

Newsletter

February 2009

Volume 53 #4

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www.mpla.us
◆

Time to Renew Your
2009

MPLA Membership!
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Renew online at
<http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html>

KLA/MPLA Joint Conference



- Authors
- Will Manley
 - Brad Meltzer
 - Roland Smith
 - Warren Graham

6 Pre-conferences
\$15-\$25
Poster Session
Roundtables
Swap & Shop
Job Booth

Roundtables are
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Come be apart of the
First Annual
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Wednesday Evening
April 1st at 8 p.m.

Registration is open!

www.kansaslibraryassociation.org/displayconvention.cfm

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COLORADO
NORTH DAKOTA

KANSAS
OKLAHOMA

MONTANA
SOUTH DAKOTA

NEBRASKA
UTAH

NEVADA
WYOMING



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President's Message

I am pleased to tell you I have signed a contract with YMCA of the Rockies for the MPLA Leadership Institute. It will be held April 25-30, 2010. This is a beautiful location which should serve as an inspirational setting for the participants. We are still defining additional aspects of this experience, so details will be announced as they become available.

A major goal of my presidency was to insure that the Leadership Institute continued. That is why I'm very pleased to reach this point in the process.

I'm also happy that the MPLA portal is now available. The two parts of the portal MPLA 2.0 Soapbox and MPLA 2.0 Talk can provide us new ways to communicate with each other. We are still learning how to use these tools. Ideas of how they can be used will really help. Eileen, VP, has been working with these tools and will help us find new uses for them.

If you haven't visited the website lately, check it out. Dan, the webmaster has made some really good changes. If you get the printed version of the newsletter, you noticed that the last issue was full color. Judy, the Newsletter Editor, was able to get the full-color version printed for less than the one-color version! Thank you, Judy. (*see note below - ed.*)

Planning for the 2009 conference is in full swing. Eileen and the Program Committee worked to bring a good range of programs. The conference should provide everyone with a full offering of programs that are educational and fun. There is definitely something for everyone. Information about the conference should be on the website as soon as it is available, so watch for changes there.

See everyone in Wichita in April. Until then, stay warm!

---Rob

Editor's Note

Just over a week ago our printer, National Hirschfeld, abruptly closed its doors after a century of business in Denver. We have been unable to find comparable budget-compatible prices to print this issue in color. In addition, paper companies are limiting their production of specialty papers such as our previous newsletters used. This issue will be printed in black and white, and it is likely that future issues will be the same. However, you can see, download, or print the full color issues from the MPLA website: <http://www.mpla.us/documents/index.html>.

---Judy



Time to Renew Your MPLA Membership for 2009!

It's easy to renew online at
<http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html>

*

KLA/MPLA Joint Conference - Wichita April 1-3, 2009

Registration for the KLA/MPLA Joint Conference is now open at
<http://www.kansaslibraryassociation.org/displayconvention.cfm>

Register early for the conference and save. Payment is by credit card, or by invoice to be sent with check. Both KLA and MPLA members will sign in with their username (firstnamelastname with no spaces) and password kla (default password which you will be prompted to change). Non-members will create their own username and password for registration purposes only. Regular registration rates run through March 6, 2009. After March 7th registration increases.

Early registration rates are:

KLA or MPLA member	\$100
Non-member	\$140
Students, Friends, Trustees	\$ 40

After March 7, rates are:

KLA or MPLA member	\$115
Non-member	\$155
Students, Friends, Trustees	\$ 50

For information about registration contact Carolyn at kslibassoc@yahoo.com or Laura at llove@kckpl.lib.ks.us



CALL FOR PAPERS!

The MPLA Academic Section has posted a "Call for Papers" for its Professional Forum, to be held at the KLA/MPLA Joint Conference in Wichita, Kansas, April 1-3, 2009. The Professional Forum presents new ideas, innovations, and case studies in librarianship that benefit the profession. Research methodology is encouraged, but not essential. MPLA member academic, school, and public librarians are all invited to participate. Selected papers are peer reviewed for an award of a \$300 prize to the winning presenter.

