm for libraries and their patrons, as well as the work of librarians, is evident in her day to day life. Still a fairly new librarian, she embraces new projects with optimism and thoughtful contributions. Monica traveled to Washington DC for OCLC training last year,

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Board Choice Award Winners

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returning to Boulder with the tools to effect an important initiative. Monica also works part time at Weld Library District, relishing the opportunity to interact with an even greater variety of patrons. Monica is a terrific asset to the profession!

--Annie Epperson, Colorado Representative



David Morrison

Patent and Trademark Librarian
University of Utah, Marriott Library
Salt Lake City, Utah

David earned his B.A. in Classics from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his MLS from the University of Arizona. Prior to coming to the Marriott Library he was employed by IBM in their Corporate Library at their Research Campus in Tucson, AZ. David has been proactive in promoting the Patent Depository at the University of Utah to small businesses and inventors. His level of service and commitment to his patrons and the University of Utah community is well known to his colleagues. David was selected by the United States Patent & Trademark office as a Patent Fellowship Librarian in 1996-1998 and served at the Patent & Trademark Depository Library Office in Washington, DC. David has a long history of being active in the Utah Library Association; he has chaired the GODORT section of ULA twice. David served as Chair of the Patent & Trademark Library Association in 1999 and 2000. He has also served as treasurer and head of the finance committee of the association, and currently serves as the association archivist. A native New Yorker, Mr. Morrison is proud to call Salt Lake City home!

--Peter L. Kraus, Utah Representative



Jessica Morrison

Circulation Services
Teton County Library
Jackson, Wyoming

Jessica is thrilled to be part of Circulation Services of the Teton County Library since May of 2002. Along with her desk hours at Circulation and Youth Services, Jessica participates on the Personnel Committee and is responsible for fiction collection development. Jessica graduated from the University of Tennessee in May of 2000 with a BA Degree in Political Science. She then went on to enjoy two years snowboarding and working for various attorneys as a legal assistant in Breckenridge, Colorado. Along with her co-worker Wendi Walton, Jessica helped coordinated the Conference Welcome Bags for the 2005 WLA/MPLA Conference in Jackson. She also spent time filming for the Webcast.

--Richard Landreth.

Wyoming Representative



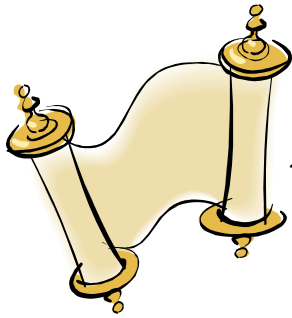
Sally Snyder

Coordinator for Children and Young
Adult Library Services
Nebraska Library Commission
Lincoln, Nebraska

Sally has a BS in Education from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Nebraska, Omaha. She is currently completing the MLS program through the University of Missouri. Sally has worked for twenty-one years at the Nebraska Library Commission. Prior to her current position, she was in charge of administering all Federal aid library programs.

--Sharon Osenga, President

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Elections: When, Where, What, and Who

By Dan Stanton
Arizona Local Documents
Librarian, Arizona State
University Libraries
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*A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy, but won't cross the street to vote in a national election. - Bill Vaughan**

This year Tuesday, November 7, is Election Day. While the 1845 establishment of the Tuesday after the first Monday in November may appear to be a random choice for the selection of our political leaders, a little investigation shows an effort to make “going to the polls” as convenient as possible.

Early November took into account our agrarian society – the harvest was over and the harsh winter weather had yet to set in; spring was for planting and summer for working the crops. Voting on Tuesdays allowed churchgoers to wait until Monday to begin their long journey to the county seat. November 1st was out because Roman Catholics celebrate All Saints Day on November 1st, and merchants often did their previous month's accounting on the first of the month.

While most of us no longer work the fields, Election Day remains the same. Recent accommodations include early mail ballots, online voter registration, and extended poll hours (Arizona polls were open 6 AM to 7 PM in 2004). Really, no excuse.

