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MPLA

Mountain Plains Library Association

Newsletter

June 2007

www.mpla.us

Volume 51 #6

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MPLA on the Web
www.mpla.us

NMLA/MPLA Conference Highlights from Albuquerque



Clockwise from upper left: President Osenga brings her last Board Meeting to order with two gavels; Author Michael Wallis at Book Signing after Awards Banquet; Incoming President Wayne Hanway receives both gavels from Sharon Osenga. Keynote speaker Joe Janes; Find more photos and information on page 5.



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President's Message

One of the main functions of a library association is to put on an annual conference for its members. The conference is a combination of continuing education, networking, and business, with a bit of fun thrown in. Ever since I went to my first conferences, while I was in library school in 1973-74, I have found myself learning from, enjoying, and looking forward to them.

A conference is a business undertaking, done with the expectation of making a decent profit. Most library associations have just two major sources of revenue: membership dues and conference profits. A conference that ends in the red can be a major disaster for the association. I have seen it happen. So putting together a conservative and comprehensive conference budget is one of the critical early steps in planning a conference, and exercising fiscal discipline from start to finish is essential. Finding program sponsors and encouraging vendors to support the conference as exhibitors are vitally important.

Planning and carrying out a library association conference is a big job, and it is mostly done by volunteers. Two parts of the planning process that are recognized by most people are site selection and program planning, especially picking speakers for major events, but equally important overall are the many jobs that fall under the heading of local arrangements, which can include everything from assembling registration packets to getting speakers and VIPs to and from the airport, along with organizing social events, working with vendors and other exhibitors, staffing the registration desk, providing hospitality gifts, and much more.

With that in mind, I want to make three points.

First, I want to salute all the people, in MPLA, in NMLA, at the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library, and elsewhere who put a tremendous amount of work into the 2007 joint conference that over 700 attendees enjoyed in March. I wish I knew how to personally thank them all. I have heard so many complimentary things said about the conference, and I want everyone who helped to feel good about it.

Second, I want you to know that planning for the 2008 joint conference with the Utah Library Association, which will be at the Hilton in Salt Lake City, April 29 – May 2, is already underway, and you can help contribute to it. Your suggestions of programs, presenters, and special events are welcome and needed. Don't wait for the formal call for proposals. Start thinking about it now and give your suggestions to Vice President Rob Banks or any officer, board member, committee chair, or community moderator. And look for other ways that you can volunteer.

Third, I want you to realize that your support for the conference makes a critical difference. Plan now to attend the conference if you can. But even if you can't attend, sell the conference to others. Encourage and help others to attend. Tell vendors how much their support means and how much conferences do to help us do our jobs as librarians.

With you as an active member of the conference team, I know we are headed for another tremendous conference. Thanks in advance for your help.

--Wayne

Greensburg Library Destroyed by Tornado

From Kansas Representative Susan Moyer

When they emerged from their basements and storm shelters on the evening of May 4, the residents of Greensburg, Kansas found that 95% of their community had been destroyed by a 1.7 mile wide, Level EF5 wedge tornado with wind speeds measured at 205 mph. The twenty minute warning helped to minimize the loss of life, which currently stands at ten dead in community of approximately 1,500 people. Gone are almost every building in town, including churches, city hall, hospital, and the public library. All that remains of the storefront library is the lower portion of the walls (approx. 3 ft. high) and that was filled with water. Nothing is salvageable. Director Debbie Allison's home was also destroyed.

The Kansas Library Association Educational Foundation has established the Greensburg / Kiowa County Library Relief Fund. All donations are tax deductible and can be paid by either check or credit card. Forms and additional information are available from the Kansas Library Association web site at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/greensburg.html>.

Please note that this site is for monetary donations only. There is no means to accommodate donations of materials at this time. Thank you in advance for your generosity, to help one small town in Kansas to recover and rebuild.

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NMLA/MPLA Conference Retrospective

Total attendance at the March 2007 NMLA/MPLA conference in Albuquerque was 717, a record for NMLA. Of those attending 161 were MPLA members; 287 were NMLA members; 23 belonged to both associations, and 246 belonged to neither. There were 213 attendees from out-of-state.

The MPLA Raffle for a gift basket, plus a few shirt sales, brought in \$372.00. The winner of the basket was Karen Villanueva, a conference vendor from Albuquerque. Valerie Nye, MPLA's New Mexico Representative, coordinated the raffle and exhibit.

Conference program handouts are available at: <http://www.mpla.us/documents/handouts/2007/index.html>.



Presidents Anne Lefkofsky (NMLA) and Sharon Osenga (MPLA)



Stan Terry in EBSCO Information Services booth, sponsor of 2007 MPLA Leadership Institute



Members Basha Hartley and Mary Ann Thompson at evening social gathering



Top to bottom left: Sharon Osenga presents awards to Campbell County Public Library (WY) staff; to Cindi Hickey; and to Susan Pinkerton



MPLA Webmaster and Photographer Dan Chaney



Members of Wyoming Legislature celebrating the Legislative Leadership Award with Wyoming librarians

See more photos from the conference at

<http://www.mpla.us/documents/photos/2007/index.html>.

Put Yourself in This Picture!

The 2007 MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute October 28-November 2, promises to be as rewarding as the previous institutes.



Coordinator
Mary Bushing.

Ghost Ranch is located in New Mexico on the southern edge of the Col-

orado Plateau just north of the town of Abiquiu.

EBSCO Information Services is a contributing sponsor of this year's Institute. Mary Bushing, Institute Coordinator, encourages interested librarians to visit the webpage (www.mpla.us/leadership/index.html) to find out more and to complete the initial application. **Applications are due via email by midnight MDT on June 16, 2007.**

All applicants must meet all six qualifications. Applicants do not need to be members of MPLA but each must be a current member of his or her state library association. The six qualifications are:

- MLS or equivalent master's degree relevant to the library field
- Employed in a library organization in the 12-state MPLA region
- More than 2 years but less than 12 years post-master's work in a library-related field
- Current member of one of MPLA's 12 affiliated state library associations
- A record of experience (including outside the library) demonstrating leadership potential and ability
- A thoughtfully completed application.