For guidelines and submission requirements see the "Call for Papers" on the MPLA web page or contact Jan Fandrich at jfandrich@msubillings.edu, (406) 657-1665.

KLA/MPLA Conference Highlights

- Keynote Speaker - Will Manley, retired librarian & city manager, author, *Will's World* and *Manley Arts* columnist
- Keynote Speaker - Brad Meltzer, #1 bestselling author of *The Tenth Justice*, *Dead Even*, *The Book of Lies* & more
- Luncheon Speaker - Roland Smith, National Best Books 2008 finalist, former zookeeper, award winning children's author of *I.Q.*, *Jack's Run* & more
- Pre-Conference Speaker Warren Graham, author of *Black Belt Librarians*
- KLA / MPLA Awards Dinner - State Librarian's Luncheon
- College & University Library Section Luncheon Speaker Lori Goetsch
- Poster Sessions - Swap & Shop - Job Booth

Continue the MPLA celebration Thursday evening at the President's Suite. After the Banquet Dinner, gather with MPLA folks for an evening of friendship and fun!



Forming an Academic Librarian Community of Practice: A Journey through Leadership Skills, Networking and Technology

Authors: Burroughs, Jennie, Erin Dini Davis, JaNae Kinikin, Karen Neurohr, Holly Phillips, Robert Russell, Heather Smith-Collins and Danielle Theiss-White

Introduction

Etienne Wenger defines a community of practice as a group of “...people who engage in a process of collective learning in a shared domain of human endeavor.”¹ In forming the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Academic Cooperative, as described below, the group members set out to achieve exactly this goal, immersing ourselves in leadership and librarianship through shared discussion among a group of academic librarians. A community of practice consists of three essential ingredients--1) “the domain,” which in our case is a shared interest in leadership in libraries, 2) “the community,” which we have established online using technology such as Google Groups™ email, and Skype™ conversations, and 3) “the practice,” which means putting what we have shared and learned into practice.² Over the past 13 months, our community of practice has become a place of learning for all group members and we hope this learning continues as we embark on our second year.

MPLA Academic Cooperative Formation

The MPLA Academic Cooperative was formed at MPLA’s Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico in fall 2007. MPLA has offered six annual leadership institutes which are designed to help emerging leaders in the library profession develop their full career potential. For the 2007 institute, led by Maureen Sullivan and Mary Bushing, twenty-nine emerging leaders were selected from MPLA’s twelve state library associations to participate. . During this intensive week-long workshop on leadership in libraries, the academic librarians met during the evenings to discuss leadership issues pertinent to the academic library setting. During one of these meetings, the group agreed to continue their discussion online after the conclusion of the Institute. This decision resulted in the creation of the MPLA 2007 Academic Cooperative which has become a community of practice and learning for the group members. The Cooperative’s activities include discussions of leadership issues in a journal club format, best practice sharing, and collaborative project work.



At 2007 Leadership Institute, Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu New Mexico

The eight academic librarians who formed the cooperative are a diverse group who are employed in institutions with full-time equivalency enrollments as small as 1,850 and up to 25,800. The FTE enrollment mean is 15,586. The institutions are all public, and four of the institutions are Land Grant Universities. Five offer doctoral terminal degrees, and three offer Master's terminal degrees. Our years of experience as a paid librarian range from 5 to 12.5, with a mean of 7.4 years.

Benefits

Networking

Although we only formally communicate once a month as a group, the network of colleagues has been beneficial for everyone involved. Having colleagues with similar experiences in academic libraries creates a sense of belonging and a network to help, support, and mentor members as they progress in their career development. The group consists of individuals in many stages of career development--beginning, non-tenure, tenured, and mid-career. Having people upon which to call, especially outside of one's own workplace, when experiencing different and/or difficult work situations is helpful. Being able to compare what's going on in your job with a colleague's similar experiences is an added advantage. Another way that we network is through mini-reunions at library conferences, since often there are at least two of us who attend. We communicate prior to the conference and coordinate our schedules for a social get-together. In 2008, we have done this at ALA Midwinter, MPLA Annual, ALA Annual, and the ARL Library Assessment Conference. Our informal reunions help strengthen our connection.