➤ <http://www.firstgov.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting.shtm> - FirstGov for Citizens - Voting and Elections. From the US Government's Official Web Portal – information on Election Basics, Elected Officials, the Electoral College,

Election History, Candidates, Legislation and Reform, Voter Registration, and Citizen Involvement.

➤ <http://www.fec.gov/> - Federal Election Commission – Responsible for the administration and enforcement of federal campaign finance law, the Commission's web site has information on political campaigns and elections, especially with regards to contributions and funding.

➤ MPLA State Election Resources:

- AZ - <http://azsos.gov/election/>
- CO - <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/>
- KS - <http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections.html>
- MT - <http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/index.asp>
- NE - <http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/>
- NV - <http://www.sos.state.nv.us/nv-election/>
- NM - <http://www.sos.state.nm.us/>
- ND - <http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/>
- OK - <http://www.ok.gov/~elections/index.html>
- SD - http://www.sdsos.gov/elections-voteregistration/electionsvoteregistration_overview.shtm
- UT - <http://elections.utah.gov/>
- WY - <http://soswy.state.wy.us/election/election.htm>

Not sure who to vote for?:

Political parties have been exerting influence on our government almost as long as we have had elections.

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Despite the constitutional provisions to keep factions from attaining and maintaining political power (checks and balances, separation of powers, etc.), political parties formed early on to unite and mobilize the electorate towards candidates who best represented a shared ideology or “party line”.

As political parties got more established, they influenced more than just ideas. They provided social services, had strong affiliations with newspapers, and often determined who got positions of power and contracts through patronage; essentially running communities, states, and sometimes beyond. Although we still hear of cronyism today, the political reforms enacted in the wake of the political bosses and machines of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries have done much to

reduce the control of parties.

American politics is dominated by a two-party system. While it is easy enough to register a political party http://www.fec.gov/ans/answers_party.shtml, it is difficult to compete with the established parties in getting your message out and motivating people to vote for you. In addition, the established parties provide enough ideological wiggle room and local independence to keep the majority of voters registered with one party of the other.

Political Parties in the United States - <http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/election04/parties.htm> - Prepared by the State Department as part of a larger document to explain the US electoral process to those unfamiliar with it, this report provides an excellent history of parties.

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Elections - continued from page 11

Non-government resources:

Wikipedia – Political Parties in the United States - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_political_parties_in_the_United_States - Wikipedia is a free internet encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit entries.

Politics1 – Directory of Political Parties - <http://www.politics1.com/parties.htm> - A popular online political site and blog.

Project Vote Smart – Political Parties –

http://www.vote-smart.org/resource_political_resources.php?category=Political%20Parties – An attempt to independently provide as much public information about candidates as possible in one place.

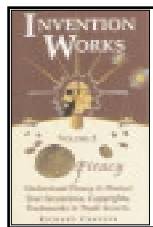
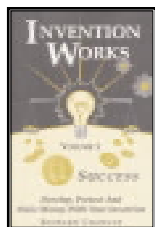
Beyond Red vs. Blue – Pew Research Center for People and the Press –

<http://typology.people-press.org/> - An investigation into the complexities of political beliefs.

UVA Center for Politics – Political Party links - http://www.centerforpolitics.org/about/links_polparties.htm - Links to national political parties and their affiliate groups.

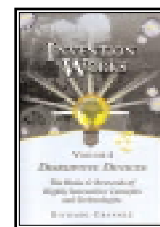
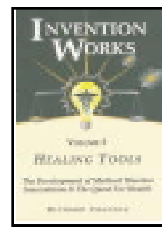
Open Secrets – Money Raised by Political Parties - <http://www.opensecrets.org/parties/index.asp> - “A non-partisan, non-profit research group based in Washington, D.C. that tracks money in politics, and its effect on elections and public policy.”