Applicants are evaluated by their state's MPLA Representative and library association President. The rankings are given to the MPLA Leadership Committee to select 30 who will receive invitations to participate. A number of alternates are also selected to fill vacancies that might arise. The 30 attendees are joined by four mentors, along with Facilitator Maureen Sullivan and Institute

Registration cost for MPLA members (for at least 2 current consecutive years) is \$450 while others pay \$550. Remaining costs are subsidized by EBSCO Information Services and MPLA. Attendees pay for their own transportation costs.

Mentors for the 2007 institute are:

Carol Hammond, Director, International Business Information Center Thunderbird School of Global Management, Glendale AZ

Jane Hatch, Branch Manager, Argentine Branch Kansas City Public Library, KS.

Stephen Shorb, Dean, University Library; University of Nebraska, Omaha NE.

A total of 169 Fellows and Mentors have graduated from the program in the past five years. Thirteen Leadership Institute attendees presented programs at this year's joint conference. The last five presidents of the North Dakota Library Association, including the incoming president, are Ghost Ranch graduates.

Judy Zelenski, Executive Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Mountain Plains Library Association, Lakewood, CO.

For questions or more information concerning the institute or application, contact Mary Bushing at: marying@msn.com

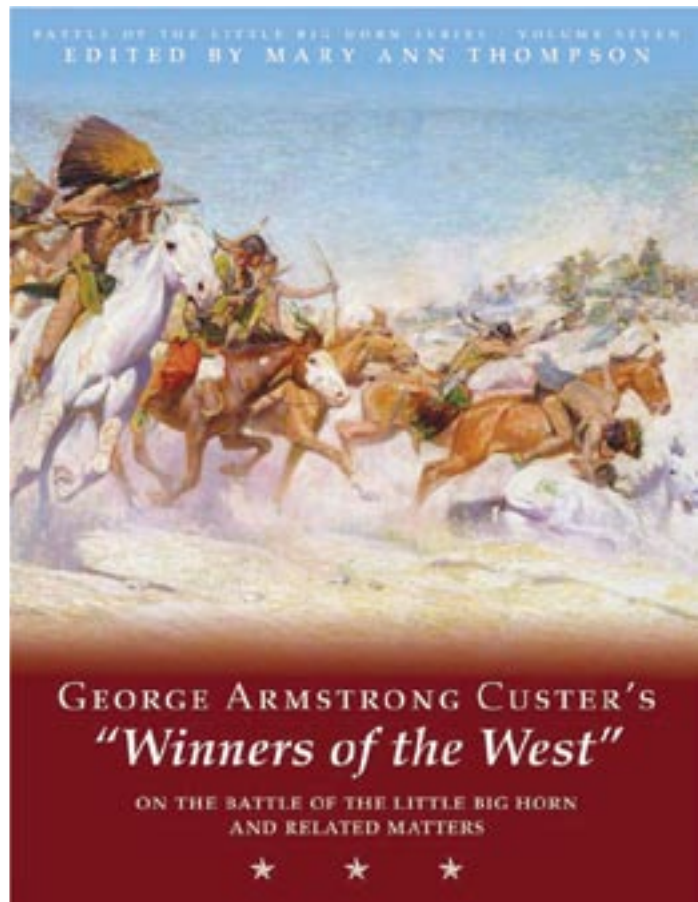
**SPECIAL OFFER TO
MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

Mary Ann Thompson, well-known curator of the Kansas Room in the Hays (KS) Public Library has selected articles pertaining to General Custer and the Battle of the Little Big Horn from *Winners of the West*, a newspaper that was in existence from 1923 to 1944, and was the voice of the Indian War Veterans. *Winners of the West* was the spokesman for the enlisted Indian War Veterans, as the *Army and Navy Journal* was for the officers. Never before has anyone attempted to analyze this material in this depth. This is the most comprehensive presentation of the long forgotten newspaper.

Ms. Thompson follows George Armstrong Custer's life from the Civil War battles through the Washita and Little Big Horn Indian War battles and every place in between. These shining stories include the adventures of George Armstrong Custer and the Seventh U. S. Cavalry during their time in the West.

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Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

by Dan Stanton, Arizona State University Libraries

I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than to those attending too small a degree of it. – Thomas Jefferson



The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) of 1966 and its various amendments provide the presupposition that records held by the executive branch of the U.S. government are available to the people. The FOIA shifted the burden of proof from the individual having to prove his/her “need to know”, to the government having to justify its perceived need for secrecy. The FOIA requires executive agencies to provide the fullest disclosure of information possible, establishes standards for which records must be disclosed and which may be withheld, and provides guidelines for administrative and judicial recourse to requests that have been denied.

The requestor is responsible for asking the appropriate agency for existing records or documents, not just fishing for information. Requests must be specific enough for a professional employee of the agency to locate the record in a reasonable period of time, not to do research or trial and error searching. While the FOIA comes down on the side of disclosure, there are limits. The FOIA pertains to federal executive branch agencies only, and does not apply to elected officials such as the President, Vice President, and members of Congress. It also does not apply to the federal judiciary, federal contractors or grantees, private companies or organizations, or State or local governments. Other exemptions are explained in the links below. Agencies are required to respond to requests within twenty working days. A denial must be accompanied with a reason and an explanation of how to appeal to the head of the agency.

The Privacy Act of 1974 is a related law which seeks to protect individuals from misuse of the “individually identifiable information” collected and maintained by Federal agencies in a “system of records”. A system of records includes those which can be retrieved by name, Social Security number, or other individually assigned code. While the request process is similar to the FOIA, an individual may only request his/her own records. The Privacy Act *does* allow for the individual to request records that are not accurate, timely, relevant, or complete be corrected through amendment.