Technology

Recent social networking and business networking applications have expanded the ways in which groups can meaningfully communicate and collaborate across great distances. To facilitate online learning among the group's members, the group uses a variety of free or low-cost technologies, including Skype™, Google Groups™, and Doodle™. Not only have these technologies assisted group communication, once mastered they have been used by the participants in their regular positions. The group uses Skype™ for monthly discussions, and it is now used regularly by one of the group's members for in-state committee conference calls, saving hundreds of dollars in travel funds and valuable time. Skype™ is software that transmits free

telephone calls over the Internet (unless calling land or cell phone lines). The group uses Doodle™, an on-line event scheduling and polling software, to arrange virtual meeting times. This has been especially helpful for coordinating multiple schedules over different time zones. Members have since used Doodle™ to schedule other MPLA professional committee work and for scheduling internal meetings. One group member noted, "Learning about the various ways to communicate (for free!) using Skype™, Google Groups™, and Doodle™ has been beneficial for me as a library professional. I have taken the lessons learned from this group experience back to my work environment and shared with others and they have started using them as well."

Continuing Education

The topics presented each month offer exposure to literature that members might not read for their current positions, revealing different aspects of leadership and defining what being a leader really means. While the journal club element of the group is helpful, one cooperative member also noted, "The conference calls keep our network connected on a personal level. There is a spontaneous and conversational approach to in-person communication that spurs creativity in ways that formal writing simply does not." The group meeting times also facilitate nuts-and-bolts peer learning about trends and useful tools such as LibGuides™ and Libstats™. As a result of the monthly discussions and sharing of best practices, group members are trying new tools or improving their use of existing resources.

Professional Development/Career Enhancement

The group has also facilitated the professional development of the group's members by working on group projects. For example, we participated in an ACRL/LAMA virtual poster session on virtual communities of practice. Collaborating on these projects has not only strengthened the relationships among group members, it has also been beneficial in bolstering member's professional files which are required for tenure and promotion. Working with individuals outside one's home institution brings in new ideas and is looked upon favorably by reviewers.

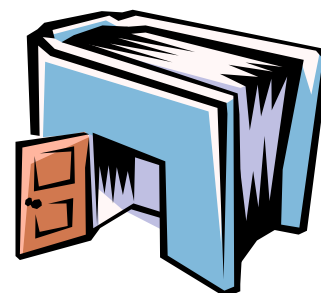
Challenges

Time

Group members identify time as the biggest challenge in creating and being a member of this online

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Welcome New MPLA Members



ARIZONA

Deanna Boyer

Library Tech, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground Post Library Yuma, AZ

Emma Covelli

Librarian, Grand Canyon University Library; Phoenix, AZ

Lisa Deery

Library Resource Assistant, ITT Technical Institute Library Resource Center; Tucson, AZ

Karen Docherty

Virtual Reference Coordinator, Maricopa Community Colleges Tempe, AZ

Diane Meek

Dean of Academic Affairs, ITT Technical Institute Learning Resource Center; Tucson, AZ

Tom Miner

Library Director, Elsie S. Hogan Community Library; Willcox, AZ

Chuck Okafor

Adult Librarian, City of Casa Grande Public Library Casa Grande, AZ

Carole Peary

Library Assistant, Glendale Public Library; Glendale, AZ

Anali Perry

Assistant Librarian-Collections & Scholarly Communication, Arizona State University Hayden Library; Tempe, AZ

Dinah Pongyesva

Library Assistant, Hopi Public Library; Kykotsmovi, AZ

Katherine Reeve

Head, Libraries & Archives, Arizona Historical Society Library and Archives, Southern Division Tucson, AZ