*Last mid-term election (2002) only 34.3% of the voting age population cast ballots. <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/tables/06s0408.xls>



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Northcentral University Electronic Learning Resource Center
Donna Meyer, Director, Prescott

Colorado

Bibliographical Center for Research; Rosario Garza, Assistant Director, Englewood

Elizabeth Fisher, Media Specialist, Rangeview High School Library, Aurora

Jody K. Howard, Affiliate Professor, University of Denver Library & Information Program

Sue Keefer, Library Director, Las Animas-Bent County Library District, Las Animas

Elizabeth Masterson, Correctional Librarian, Colorado Department of Corrections, San Carlos Correctional Facility Library, Canon City

Nichole Quinby, Reference & YA Librarian, Weld Library District Farr Library, Greeley

University of Denver Library and Information Program; Deborah Grealy, Director

Kansas

Michael Biltz, Public Services Librarian, Dodge City Public Library, Dodge City

Sharon DuBois, Director, John Jay Public Library, Quinter

Kansas State Library, Christie Brandau, State Librarian, Topeka

Scotty Zollars, Director of Library Services, Labette Community College, Parsons

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Delilah K. Brown, Parmly Billings Library, Billings

Joanne Erdall, Thompson Hickman County Library, Virginia City

Lois Fitzpatrick, Director of Libraries, Carroll College Library Helena

Suzanne Goodman, Librarian, Park High School Library Livingston

Marie Habener, Dillon Public Library, Dillon

Nola Huey, Youth Services Librarian, Great Falls Public Library

Barb Lockman, Helena Middle School, Helena

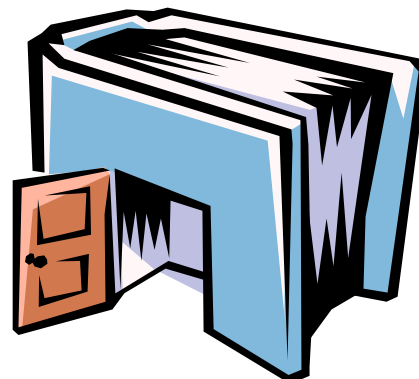
Renee Meyer, Bozeman Public Library, Bozeman

Cindy Patterson, Parmly Billings Library, Billings

Linder Schlang, Reference Technician, University of Montana Library, Missoula

Martha Thayer, Rocky Mountain Labs Library, Hamilton

Lynn Zimmerman, Lincoln County Public Library, Libby



Nebraska

Beth Goble, Government Information Services Director, Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln

Heather Kline, E-Resources Associate, University of Nebraska Lincoln

Stan Schultz, Director, Kilgore Memorial Library, York

Ruth Seward, Lexington Public Library, Lexington

Matthew R. Williams, Director, Kearney Public Library & Information Center, Kearney

Lexington Public Library
Tone Mendoza, Director

New Mexico

Reginald L. Allen, Albuquerque

Denine A. Parker, Librarian II, Albuquerque/Bernalillo Public, Juan Tabo Library, Albuquerque

Christy Sandoval, Santa Clara Pueblo Library, Fairview

Cynthia Shetter, Los Lunas Public Library, Los Lunas

Laurie Treat, Bloomfield High School Library, Bloomfield

New Members

continued from page 13

Nevada

Nadine Phinney, Reno

North Dakota

Wm. Gregory Gilstrap, Fargo

Oklahoma

Pat Corbin, Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, Henderson Public Library, Westville

Keith Jemison, Tulsa City County Library Rudisill Regional Library

Laura Teske, Cataloging/Reference Librarian, Rose State College Learning Resources Center, Midwest City

Utah

Ray Matthews, Government Information Coordinator, Utah State Library, Sandy

Susan Spicer, Youth Services Librarian, Salt Lake County Library Service Kearns Library Kearns

Weber State University Steward Library, Joan Hubbard, University Librarian, Odgen

Wyoming

Kaijsa J. Calkins, English Reference Librarian, University of Wyoming Coe Library, Laramie

Beth Molyneux, Young Adult Coordinator, Natrona County Public Library, Casper

Teton County Library
Deb Adams, Director, Jackson



MPLA Leadership Institute Attendees Selected for 2006

This year sixty-two individuals applied for the thirty available positions for the 5th MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute to be held October 29 - November 3. Thirty-one are being invited to attend. Applicants not selected for this year's program should consider applying again in the future if further institutes are funded.