House Committee on Government Reform -
A citizen's guide on using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 to request government records: second report - <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS64369>

GSA Federal Citizen Information Center -
Your right to federal records: questions and answers on the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act - <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS55090>

Department of Justice Main FOIA Portal - <http://www.usdoj.gov/foia/> - Centralized access to all Executive agency FOIA offices.

FBI FOIA - <http://foia.fbi.gov/> - Access to the FBI's Electronic Reading Room and the most frequently requested crime files.

Public Citizen - http://www.citizen.org/litigation/free_info/ - Resources from a public interest law firm specializing in consumer issues and government.

How To Use The Federal FOI Act - <http://www.rcfp.org/foiact/index.html> - Expert guidance from the Reporters' Committee for the Freedom of the Press.

National Security Archive - <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nsa/foia.html> - An independent non-governmental research institute which collects and publishes declassified documents obtained through the FOIA.

Choices - Choices - Choices!

General MPLA E-List Open for All Members

The general MPLA discussion and announcement list is available for all members who would like to subscribe. As a service to MPLA, Joe Edelen continues to moderate mpla-l at the University of South Dakota.

To subscribe to mpla-l, send an e-mail request to Joe.Edelen@usd.edu.



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MPLA members now have a choice of Newsletter format.

You may continue to receive issues by mail, or view them online only. The online version is in PDF format, includes color, and may be printed.

- Go to www.mpla.us; Login to the MemberClicks MPLA area, either from Member Area at top right; or from login area at lower left of home page.
- Go to your profile in the MemberClicks directory, click on "EDIT,"
- Find "Newsletter Format" and make your selection. "SAVE"

If no selection is made you will continue to receive newsletter by mail.

MPLA Stories

Tales from around the MPLA Region



See More MPLA Articles and Photos on the MPLA Website

<http://www.mpla.us/stories/>

- MPLA Kansas Representative Susan Moyer reports on a particularly lively Conference along with photos. See "Fun at the Kansas Tri-Conference."
- MPLA Webmaster Dan Chaney documents his displacement, along with several other MPLA members, in the Oklahoma State University Libraries during renovation. Photos show the disarray.
 - Meg Martin, Wyoming State Law Library, contributes another "Moving" Story.
 - Beverly McFarland, Belen Public Library, NM, provides another amused look at the challenges caused by library construction. See "We Want Both."
 - "An Odyssey through Time" by Ruby Wilson, South Dakota State University Archives & Special Collections, recounts her adventure in the documents "dungeon" which began as a way to escape the heat.
 - Jim Heckel describes the Montana Library Association's Hot Babes Calendar which has six MPLA members as models. (Jim is Mr. May). See "Montana's Book Babes Calendar: Hot! Hot! Hot!"
- And More!

FACEBOOK MPLA now has a group on Facebook, created by Webmaster Dan Chaney.

Facebook is a social networking service originally developed for college and university students, but has expanded to corporate, and geographic communities. It is available to anyone with an email. If not already registered with Facebook, instructions are at www.facebook.com.

After registering, the group to join is "Mountain Plains Library Association."



MPLA Recognizes Long-Term Members

Long-term members were recognized at the NMLA/MPLA Conference for membership in MPLA spanning 15 years or more. For additional information about the members, including institutional members, see <http://www.mpla.us/stories/>.



Personal Members

Herschel Anderson	Gary Gustafson	Curley Jones	Mary McLemore	Susan Simpson
Marlene Anderson	Deb Hagemeyer	Jerry Kaup	Alice Meister	Fran Springer
Jean Anderson	Clark Hallman	Diana Keith	Melanie Miller	Darlene Staffeldt
Ara Anderson	Carol Hammond	Colleen Kirby	Michael Miller	Kathryn Thomas
Kevin Anderson	Martha Hanscom	Margaret Knecht	Donna Morris	Mary Ann Thompson
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Alan Aldrich Wins MPLA Professional Forum Prize

Three papers were chosen to be presented at the MPLA Professional Forum, held March 15 at the NMLA/MPLA Conference in Albuquerque.



TyRee Jenks presents prize to Alan Aldrich at Conference

Winner of the 2007 MPLA Professional Forum prize of \$300 was Alan Aldrich. The presenters, along with the abstracts of their papers, were:

Alan W. Aldrich, Assistant Professor and Instructional Services Librarian; I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota; Vermillion, SD; **A Typology of Collection Development Decision Metrics**

There is a growing awareness in academic libraries that collection development policies (CDPs) need to consider the role of paperback volumes. This study examines the CDPs of 37 college and university libraries, chosen based upon the variety of ideas presented in their collection policies. The strategies identi-

fied through the content analysis of the library CDPs are presented as a typology representing four different purchasing logics.

Steve Decker, Director; Cedar City Public Library; Cedar City, Utah; **Information Literacy in the Public Library**

High-hoped mission statements that public libraries act as some sort of lifetime or self-education outlets seem unattainable without focused efforts at information literacy from public libraries. This paper will explore information literacy from a public library point of view.

Megan Davis, Health Sciences Librarian; Weber State University, Ogden, Utah; **A Semi-Structured Interview Study of High School Library Media Specialists in Weber and Davis Counties in Utah**

In order to enhance communication and collaboration between area high school media centers and WSU's Stewart Library, school library media specialists were interviewed to acquire an understanding of what library and information skills are being taught to high school students. Interviews focused on information literacy programs, media center staffing, library resources, collection management, and administrative support.

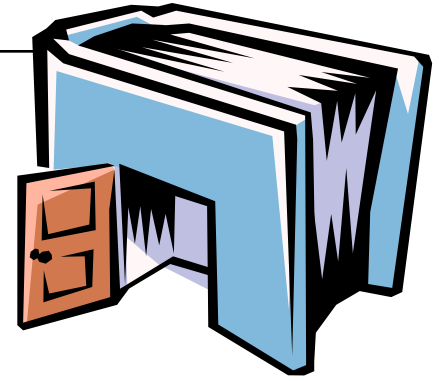
60 Years old and refusing to act our age!