Suzie Roth

Librarian-Ref./Instructional, Embury-Riddle Aeronautical University Library; Prescott, AZ

COLORADO

Kate Elder

Director, Library Services, CO Mental Health Institute-Ft. Logan Library; Denver, CO

Lyda Ellis

Instructional Librarian, University of Northern Colorado Library Greeley, CO

Kieran Hixon

Tech Services, John C. Fremont Library District; Florence, CO

Shahrzad Khosrowpour

Cataloging/System Librarian, Colorado State University-Pueblo Library; Pueblo, CO

Joanna Nelson

Assistant Reference Librarian, Mammie Doud Eisenhower Broomfield Public Library; Broomfield, CO

Karen Pardue

Instructional Tech. Librarian, Colorado State University-Pueblo Library; Pueblo, CO

Bonnie Parker

School Librarian, Northglenn Middle School; Northglenn, CO

Amanda Samland

Public Services Librarian, Johnson & Wales University Denver Library; Denver, CO

Sherry Sampson

Director, Moffat County Libraries Craig, CO

Penny Shiel

Head of Technical Services, Mesa County Public Library District Grand Junction, CO

Katie Zipperer

Director, Lincoln County Bookmobile; Limon, CO

NEW MEXICO

Kay Johnson

Librarian, Ghost Ranch Library Abiquiu, NM

Lori Snyder

Youth Services Librarian, Rio Rancho Public Library Esther Bone Memorial Library; Rio Rancho, NM

NORTH DAKOTA

Prairie Public Broadcasting

Beverly Pearson, Education Services Manager, Prairie Public Broadcasting; Fargo, ND

Michele Reid
Dean of Libraries, North Dakota
State University Library
Fargo, ND



@ OUR LIBRARY

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South Dakota State University H.
M. Briggs Library; Brookings, SD

Diane Olson
South Dakota State Library Board
Member, South Dakota State
Library; Mitchell, SD

Lesta Turchen
South Dakota State Library Board
Member, South Dakota State
Library; Hill City, SD

UTAH

Christy Donaldson
Media Librarian, Utah Valley Uni-
versity UVU Library
Orem, UT

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



My library

Was dukedom large enough.

--William Shakespeare, *"The Tempest"*

Officially, the Library of Congress is an agency within the legislative branch of the U. S. Government, serving as the research division of Congress. In reality, the Library of Congress is much more – an American cultural institution, and a repository of human knowledge and creativity.

The Library has its origins in legislation signed by President John Adams in 1800, transferring the seat of the federal government from Philadelphia to Washington. Five-thousand dollars was appropriated to purchase books for use by Congress. The small collection, housed in the Capitol, was destroyed by British troops in August 1814.

The retired Thomas Jefferson came to the rescue, offering his personal collection of 6,487 books as replacement. More than what was “needed” for a legislative library, Jefferson’s collection had been accumulated over the years and included books related to literature, philosophy, and science, reflecting his philosophy of universal learning. In January 1815, Congress appropriated \$23,950 for Jefferson’s collection and the Library of Congress began its mission to collect universal knowledge.

The next great shaper of the Library was Ainsworth Rand Spofford, Librarian of Congress (1864 – 1897). Spofford took advantage of a Patent Office reform initiative and proposed that the Library be responsible for all copyright activity, allowing the Library to secure two copies of every work applying for copyright. The numbers of acquisitions increased dramatically – 11,500 new items in 1870 and 20,000 in 1871. This rapid growth ate up shelf space at the Capitol and in 1873 Spofford got Congress to authorize a competition for design plans. Washington being what it is, a design wasn’t authorized until 1886 and the doors did not open until November 1897.