Applications are evaluated by committees headed by the MPLA state representatives who look for evidence of leadership potential and good communication skills. Current membership in the state association is also considered. Congratulations to the following:

Arizona

Ivy Jarvis
Sharla Darby
Anna Matthews
Sarah Kaufman

Colorado

Cindy Eubank
Michelle Wilde

Kansas

Catherine Newland
Brian Rosenblum
Mickey Coalwell
Sharon Moreland

Montana

Samantha Hines

Donna McCrea
TyRee Jenks

North Dakota

Laurie McHenry
Donna James
Celeste Ertelt
Johanna McClay

Nebraska

Scott Childers
Sarah English
Joanne Ferguson
Cavanaugh

New Mexico

Eileen O'Connell
Jennifer Sprague

Barbara Lah

Oklahoma

Laura Teske

South Dakota

Annie Brunskill
Jan Enright
Vickie Mix

Utah

Jennifer Fay
Susan Salem
Pamela Martin

Wyoming

Elaine Hayes

The five mentors for this year's institute are Joe McKenzie, Director, Salina Public Library, Kansas; Roseanne Siemens, Executive Director, Kansas Library Association; Carol Hammond, Associate Vice President, Information Services, Thunderbird: Garvin School of International Management, Glendale, Arizona; Jan Elliott, Library Director, Safford City-Graham County Library, Arizona; and Mary Bushing, Institute Coordinator, Library Consultant and Trainer, Bozeman, Montana.

Contact Institute Coordinator Mary Bushing at marying@msn.com with questions or comments.



Board Choice Award Winners

continued from page 9



Renae Tholkes

Documents Associate
University of North Dakota Chester
Fritz Library
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Renae has a teaching degree with a library science minor. Renae has been working in libraries as a cataloger and serials librarian at Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota and also at the University of Wyoming. At the University of North Dakota she catalogs government documents.

--Sally Dockter, North Dakota
Representative



Lori Wylie

Periodicals/Government Publications
Librarian
Western State College
Gunnison, Colorado

Lori has a B.S. from Auburn in Communications Disorders and a M.L.S. from the University of Oklahoma. Prior to coming to Western State College in 2002 she was Reference Librarian and Programmer at the Edmond Public Library, Edmond, Oklahoma.


--Beth Avery, Past President



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Around the Region

Arizona

The National Media Market will be held in Phoenix, September 27-October 1. It presents motion media from fifty-five producers and distributors for media professionals who purchase for public libraries, universities, media/technology centers and educational broadcasting.

Libraries Win NCLIS Health Awards. The Glendale Public Library's *Operation Health* Outreach program, directed by Frieda Ling, and the Tempe Public Library's *Get Real, Get Fit!* Program directed by Sarah Kaufman, received plaques in May at the first NCLIS health forum and awards ceremony.

Northern Arizona University's Cline Library sponsored the Fourth Annual Flagstaff Music Festival in June. The event is organized by the Cline Library's Employee Organization and benefits the Mary Crawley Student Scholarship.

Colorado

Ballot Initiative Looming: Among the initiatives on the statewide ballot this coming fall is #55, which affects special districts, the funding entity for many library systems around the state of Colorado. Initiative #55 seeks to prohibit the provision of non-emergency services to illegal immigrants. Citizens of Colorado would be able to sue "any governmental entity which fails to enforce the restrictions." Implications of the initiative are far-reaching, not least of which are the costs that would be incurred in simply determining the immigrant status of patrons, users and customers of



the services provided by special districts. Supporters must collect sufficient signatures, and the initiative must be approved by the Secretary of State, to have it placed on November's ballot. For information, see the Special District Association July newsletter at http://www.sdaco.org/docs/newsletter_july.pdf

The Mountain & Plains Paraprofessionals, an organization that serves Rocky Mountain area library paraprofessionals and support staff, is planning a summer workshop with the theme of *Reaching Out to the Community*. Registration for the day-long August 11 event is \$25, which includes a continental breakfast, keynote address by Jamie LaRue of Douglas County Libraries, lunch, and three workshop sessions. See <http://academic.regis.edu/mgarnar/index.html>.