Make sure your path crosses the MPLA 60th Birthday Party

Where Paths Meet: Connecting Libraries and Communities
MPLA/ULA Annual Conference
Salt Lake City, Utah
April 29-May 2, 2008



Welcome New MPLA Members



ARIZONA

Dana Braccia
Branch Manager, Scottsdale Public
Library System Mustang Library
Scottsdale, AZ

Bernadette Gonzales
Librarian, Jornada Elementary
School; Las Cruces NM

Trish Martinez
Librarian, Chimayo Elementary
School; Chimayo NM

Jay Shorten
University of Oklahoma
Norman OK

COLORADO

Susan Kuglitsch
Children's Librarian, Jefferson
County Public Library-Evergreen
Conifer CO

Nancy Matarazzo
Assistant Librarian, Zuni High
School Library; Zuni NM

Sammie Pachta
Librarian, Moriarty Community
Library; Moriarty NM

Karl Siewert
Business Reference Librarian,
Tulsa City-County Library
Hardesty Regional Branch
Tulsa OK

Shirley Soenksen
Library Technician II, University
of Northern Colorado James A.
Michener Library; Greeley CO

Theresa Tittle
University of Oklahoma Science
Library; Norman OK

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Donna Brewer
HR Director, University of Kansas
Libraries; Lawrence KS

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Michelle Hawkins
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Nevada, Las Vegas Lied Library
Las Vegas NV

Jeri Zitterkob
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Clinton OK

Deb Bryan
Adult Services Librarian, Topeka
& Shawnee County Public Library
Topeka KS

OKLAHOMA

Sharon Bastel
Sapulpa Public Library
Sapulpa OK

UTAH

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Reference Librarian, Utah State
University Merrill-Cazier Library
Logan UT

Lianne Flax
Library Assistant, Wichita Area
Technical College Library
Wichita KS

Henrietta Blehm
Okeene OK

Jane Kay Drabek
Eufaula Memorial Library
Eufaula OK

Kristin Willmore
Middle and Upper School
Librarian Rowland Hall-St.
Mark's School Eccles Library
Salt Lake City UT

Hollis Helmecci
Director, Bradford Memorial Li-
brary; El Dorado KS

Carol Fox
Director of Technology, Oklahoma
Department of Libraries
Oklahoma City OK

WASHINGTON

Gordon Barhydt
Retired Director, Central
Colorado Library System
Bellingham, WA

Kathy Leon
Director, Bucklin Public Library
Bucklin KS

Teresa Matthews
Librarian, Metropolitan Library
System Edmond Public Library
Edmond OK

WYOMING

Susan Wynne
Cataloger, University of Wyoming
Libraries; Laramie WY

NEW MEXICO

Heather Erlandson
Bloomfield Early Childhood
Education Center; Bloomfield, NM

Angela Means
Collinsville OK

Around the Region

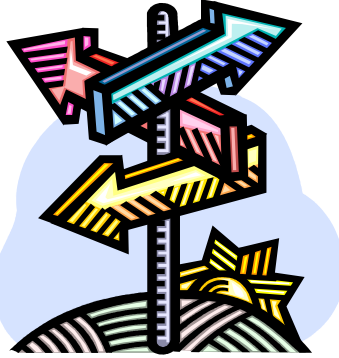
ARIZONA

The **Association of Jewish Libraries** will hold its 42nd annual convention June 17-20, 2007 in Scottsdale. For more information see <http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/conventions/convention2007.htm>

The 2007 **Trejo Foster Foundation Institute** will be held July 12-14, 2007 at the University of Arizona. For more information see <http://sir.arizona.edu/trejo>. Registration deadline is June 30.

COLORADO

Colorado Governor **Bill Ritter** and Lt. Governor **Barbara O'Brien**, who took office in January 2007, have lent their images to a READ poster as a community outreach activity of the **Colorado State Library** and Department of Education.



The **Colorado State Library**, with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and OCLC WebJunction, sponsored spring workshops for rural public library directors and staff. The goal was to empower rural library personnel, providing assistance and skills for “sustaining their technology and advocating for their libraries in their communities.” For more information see http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_library.htm.

Mini grants were awarded to 61 libraries to participate in the **Collaborative Summer Library Program**, with priority given to those libraries below 10,000 population and those in rural areas. This year’s theme is “Get a Clue @ Your Library” and incorporates detective stories, mysteries, and sleuthing fun.

Rosario Garza, long-time MPLA member, formerly with BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) is now Executive Director of the Metropolitan Cooperative Library System in Pasadena, CA.

Stephen Sweeney, recipient of an MPLA Board Choice membership award for 2007, receives his MLIS from the University of Denver on June 8, 2007. He works in Access Services at the Regis University Dayton Memorial Library in Denver.

Jim Connor, MPLA member from Colorado, is embarking on a small/rural library “Status & Sustainability Tour” to do site visits to about 100 small rural libraries in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming from May through September. For more information: jimconnor32@msn.com.

Jamie LaRue, MPLA member and Director of the **Douglas County Libraries**, has a new book on intellectual freedom: *The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Freedom*

Challenges. His library has received over 200 challenges in the past 17 years. See <http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/LU2857.aspx>

KANSAS

Fun was the name of the game at the Kansas Tri-Conference, held April 11-13! Special events included a Trivia Bee, fashion show, basket raffle, purse-donation fundraiser, the annual Vendor's Bash, and the Kansas Center for the Book's Authors Dinner. See Susan Moyer's entire article and more photos at <http://www.mpla.us/stories/>.