Detailed information on Library history and buildings:

Jefferson’s Legacy: A Brief History of the Library of Congress - <http://www.loc.gov/loc/legacy/>

Jefferson Building Tour - <http://www.loc.gov/jefftour/>

On These Walls: Inscriptions and Quotations in the Buildings of the Library of Congress - <http://www.loc.gov/loc/walls/>

Today the Library houses more than 138 million items – including 32 million cataloged books (and other print items) in 470 languages, 61 million

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Academic Librarian Community of Practice, *continued from page 7*

group. With busy schedules, it is difficult to reach everyone on Skype™ at the same time, and it can be challenging to make the time to read the materials recommended by the topic leaders in addition to required work maintaining busy schedules at work.

Technology

Technology has been a hurdle for some group members as most had never used conference call software before. However, using this new technology has also been beneficial as more and more businesses, libraries, and professional organizations rely on conference calls for committee work. Google Groups™ was also a new technology for most of the group's members and was helpful in archiving the email conversations among the group's members and in collaborating on the group's projects, although, some members still find navigating the Groups™ somewhat challenging.

Group Collaboration Activities and Assessments

The group's online poster session for the 2008 ACRL/LAMA Spring Virtual Institute spurred the group to assess progress toward our stated goals and to identify possible future directions.

First Survey Results

Evaluation of our activities is something we take seriously and do every few months. We survey our members, then compile and discuss the feedback. We have learned many things from our surveys, and almost all of our survey responses have been positive. Initially, our intent for the group was to have a monthly discussion over a leadership topic, and to submit a program proposal for the ACRL Virtual Institute. Beyond those activities, we did not have anything else specific planned.

To determine perceptions as to the effectiveness and value of the activities, our first survey was conducted four months after the creation of the collaborative. This survey showed that time is the number one participation challenge all group members face. This is understandable as the activities required for our jobs as academic librarians are our first priority. The second challenge cited in the survey was group dynamics. Since we met in person so briefly during the week at Ghost Ranch, there was little opportunity to create strong bonds among the group members. Even

so, the monthly communication among the group members and mini-reunions at conferences has helped strengthen our connections. Another challenge is coordinating our schedules to set a time to meet. Sometimes, it is almost impossible to find a time when everyone can meet, but Doodle has helped. A majority of group members strongly agreed that the group has enhanced the MPLA Ghost Ranch experience and that the monthly conference calls are worthwhile.

Our most recent survey revealed that we are at a stage where we are ready to examine literature on the evolution of groups and group dynamics, to reconsider the purpose of our group, and to look ahead to future goals.

Both surveys indicate that our biggest challenge to our group activities is time; we're all busy. Ideally, all members would be equally engaged and participatory, but we are realistic that this has not been the case. We had never really discussed how programs and publications fit into our plan, and we've learned that these are more important to some group members than others. The program and article proposals have often superseded the monthly discussions which has dissatisfied some members. Our solution for this is to try having sub-groups for activities such as research, presentations, and publications. For those who want a deeper exploration of leadership, we will establish a book discussion sub-group.

We have learned that we have been too flexible with the monthly discussions. We need more structure by scheduling them a semester at a time with more communication from the discussion leader prior to the discussion. Recently, we established several expectations for our calls, which typically last one hour. Everyone should be logged in and ready when the discussion begins, so we're not using valuable discussion time for technical issues. Discussion leaders should choose no more than two articles and consider article length. We agree that the leader should create an agenda page and send it in a timely manner before the discussion. The agenda page will include names of participants, article citations, and discussion questions. Participants should be more prepared for the discussion and, on the agenda page, submit a brief response to the monthly reading prior to the conference call. In addition to guiding our discussion, the agenda page will provide a record of our monthly calls. Our time is valuable and we want to use it efficiently.

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Around the Region

Arizona

The **Arizona State University Libraries** announced a *Realignment Project 2008-2009* in which the Libraries will be reviewing and realigning collections and making strategic choices to meet budgetary and economic conditions.