Suzanne Taylor, longtime MPLA member and former MPLA/CAL liaison is retiring from Colorado State University's Morgan Library at the end of June 2006.

Brenda Bailey-Hainer has been appointed the new executive director of BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research). She was director of Networking and Resource Sharing at the Colorado State Library since 1999. Brenda received the Mountain Plains Library Association President's Board Choice Membership Award in 2005.



The Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL) Intellectual Freedom Committee has updated its award-winning brochure on the USA PATRIOT Act to reflect the changes made in 2006. Libraries are welcome to share information about the Act with library patrons by customizing and reproducing the flyer. Link to the brochure at http://www.cal-webs.org/if_patriot.html.

Kansas

The Johnson County Library received five 2006 Achievement Awards presented by the National Association of Counties for:

- *Reviving Literary Discussion: Book Club to Go Kits*
- *Not Forgotten: Literature for Adults with Developmental Disabilities*
- *Out of Sight, Out of Mind – No More: AIDS Awareness*
- *When Opportunity Knocks: From Problem to Partnership*
- *JoCoHealth.net: Thriving on Its Utility*



The Leavenworth Public Library is hosting the “Forever Free” traveling exhibition on “Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation.” Organized by the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, in cooperation with the American Library Association, the exhibition is funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

“**Readin’ Round Kansas City Map – A Literary Ramble,**” is online, searchable, browsable, and interactive under Readers Corner on the Johnson County Library website at <http://www.jocolibrary.org/literarymap>. The online map is a Flash application, allowing users to click a location on the

map to see what literary work was set in that location, then find out availability or place a hold.

Montana

Jane Howell, Montana State University-Billings Library Director and long-time member of MPLA, was honored with the YWCA of Billings Salute to Women Award.



The Montana State Library announced ten Montana recipients of \$25,000 scholarships to attend graduate school as part of the State Library’s PEEL (Professional Education and Employment for Librarians) program. The scholarships are funded by the IMLS Recipients of the \$25,000 scholarships are:

- **Michelle Fenger** of Bigfork, bookmobile librarian with Lake County Libraries.
- **Brett Fisher** of Columbia Falls, technology coordinator with Flathead County Library.
- **Melissa Hart** of Missoula, a University of Montana wildlife research unit biologist.
- **Nancy Hatfield** of Bozeman, a substitute staff member at the Bozeman Public Library.
- **Stef Johnson** of Somers, library assistant and systems technician with Flathead County Library.
- **Desiree Olson** of Missoula, legal document coder.
- **Lee Phillips** of Belt, previously employed with Highwood Public Schools.
- **Kathryn Robins** of Billings, technology consultant.
- **Megan Stark** of Missoula, library technician at the University of Montana Library.
- **Sheree West** of Big Sky, assistant librarian with Big Sky Community Library.

Each recipient is required to complete the University of Washington distance MLS degree by 2009 and then work two years in a professional level position at a Montana library.

Nebraska

Happy 25th Birthday to the Golden Sower Award, Nebraska's Children's Choice Literacy Award sponsored by the School, Children, and Young People's Section of the Nebraska Library Association. In honor of their 25th year, the Golden Sower Committee unveiled their Virtual Museum. Located at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/museum/vmhome.htm>, the museum features a complete list of winners and nominees.



“Home Office for the David Letterman Show” Wahoo, a Nebraska community with a little over 4,000 people, is located 25 minutes from the cities of Omaha, Lincoln and Fremont and has proudly proclaimed the distinction of being the Letterman Show's home office. Another and more recent distinction Wahoo can now claim is a new library. The library closed for three weeks to pack, move and reorganize, reopening to the public on June 19, 2006.

Winnebago Public Library/Little Priest Tribal College Library was named WebJunction Library of the Month in May. It was also the setting for the Spring meeting of NLA's New Member Round Table the Diversity Committee. With approximately 750 people in town, 1,200 living in the surrounding rural area, and 100 students enrolled at the college, over 1,300 patrons are currently registered at the library. Library Director is **Gretchen Healey**.