Cheering Section for the "Books Brothers" team in the "Bogey on Down to the Bee" Trivia Contest at Kansas Tri-Conference

Mary Ann Thompson, MPLA Member and Kansas Room Librarian at the Hays Public Library, has authored her first book: *George Armstrong Custer's Winners of the West: Articles selected from "Winners of the West" on the Battle of the Little Bighorn and Related Matters*, published by Upton and Sons. "Winners of the West," a newspaper that was in existence from 1923 -1944, was the voice of the National Indian War Veterans and lobbied successfully for pensions for Indian War Veterans. Thompson, the first to analyze the material in depth, selected articles pertaining to General Custer and the Battle of the Little Big Horn. The publisher is offering discounts to MPLA members. See advertisement on page 7.

Vikki Jo Stewart, Special Projects Director of the State Library of Kansas, has been named the 2007 recipient of the Duane Johnson Library Leadership Award.

Julie Tomlianovich, MPLA member and South Central Kansas Library System Youth Services Consultant, has been elected to the 2009



Newbery Award Committee. Julie was a member of the 1996 Caldecott Award Committee for the ALSC and is a member of the William Allen White Book Award Committee for Kansas.

"**The Joy of Reading**" translated into Chinese calligraphy is featured on T-shirts for the Johnson County Library's Big Read project and Amy Tan's *Joy Luck Club*. The Big Read grant is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences and Arts Midwest.



Showing off their custom-designed Big Read "Joy of Reading" T-shirts, based on Amy Tan's Joy Luck Club, are Johnson County Library staff members (from left) Associate Director Carolyn Weeks, Communications Manager Kasey Riley, Adult Programming Manager Jennifer Mahnken, and Interim Branch Services Manager Ken Werne.

The launch of the **Kansas City Science, INC (Inspiring Natural Curiosity)** with Family Science Night at the **Johnson County Library** drew

more than 500 people. The evening featured the firing of a jet engine, (ear plugs were distributed), a chance to look at the moon or Saturn, a laser light show, and a visit with Young Adult author Jon Fleischman. Funding is by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

MONTANA



Wayne Hanway, MPLA President, welcomes conference-goers at MPLA's booth at the Montana Library Association's Annual Conference

Montana's 2007 **Treasure State Picture Book Award Winners** chosen by children are:

- 1st Place-*The Great Fuzz Frenzy*, by Janet Stevens & Susan Stevens Crummel
- 2nd Place-*Owen & Mzee*, by Craig Hatkoff
- 3RD Place-*Souperchicken*, by Mary Jan and Herm Auch
- 4TH Place-*Ruby's Wish*, by Shirin Yim Bridges
- 5TH Place-*Saving the Liberty Bell*, by Megan McDonald

Winner of the 2006 **Montana Book Award** was *Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson. The annual award recognizes literary and/or artistic excellence in a book with a Montana theme, author, or issue.

The **Montana Library Association** created a fun and sassy fundraiser involving 12 librarians from around the state "revealing" what it takes to be a librarian. The calendar, called *Montana's Book Babes: Librarians under the Big Sky*, can be purchased for \$20.00 from the MLA website <http://www.mtlib.org/> See article by Jim Heckel (Mr. May) at the new "Stories" section of the MPLA website: <http://www.mpla.us/stories/>.



Mr. May

NEBRASKA

Now Hiring @ Your Library is a new page on the Nebraska Library Commission's web page. It provides easy access to library educational opportunities, scholarships, job openings, library careers and more: <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.org/>.

Librarians statewide were saddened by the death of **Dee Yost**, a former System Administrator for the Republican Valley Library system. In 2000 she moved to the position of Public Service Librarian for Perkins Library at Hastings College.

Joel Sartore, a National Geographic photographer who was recently featured on the PBS documentary *At Close Range*, will be a keynote speaker at the Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association, to be held October 24-26 in Kearney. Information is available at <http://www.2007nla-nema.info/>

The **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries** hosted a reception for Librarians in the Leadership and Career Development Program, A diversity Initiative of the Association of Research Libraries. The 18-month program, attended by 20

librarians, is for mid-career librarian from under-represented racial and ethnic groups. See <http://www.arl.org/diversity/lcdp/index.shtml>.



Meet Gertie, MPLA Nebraska Representative Julie Beno's rescued basset bound. "A holy terror," says Julie, "who has destroyed one vacuum cleaner, two remotes, three library books, eaten full packaged loaves of bread, Girl Scout cookies, and tubs of butter - but is really a sweetie."

Kate Marek, Associate Professor at Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, presented *What are you reading?*



Suggestions from the Obvious to the Obscure at the **Southeast and Eastern Library System's** Spring Colloquium. Her "thought journey" featured books regarding society, the profession, and the future, including *The Long Tail*, *Silent Theft*, *Good to Great*, *The*

World is Flat, *Becoming Justice Blackmun*, *The One Hour Activist*, *The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown*, and *The Wisdom of Crowds*.

Applications are being taken for the **2007 Nebraska Library Leadership Institute** to be held July 9-13 in Schuyler. The four day institute trains future leaders. See: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/LI%202007.pdf>

The **Tri County Elementary School of DeWitt** decided to "cool" down the elementary media center by building a Reading Igloo. Students helped by bringing over 250 milk jugs. The structure was created by high school students and the media staff. Students take turns reading in the igloo during library time. Contact Kim McCain at kmccain@esu6.org for igloo instructions.



NEVADA

Patrick Ragains, Federal Regional Depository Librarian for Nevada, announced the annual **Government Documents Training Day** in Reno June 15, 2007. The agenda includes an update on Nevada State publications, overviews of patent searching, government statistics, consumer protection, and economic/demographic data from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis. The training is sponsored by the Nevada State Library and Archives, Henderson District Public Libraries, Uni-

versity of Nevada-Las Vegas and University of Nevada-Reno. Information at <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nsla/lpd/progsolve.htm>.