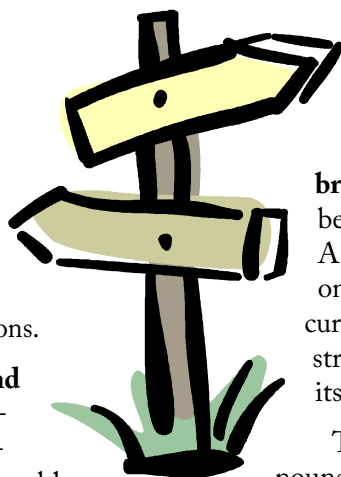
Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records will be hosting Convocation 2009 on March 1-2 at the Care-free Resort & Villas. Participants will be able to engage with over 200 dynamic people from libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural organizations. Register by 2/20/09 at www.lib.az.us/eventreg. There is no charge.

Dana Braccia, Collection Development Manager for the Scottsdale Public Library System, is the new Arizona Representative to the MPLA Board. Tamara has been a member of MPLA since 2007.



The City of Phoenix announced plans to eliminate more than 1,200 positions and limit or end dozens of programs and services as it looks to carve nearly \$270 million from its budget. Cuts could include shrinking **Phoenix Public Library** hours from 72 hours a week to 48 and closing libraries on Sundays. Residents will have the chance to weigh in on the proposals at public meetings before the City Council votes on the proposed cuts in February. On a more positive note, Phoenix Public introduced a colorful new library card designed by Kiyomi King to correlate with the library's "Yours to Explore" theme.

The **University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science** offers a *Hot Topic SIRLS Podcast* with Dr. Kay Mathiesen presenting "Article Five of the Library Bill of Rights: Parent's Rights or Children's Rights?" The podcast is available at <http://sirls.arizona.edu/node/1418>.



Colorado

The annual **Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL)** Conference was held in November at the Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel. A re-structuring of the association's awards is one of many projects being undertaken by the current CAL Board in a continuing effort to strengthen the CAL organization and increase its effectiveness for its many members.

The **Colorado Association of Libraries** announced the participants in the first CAL Leadership Institute. The group includes participants from public, academic, school and special libraries from across Colorado. MPLA members included among the first participants are **Brooke Phillips Andrade**, Adams State College; **Annie Epperson**, University of Northern Colorado; and **Karen Pardue**, Colorado State University, Pueblo. The Institute is designed to develop outstanding leaders within CAL and the Colorado library community. Participants will engage in a year long-process of leadership development activities including self-assessment, networking, and skills development. For more information, contact Martin Garner, 303.964.5459; MGarner@regis.edu.

Tamara Meredith, Director of the Eaton Public Library, has been appointed Chair of the MPLA Professional Development Committee for 2009.

Tamara plays the traverso, a baroque flute, and is principal flute of the Dallas Bach Society and the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado. She has worked with such noted ensembles as Apollo's Fire and Concert Royal, and has performed at both the Boston and Berkeley Early Music Festivals. Tamara holds a Master of Music degree in Historical Performance from Indiana University's Early Music Institute as well as her MLIS from the University of North Texas. She is a faculty member of the Western Chamber Music Institute and a frequent lecturer on topics from Intellectual Freedom to the "how and why" of Historical Performance. When not answering reference questions or trying to squeeze in some practice time at home, she can be found immersed in the worlds of SkippyJon Jones, Blues Clues, and Dr. Seuss—with or without her 2-1/2 year-old daughter.





Colorado MPLA representative Mary Katherine Katzer with granddaughter Kylee Fears at the Sprague Library, Salt Lake City Public Library System.



Kylee got her library card and checked out some books with help from Susan Allen.

Kansas

The Foundation Center has announced that the **Dorothy Bramlage Public Library** in Junction City has been named a new Cooperating Collection. At locations throughout the country, Cooperating Collections offer free access to the Center's detailed information on grant sources and instruction on applying for grants. Kansas library locations in the national network include Colby, Ellis, Liberal, Ness City, Salina, Topeka and Wichita. The target date for the launch of the Junction City collection is April 1. MPLA member and Kansas Representative **Susan Moyer** is Library Director.