Nevada

Martha Greene, Coordinator for Training, Collection Development and Information Services at the Washoe County Library System, is the new President of the Reno Sunrise Rotary Club. Martha is also Nevada's state representative to MPLA.

“Tools for the Future” is the theme for the Nevada Library Association's 2006 conference. It is August 15-19 in North Las Vegas.

Lyon County Public Library, in northwestern Nevada has received a \$26,000 LSTA grant to begin a 24/7 online catalog of downloadable audio books, e-books, and other popular digital media. Players will be available for check out as well. Many commuters are among the library's customers.

New Mexico

The University of New Mexico Zimmerman Library Reopens in late June after sustaining a fire on April 30 and being closed for damage assessment and cleaning. The fire, believed to have been arson, started in the periodical section of the library. Fire damage may be as high as \$5 million.

The Border Health Information and Education Network (¡BIEN!) in Southern New Mexico won the 2006 NCLIS Health Information Award. ¡BIEN! is a community-based network that include health organizations, libraries, health clinics, hospitals, and centers of higher education. The program provides access to reliable health information in English and Spanish to the public, health providers, researchers, faculty, and students.



Celebrating 50 Years of Bookmobile Service. The New Mexico State Library celebrated the state's 50th anniversary of Bookmobile libraries in June. Bookmobiles make stops in 134 communities in 29 counties; log almost 80,000 miles per year, and have approximately 22,400 registered users who check out over 134,000 items.

Camila Alire retired as Dean of the University of New Mexico Libraries on June 30th. She will complete her term as president of the Association of College and Research Libraries and plans to remain active in library professional organizations. **Fran Wilkinson** has been appointed interim Dean while a national search is conducted.

Richard Akeroyd, State Librarian, was appointed to the U.S. Government Printing Offices' Depository Library Council. During his three year term, Akeroyd will advise the Public Printer of the United States on policy and administration of the Federal Depository Library Program.

Robert Mead has been appointed New Mexico State Law Librarian. Mead has previously lived and worked in New Mexico, and most recently comes to the state from the Law Library at the University of Kansas.

North Dakota

The North Dakota Library Association centennial conference will take place September 20-22 in Fargo. Centennial plans include a cookbook, quilt, photographic display, and live auction. Former North Dakota library employees are encouraged to send messages to Sally Dockter (sallydockter@mail.und.nodak.edu) to share with the conference attendees.

Betty Gard, Head of Reference & Research Services at Chester Fritz Library is retiring after serving the University of North Dakota for three

and one half decades. She has also served as documents librarian, bibliographer, reference librarian and library administrator.

Fargo Public Library Director Charles Pace was profiled in the March 15, 2006 "Movers & Shakers" issue of *Library Journal*. The magazine cites Pace's major accomplishments from his first five years as Fargo Public Library's Director. Pace is the first library professional in North Dakota to receive this recognition.

Library Career Fair was held in April by the Fargo Public Library together with the libraries of North Dakota State University, Minnesota State University Moorhead and Concordia College. The fair informed residents and college students of job opportunities in the field.

Fargo Public Library Receives a "Best of Show" Award. **Cindy Wray** and **Erin Smith** of the Library's Children's Services Department received a "Best of Show" award for children's reading materials in the annual "Swap & Shop Best of Show" competition sponsored by the Library Administration and Management Association.



Fargo Public Library Volunteer Creates 1,000 Paper Cranes. **Carol Sawicki**, longtime volunteer at the Fargo Public Library, folded 1,000 paper cranes as a personal wish for world peace. She was inspired by Eleanor Coerr's book *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*. The cranes are on display in the Children's Department of the downtown library.

The Fargo Public Library offered a series of five "April Author & Poets @ your library" programs in the spring. Poets and authors included Thom Tammaro, Annelee Woodstrom, Diane Stanley, John Erickson, and Lorna Landvik.