The **Online Nevada Encyclopedia** (www.onlinenevada.org) website was launched in April. Developed by Nevada Humanities (state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities) with support from the U.S. Department of Education and the State of Nevada, **ONE** explores Nevada's colorful history, politics, growth of gaming, as well as other subjects. The encyclopedia will provide reliable, up-to-date information for businesses and families moving to the state, and serve as a guide for researching the state's past and present.



The **Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center** being built at the University of Nevada-Reno, will be one of the most technologically advanced libraries in the country. The 295,000 square-foot, five-story building will house computing and information technologies with the resources of the university library in an environment designed for comfort, efficiency and collaboration. Completion date is late spring 2008. To view the construction process with time lapse video and web cam, see http://imedia.unr.edu/knowledge_center/.

The **Nevada Library Association 2007** Conference theme is the *Lighter Side of Libraries* and will be held October 4-6, at the Nevada State Legislative Building-Carson City Nevada. It is hosted by Cooperative Libraries Automated Network.

In April, the **Paseo Verde Library Reference Department** sponsored a Consumer Defense program. Speakers from the Nevada Consumer Affairs Division, the Attorney General's Office, Las Vegas Metro Police Department Fraud Division, and the Better Business Bureau of Southern Nevada provided information on protection against

scams, identity theft, bank fraud, and other fraudulent plots. Shred-Co, a mobile paper shredding service provided free, secure shredding in the library's parking lot.



The **Henderson District Public Libraries** staff successfully defended their title, winning first place in the chili cook-off competition during the city's Springsational Celebration in April. Not only were they the winner of the Judges Award, but also took first place in the People's Choice Award.



Henderson District Public Libraries at Chili Cook-Off

NEW MEXICO

The **US Public Health Service Santa Fe Indian Hospital** is one of the recipients of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region Access to Electronic Consumer Health Information project awards. The hospital will address access to Internet-based consumer health information for American Indian populations and awareness of evidence-based literature for paraprofessionals working with American Indian populations. MPLA member **Linda Morgan** is the Principal Investigator for the project.

As part of the National Library Week celebration at **New Mexico State University** the **Library Science Program of Doña Ana Community College** in Las Cruces contributed a visit by the Cat in the Hat. MPLA member **Susan Pinkerton**, Assistant Professor, was in the costume, assisted by **Ji Clo-teaux**, part time instructor, **Robert Doyle**, teaching technician, and **Nancy Gonzales**, work study student, who all wore t-shirts with "236" to signify the number of words in *Cat in the Hat*. Students, staff and faculty were



asked to send electronic birthday cards to the Cat on his official web site. For every card sent, Random House donated a book to **First Book**, a non-profit organization which gives children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books.

Martha A. Bedard has been appointed Dean of the **New Mexico University Libraries**, effective August 1. She is currently associate dean for Information and Collection Services at Texas A & M University Libraries.

The **Library Science Program at Doña Ana Community College of New Mexico State University** is offering several online courses this summer and fall. The courses do not require campus

visits or participants to be online at a specific time. The only requirement is internet access. For more information visit: <http://dabcc.nmsu.edu/bis/libtec/>.

Santa Fe Public Library held its newest branch library grand opening on March 23. The first day of library services was celebrated March 24, designated Family Day, and was attended by 1700 people. The day featured live performances, stilt walkers, crafts, story telling and face painting, all sponsored by the Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library.



Maria Finley's 2 year old, Zavvier, is the first young person to sign up for a library card at the new branch.

MPLA member **Cassandra Osterloh** was elected Vice President/President Elect of the **New Mexico Library Association** and MPLA member **Laurie Treat** was elected Member-at-Large.

NORTH DAKOTA

IF Midwest, a cultural heritage project to understand the French presence in the Midwest, has North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota as its first regions of focus. Activities consist of

information gathering in local communities of French language origin, public programs, publications, workshops and courses. This region can be viewed by clicking on a map, [French Heritage in the Midwest of the United States: The Red River Valley of the North](#). Within the map, viewers may click on communities to view additional information as it is posted. To gather information, IF Midwest depends largely on “Heritage Informants” who help in the more than 50 communities in the region. IF Midwest manages the web site, while the **Chester Fritz Library** on the campus of the **University of North Dakota** processes new materials.

The **2007 NDLA Conference Theme is *Laughter for Librarians***. Laugh with Librarians as they become *UNHINGED and UNSHELVED* in Jamestown, September 26-28. Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum from Overdue Media will explore how laughter can relieve stress, help relationships with the public and equip staff to be better managers and leaders. MPLA member **Donna James**, Conference Chair and President-elect, asks librarians, authors, and others to submit proposals with humorous approaches. See the NDLA Conference website at <http://www.ndla.info/Conference/07conf.htm> or email donna.james@vcsu.edu with ideas.



The Heart of America Library in Rugby is completing an expansion project that has been in the planning and fundraising stages since 1997. An addition of 1,250 sq. ft. was added, creating space for a junior collection and reading corner for parents and children. Handicap accessible restrooms were constructed and automatic door openers installed in the new one-level entrance. A director’s office and cataloging area were created close to the new circulation/reference desk. An art

and reading area became possible when the old entrance and restrooms were removed.

OKLAHOMA

Barbara Ray, Oklahoma’s representative to MPLA, is this year’s recipient of the Circle of Excellence Award for Service from **Northeastern State University**. Nationally, Barbara serves as the American Association of School Librarians Director of Region VI, is a liaison to the Affiliate Assembly and represents AASL on the National Council of Teacher Education Committee. As MPLA representative, she serves as an Executive Board member of the Oklahoma Library Association. Barbara reports that her regional service to MPLA was one of the deciding factors in receiving the award, saying “There is another plus to add to the “Top Ten Reasons to Join MPLA!”



More recognition for MPLA member Barbara Ray as she is honored at the “Hooray for Teachers” festivities in Muskogee. Area site and district teachers of the year were treated to certificates, dinner, and gifts from businesses supporting education.