James Swan retires February 1 after 31 years as Director/Administrator of the Great Bend Public Library and the Central Kansas Library System. He leaves behind a legacy of customer service in a career dedicated to encouraging parents to read to their children,

and helping librarians sharpen their skills.

The **Johnson County Library** and Kansas Small Development Business Center hosted the Second Annual **GovFest** for small business owners and would-be entrepreneurs. The event drew 329 attendees and featured 60 exhibitors representing 39 local, state, and national government agencies and nonprofits.

The **Great Bend Public Library** Board and the Executive Committee of **Central Kansas Library System** have hired **Harry Willems** to be the new Director/Administrator of the Library and the System. He succeeds **James Swan**, who has held the post since October 1977. Willems comes to Great Bend from Park City, Kansas, where he has been the director of the public library for the past three years. Before that Willems served for 12 years as the Assistant Administrator of the Southeast Kansas Library System in Iola. He has also worked as college librarian and taught school. Willems has a Master's Degree in History and also a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science.



Singing along as Hank Green performed his favorite literature-inspired songs, an overflow crowd of more than 150 teens and adults attended the **Great American Tour de Nerdfighters 2008** at the **Johnson County Library**. Brother John Green read excerpts from his newest book for teens, **Paper Towns**. Participants traveled from as far as Topeka and Springfield to the event, and audiences in Wichita and Hays Public Libraries were connected via the Lifesize/Elmer virtual conferencing system. **The Johnson County Library** collaborated with 20 other libraries to host the Green brothers' national tour.



Montana

Phase 2 of *MontanaLibrary2Go*, the statewide downloadable e-content project, added six more libraries in December, bringing the total of participating libraries to 20. Downloadable content includes books for children, teens and adults, both fiction and nonfiction, in both MP3 and WMA formats.

The **Montana Library Association's** new website (www.mtlib.org) is up and running. Board members and committee chairs will be able to update their own pages, keeping the site current. The Association also created a website manager position, hiring Stacy Bruhn to oversee the site and help members with updates.

The **Indian Education for All: Best Practices Conference** will be held in Helena February 16-17. At the conference, Montana educators will share what they are learning through their ongoing efforts to implement "Indian Education for All" in their classrooms. Promising school and classroom practices will be highlighted. The conference is open to all. Register at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/regforms/iebestpractices/>.

The **Montana Library Association's** annual *Offline Retreat* will be in Anaconda February 20-21. Offline is an annual gathering of Montana librarians discussing technology and enjoying chocolate! This year's theme is Open Source, and will also include perennial guest Mark Sheehan from Educause Center for Applied Research in Boulder, CO, discussing new technologies in libraries.

The **Montana Library Association's** Annual Conference, "Creating New Paths," is set for Kalispell MT April 22-25. MLA offers complimentary tables to non-profit organizations interested in participating. Vendor information is available by contacting Debbi Kramer (debkmla@hotmail.com). The deadline for registering for exhibit space is February 1, 2009.

Nebraska

The **Nebraska Library Commission** held its first ever *Library Camp, an Unconference* in November. The format included group discussions on topics introduced by the participants. To see the list of topics discussed and some participants' notes visit:



<http://librarycampnebraska.pbwiki.com/Notes+from+the+day's+discussions>. To view pictures on Flickr: <http://flickr.com/search/?q=library+camp+nebraska>, or type "Nebraska Library

Camp" in the search screen. According to MPLA Nebraska Representative Julie Beno the camp was considered "wildly successful" by the participants and may change the face of future conferences.

The **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries** and **Lincoln City Libraries** hosted a group of librarians and library managers from Tajikistan as they visited the Nebraska Library Commission, University of Nebraska- Libraries, Lincoln City Libraries, and library outreach sites. Their tour was sponsored by the USAID. The focus of the visit of the Tadjiki library managers, including the Director of the National Library was to observe American library modes of delivery, services, professional education, and staff development. The librarians stayed with American families, so that they could learn more about America in general.



While in Lincoln the Tajikistan Librarian's met with the Mayor, and he made them honorary citizens.