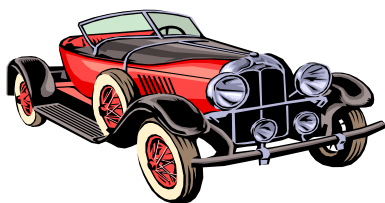
Oklahoma

The Donna Norvell Book Award was established in 2005 by the Oklahoma Library Association and the first annual award winner was *Wild About Books* by Judy Sierra and illustrated by Marc Brown. It honors a book that has made a significant contribution to the field of literature for children through third grade and is selected by the librarians who are members of the Oklahoma Library Association's Sequoyah Book Award Committee. The award is named for Donna Norvell, Children's Consultant for the Oklahoma Department of Libraries from 1992-2004, who died in 2004. Donna was also an active member of MPLA. The medal was designed by Oklahoma artist and author Kim Doner.



The Oklahoma Library Association had its Leadership Retreat at the Noble Foundation in Ardmore. The tranquil setting allowed members to reflect on past years and prepare for the coming year with the theme, "100 Years and New Frontiers." Past OLA presidents also attended.

Riding the Mother Road for the OLA Endowment Fund. The Oklahoma Library Association sponsored a pre-release screening of the Disney-Pixar animated movie *Cars* as part of a fund-raising effort to establish a permanent headquarters. The event included admission to the movie, a movie poster, a



"behind the scenes" introduction to the movie, and VIP dinner. It also included a classic car show, silent auction, and other perks. *Cars* is inspired by the book *Route 66: The Mother Road* by Pulitzer Prize nominated Oklahoma author Michael Wallis. Wallis, who is also known for his vocal talents, is the voice of the Sheriff of Radiator Springs in the film. Information about the event and the OLA Endowment fund is available at <http://www.oklibs.org/cars/index.html>.

Search Every Library in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries newest service is LibrarySearch (<http://www.librarysearch.odl.state.ok.us:6060/>), a search engine that covers all the websites of Oklahoma's public and higher education libraries, as well as "friends of the library" sites. The site is open for testing and comments.

The Oklahoma Library Association and Oklahoma will both celebrate their centennial year in 2007. Check the web site <http://199.164.253.25/centennial/> to keep up with all the festivities.



South Dakota

"Illustrate-a-Book Contest" was recently held at the Brookings Public Library during the 2006 National Library Week celebration. **Katherine Eberline**, Children's Librarian, said the contest is a great way to connect books and children. The entries of all participants were on display at the Brookings Public Library.

David Alexander is the new Digital Access Librarian for the University of South Dakota. He was formerly the Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian at South Dakota State University. David is also moderator of the MPLA New Members Electronic Community.

“Librarians in Action” is the theme of the 2006 SDLA Convention held September 20-22 in Rapid City. Keynote speaker is Nancy Pearl, who will also lead a “Book Lust Bus Tour.” The bus will go from western South Dakota to Sioux Falls on the east with Nancy Pearl leading a bookish discussion during the ride. Destination is the annual “Festival of Books,” sponsored by the South Dakota Humanities.

“Mouse” Makes Special Guest Appearance at South Dakota Public Libraries. During June, 6 foot “Mouse” made guest appearances at eastern South Dakota public libraries. He is the main character in *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *If You Take a Mouse to School*, and *If You Take a Mouse to the Movies* by Laura Numeroff. While visiting the



Huron Public Library, “Mouse” helped lead his own version of “Mouse Says” during story times and assisted with Summer Reading registration. “Mouse” also visited Brookings Public Library, Madison Public Library, Watertown Regional Library, Grant County Library in Milbank, and

Siouxland Libraries in Sioux Falls. The libraries shared the rental cost of the “Mouse” costume.

The SDLA Support Staff Section is sponsoring a BranchOut mini-conference on July 28 in Sioux Falls. Dr. **Mary Bushing**, MPLA Leadership Institute Coordinator, will be the keynote speaker with the message, “Indeed we are Energetic, Enlightened, and Essential.”

The “SAIL” (Solo Artists in Libraries) program is offering artistic opportunities in small public libraries. The 2006 artist residency program will be offered at the Britton Public Library, Burke Public Library, Centerville Community Library, Freeman Public Library, A.H. Brown Public Library in Mobridge, Tripp Public Library, Deubrook Community Library in White, and Tripp County Library in Winner. The five-day residencies offer in-depth arts experiences to children in communities with populations under 5,000.