For the past 31 years, **Muskogee Public Library** and the Hultquist Trust have sponsored the program *Great Decisions* with speakers selected by the Foreign Policy Association, a non profit organization in Washington, D. C. The spring series discussed world issues of migration, war crimes, changing world climate and children who face fighting in combat, human trafficking and unsafe labor practices.



Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO) is launching a grassroots campaign to increase state aid to public libraries to \$2.50 per person. Donations of \$100 from the Miami Public Library Friends and \$400 from the Stillwater Public Library Friends, plus matching funds, bring the campaign total to \$1,000. Donations will be used to purchase advertising. Members of the Oklahoma Library Association encouraged all library users in Oklahoma to write personal stories to legislators on the importance of public libraries to them.

Clifton Taulbert is the winner of the Arrell Gibson Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Oklahoma Center for the Book, an award given for a body of work that contributes to Oklahoma's literary heritage. His books include *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored* and *Eight Habits of the Heart*. He also founded the Building Community Institute.

Street School, a non profit alternative school in Tulsa sharing partnerships with **Tulsa Public Schools** and **Tulsa City County Library**, has a library for the first time in 34 years. Students no longer need to go on a field trip to the downtown library. They have access to updated computers and reference books to provide research experiences and books for pleasure reading. Street School is supported by United Way and provides education and counseling for students who have dropped out

of school. Those at the ribbon cutting ceremony were excited to see the facilities and resources made possible by grants from the Sarkeys Foundation and Gelvin Foundation.

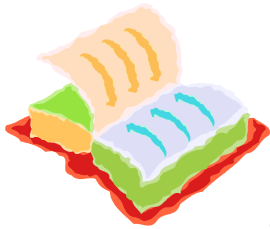
The **Oklahoma Library Association** celebrated its 100th birthday at its conference in April. One hundred "Library Legends" were recognized, two of them long time members of MPLA. **Wayne Hanway**, MPLA President and Executive Director of the Southeastern Public Library System, helped get the library automated, expanded outreach services, upgraded collections and the use of the 15 branch libraries, and saw tax millage raised in each of the seven counties. **Marilyn Hinshaw** heads the six county Eastern Oklahoma District Library System. In 1987 she spearheaded the vote to double the library mill levy and supported a move for certification of Oklahoma librarians through the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. Her partnership with representative Barbara Staggs of Muskogee, resulted in state funding of local library facilities. MPLA knows Marilyn as a Past-President and the creator of the MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute.



In the center of the picture of Eastern Oklahoma District Library staff are Marilyn Hinshaw, EODLS Director, a former OLA and MPLA president, and also Barbara Staggs a former Oklahoma State Representative. Staggs is a past recipient of the MPLA Legislative Leadership Award and the only Legislator honored with one of the coveted medals distributed by OLA that evening to its chosen honorees. In the long dress is incoming OLA president, Jan Bryant, head of the Muskogee Public Library, a branch of the EODLS library district.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The **2007 South Dakota Children's Book Awards** were announced during National Library Week. This year the 2007 Prairie Bud reading contest winner, designed for students in grades K-3, is *Super Dog: the Heart of a Hero*, written by Caralyn Buehner and illustrated by Mark Buehner. The 2007 Prairie Pasque winner, for grades 4 through 6, is *Abduction!* by Peg Kehret. Students voted for their favorite book in March. The contests are sponsored by the **South Dakota Library Association**.



The **South Dakota Library Association Convention** will be held October 17-19, 2007 in Watertown, South Dakota.

“South Dakota Libraries: A Public Agenda,” was crafted by the **South Dakota Library Association**, the **South Dakota Library Network**, and the **South Dakota State Library** to present a unified statement of ideals and goals for library service throughout South Dakota. The 11-page document was distributed to the media, legislators, and the public during National Library Week. Key goals identified are preserving the past and providing a bridge to the future, building and strengthening communities, supporting lifelong learning, creating information and technology literate communities, encouraging economic development, and supporting democracy.

The **South Dakota Library Association** request for “Dakota Digital Library” failed to become a reality during the 2007 legislative session. The request for funding to provide public schools with access to information resources, online card catalog for libraries, and electronic databases available on the South Dakota Library Network

(SDLN). The request had good support early in the legislative session but failed to pass successfully through the Appropriations Committee.

David Gleim has been named Dean of Libraries at **South Dakota State University** effective July 1, 2007. He was previously Dean of Denver's Auraria Library which served the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, the Metropolitan State College, and the Community College of Denver. He replaces **Steve Marquardt** who retired this past fall after 10 years at SDSU.



Linda Allbee was chosen to receive the MPLA Board Choice Award for South Dakota. A graduate of Northern State University, she has worked in libraries in Aberdeen and Spearfish. Linda has worked as a trainer for the South Dakota Library Network for several years and served as Acting Director for during the search for a new Director.

Warren Wilson, MPLA member, was named Executive Director of the South Dakota Library Network (SDLN) as well as Chief Information Technology Officer for Black Hills State University. The decision to combine the positions was based on anticipated benefits to SDLN including the ability to share expertise and have the Position report to the Academic Officer of the Board of Regents to mirror campus organization structures for libraries. Previously, Wilson was associated with the Board of Regents Computer Center and was their liaison to the SDLN Advisory Board.

UTAH

The **Utah Library Association's Annual Conference** was held May 16-18 in Provo, Utah. The theme was *Living Libraries: Remembering our Past; Planning our Future*. **Rivkah Sass**, Executive Director of the Omaha Public Library, and Library Journal's 2006 Librarian of the year was the keynote speaker.

The **Utah Library Association** announced winners of its 2006-2007 awards which recognize contributions in leadership, pioneering effort, and teaching for the benefit of Utah libraries and their communities as well as the profession.