Gates Foundation sponsors three to attend PLA Conference in Boston. **Robin Schrupp**, Grant County Public Library in Milbank; **Jane Norling**, Beresford Public Library; and **LeeAnn Paananen**, Hearst Library in Lead, attended PLA as well as an 8 hour pre-conference workshop sponsored by the foundation.

Utah

Utah Library Association Adopts Strategic Plan for 2006-2009. The plan focuses on Advocacy, Intellectual Freedom, Continuing Education, Membership, Building the Profession, and Organizational Excellence.

Utah Kids Ready to Read, a state-wide task force, has completed the first phase of its initiative to inform library professionals about the philosophy and techniques of emergent literacy. From October 2005-May 2006, the trainer task force

held 19 workshops in 15 counties. The trainings demonstrated simple ways to incorporate emergent literacy into existing programming and provided information about parent workshops. A second phase will follow.

The Salt Lake City Public Library was named 2006 Library of the Year by *Library Journal*. Criteria for selection included service to the community, creativity and innovation in developing programs or a dramatic increase in library usage, and leadership in creating programs that can be emulated by other libraries. *Library Journal* noted "Salt Lake City Public Library is a model for the library of the future".

New Grand County Public Library opened in Moab in June. The library is three times larger than the previous, with a large children's room, meeting room, outdoor courtyard, and teen area.

Southern Utah University Online Library Program offers classes, minor, and endorsement. The Library Media Department offers all coursework necessary for the Library Media Minor and the Utah Library Media Endorsement programs. All courses are available on the Internet. Non-degree seeking students who desire single classes for professional development are welcome. The Library Media minor is designed for those interested in libraries and requires 17 semester credits. The Library Media Endorsement provides the courses required for the Utah School Library Media License (K-12). Students completing this 18-semester credit program must currently have, or be seeking, a valid Utah educator's license. Further information and admission forms are available at <http://www.li.suu.edu/media>.

Wyoming

Sheridan County Fulmer Library is providing Book Club Kits in response to the popularity

of book discussion groups. The program, called *Books on the Move*, was developed by circulation manager **Marci Mock**, and currently offers over 30 titles including *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith; *Fools Crow* by James Welch, and *Rising from the Plains* by John McPhee. Each kit contains multiple copies of the book, discussion questions, author biographies and a list of suggested further reading.



*Marci Mock, circulation manager for Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, prepares to check out one of the library's book club kits, *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency*.*

Teton County Library is offering several free classes and events including an Adult Learner Computer Class series; a Medical Insights Online workshop led by **Mary Henning**, Regional Medical Library Liaison from the University of Wyoming; a Genealogy Workshop; several computer classes, and a Grant Tools Workshop. Many of the classes are also available in Spanish.

Cooee, mates! As part of its Summer Reading Program, Alta Branch of the Teton County Library presented award-winning Aussie storyteller and musician, Paul Taylor, in "Didjeridoos and Kangaroos." Taylor also taught a Didjeridoo Workshop for children.

Jentel Artist Resident presents Creative Writing Workshops @ Your Library. The Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library offered two creative writing workshops facilitated by Jentel Artist Resident and author Frances de Pontes Peebles. Ten individuals had the opportunity to join the novelist in studying the components of short stories from the writer's point of view during two workshops held in June and July.

Teton County Library and Jackson Hole Writers jointly presented a five-day Teton Literary Festival of live author readings and interviews, visual exhibits, book art workshops and social gatherings at the end of June. The festival featured 13 events, nine presenters, and dozens of local and regional authors. The events were sponsored by the Teton County Library Foundation.

Library Renovation/Demolition. Remodeling and renovation of the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library began with the demolition of the courtyard on the southwest side of the building. It will be replaced with an open reading patio accessible to patrons from the sidewalk. The library's Foundation raised over 75% of the funds for the \$2.1 million project from private sources, with the balance from county tax revenue.



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