Awards were presented at the Utah Library Association conference. Winners were:

- **Utah Kids Ready to Read! Steering Committee** - Special Services to Libraries
- **Steven D. Decker** (Cedar City Library)
Librarian of the Year Award
- **Rosemary McAtee** (Salt Lake County Library Services) - Special Recognition
- **Chip Ward** (Salt Lake City Public Library)
Distinguished Service

Recycle Utah helped libraries in Park City and Summit County celebrate Earth Day by providing educational kits that included books about recycling such as Dr. Seuss' classic *The Lorax*, puzzles, and fun activities. The kits will be used for library story-times and are available for public check out.

WYOMING

The **Teton County Library's** program to help minority students prepare for college received the *Jesse Vialpando Spirit and Service Award* March 30 at the University of Wyoming. The award recog-

nizes individuals who work for social justice. The library's Latino Services College Program Coordinator **Gina Valencia** wrote the acceptance speech although a snowstorm prevented her from attending in person. Three students, **Nataly Espinoza**, **Ana Laura Quiroz** and **Marisol Toledo**, all of Jackson, accepted the award on behalf of the library and also gave a tribute to the program.

The new address of the **Wyoming State Law Library** is 2300 Capitol Ave., Hathaway Building – Basement, Cheyenne, WY 82002 307-777-7509. See Meg Martin's story about the move at <http://www.mpla.us/stories/>, a new section of the MPLA website featuring "Tales from Around the MPLA Region."

Curious George drew over 300 children, parents and grandparents to the **Natrona County Public Library** in Casper on April 12. His appearance was sponsored by *Ready to Learn*, an educational outreach program of Wyoming Public Television and Natrona County Public Library, developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education and supported in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting



Curious George and two admirers

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** and the Center for a Vital Community recently

held a free workshop on grantseeking for non-profit organizations. The workshop was presented by Kief Schladweiler, Coordinator of Cooperating Collections for the Foundation Center. He served as the Center's Online Librarian for several years before becoming Coordinator of the national network of more than 325 Cooperating Collections.

The **Friends of the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** presented a check for \$45,000 to director **Cathy Butler** at their annual Friends of the Library Author Reception in April. The funds are for furnishings, equipment and programming. The Friends have given nearly \$700,000 over the past 24 years for materials, equipment, a bronze sculpture, and a lawn mower/snow blower.



Cathy Butler, Director of the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library accepts a \$45,000 check from Joyce Reed, Friends of the library board member and incoming president.

The 2007 **Wyoming Library Association** Conference will be in Cheyenne, Wyoming at the Little America Hotel, September 12-15.

The **Teton County Library and Foundation** presents *Page to the Podium: Billy Collins*, an evening with the 44th U.S. Poet Laureate. Billy Collins reads, offers commentary about his poems, and answer questions. He was appointed U.S. Poet Laureate from 2001 to 2003.

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For more information contact Newsletter Editor:

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MPLA Grant Deadlines

June 6, August 1, October 3, December 5

See

<http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grants.html>

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July 6-18, 2008

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A brochure with complete information will be coming in June 2007. If you would like to receive a copy of the brochure, please contact Sharon Osenga at: sosenga@frontiernet.net. If you have already been in touch about participating, you will automatically receive a copy of the brochure.

“Shaping Outcomes” National Launch

Shaping Outcomes, a new online course in outcome based planning and evaluation (OBPE), is available to the museum and library professionals. Shaping Outcomes is a collaboration between the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis (IUPUI) to create an instructor mediated online short-course that trains participants to master and apply OBPE concepts to museum and library programming, and exhibition planning. Participants in Shaping Outcomes work at their own pace through five interactive modules over approximately five weeks. With the support of an instructor, they learn the vocabulary and methods of Operand they develop a logic model for a program or project at their own institution.

Shaping Outcomes courses are being offered in the Summer and Fall of 2007, free of charge, for library and museum professionals nationwide. A special section for library and museum studies faculty, professional trainers, or others who might teach Shaping Outcomes or incorporate it in their own curriculum is being offered in October 2007. To register for a course or learn more about the offerings, see www.shapingoutcomes.org or contact the project manager at outcomes@iupui.edu; Cavanaugh Hall #413, 425 University Blvd; Indianapolis, IN 46202; Voice: 317-274-1406; Fax: (317) 278-5220.

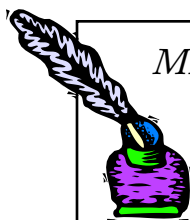
Nebraska Library Commission Joins “Second Life” Virtual World

The Nebraska Library Commission hosted a Second Life Open House on May 11. The commission’s building is located in Cybrary City at 226, 219, 24. The Nebraska Library Commission in Second Life has installed a rotating exhibit of photos from “Nebraska Memories,” and plans displays that will be changed on a regular basis.

The American Library Association Washington Office is also located in Cybrary City, with an interactive computer that points users to ALA Washington online resources.

Cybrary City is one of several islands that librarians are using in Second Life’s virtual world.

To learn more about Second Life, see <http://www.secondlife.com/>.



*MPLA is seeking a Volunteer to update
MPLA’s history in advance of its
60th Birthday Celebration next
year. See the first 50 years’ history
at*

<http://www.mpla.us/about/history1.html>

*

*If interested, contact President Wayne
Hanway: whanway@sepl.lib.ok.us*

New Blog: Genealogy Librarian News

MPLA member Thomas Jay Kemp has launched a new blog: **Genealogy Librarian News** at <http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/>. It contains news, announcements and other items of interests to genealogy librarians. This follows the e-mail newsletter of the same name which Kemp began in the late 90’s and was published through 2002. Send news about genealogy libraries to Thomas.J.Kemp@gmail.com; **Genealogy Librarian News** at <http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/>

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MPLA Dues Schedule (Membership is for calendar year)

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_____ \$30,000 - \$49,999 - \$55; _____ over \$50,000 - \$65

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Lakewood, CO 80228

For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website online form
at <http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html>

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