MPLA member **Ted Smith**, Director of Norfolk Public Library, accepted a new position in Newport, Oregon.

The 2009 One book One Nebraska selection is Bess Streeter Aldrich's *A Lantern in her Hand*. For more information see www.onebookonenebraska.org/.

Mary Reiman, Lincoln Public Schools Media Services Director, received the Distinguished Service Award from NEMA and the Mad Hatter Award from the School Children and Young People section of

NLA at the NLA/NEMA Conference in October.

Brenda Ealey, Southeast Library System Administrator received the NLA Meritorious Service award at the NLA/NEMA conference.



Brenda Ealey

Nevada

The **Nevada State Library and Archives** has recently migrated its website to <http://nevadaculture.org/nsla/>. For information contact **Karen J. Starr**, Assistant Administrator for Library and Archive Development, Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City, Nevada (kstarr@nevadaculture.org).

The **Green Valley Library** is scheduled to re-open in the spring of 2009 under the management of the **Henderson District Public Libraries**. The branch was acquired from the **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District** after a reorganization of district boundaries. In March 2009 Henderson District Public Libraries is also opening a new branch in the Galleria Mall in Henderson. The mall has offered the district a 1,300 square-foot space. Along with a popular materials collection and public use computers, the space will focus on family literacy programming primarily for pre-kindergarten children. Wi-fi internet access will be provided in the branch and will be accessible in the mall within a range of 300 feet.

The **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District** celebrated the opening of their newest branch, Centennial Hills, on January 10. The 45,616 square-foot branch is located in the northwest area of the valley.



Florica Hagendorn, Senior Youth Services Specialist, Paseo Verde Library, Henderson District Public Libraries, is Nevada's new MPLA state representative, replacing **Janet Mastalir** who recently retired.



Florica and two of her boxers. The matriarch, Noel, with gray eyebrows, is on the right. Lennox, a male with the collar is on the left. But there's more, says Florica: "As insane as it sounds we have added two additional boxers since this picture was taken! A two year old female named Laila and a gigantic one year old male named Moose. Besides, the library and books I guess you can tell dogs are my other passion. The reason our family exploded with dogs is because last summer my husband and I rescued an abused female (Laila). A month later she graced us with nine puppies! We could not help ourselves and wound up keeping one pup. (Moose)."

Through the collaborative efforts of the **Washoe County Library System**, the **University of Nevada School of Medicine** and the **Savitt Medical Library, Washoe County's Northwest Reno Library** is one of 61 libraries from across the U.S. selected to host "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians," an interactive, multimedia traveling exhibition that honors the lives and achievements of American women in medicine. It will be displayed from February 15-March 26. The exhibit was developed by the Exhibition Program of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine, in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The traveling exhibition is made possible by the National Library of

Medicine and the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health. The American Medical Women's Association provided additional support.

MPLA member **Denise Gerdes**, 2008 Nevada Library Association President, recently announced NLA election results for 2009. President Elect is MPLA member **Joan Vaughan**, Branch Manager of the Paseo Verde Library, Henderson District Public Libraries; Treasurer is **Linda Pizarro**, Adult Services Librarian at the West Charleston Library, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District;

By-Laws Chair is **Lenika Coleman**, Adult Services Librarian at the Spring Valley Library, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District; and Nevada State Representative to MPLA is MPLA member **Florica Hagedorn** Senior Youth Services Specialist, Paseo Verde Library, Henderson District Public Libraries.



Joan Vaughan

New Mexico

The **New Mexico Library Association** annual conference will be held on April 22-24 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Program proposals are now being reviewed and sessions will be posted soon.

New Mexico General Obligation Issue B was passed by a margin of 52.2%. The \$11 million bond will make capital expenditures for academic, public and tribal library acquisitions. Funding will be provided by a general property tax and levy. The Public Education Department, the Commission on Higher Education, and the **New Mexico State Library** will be responsible for administering the funds.

MPLA member **Cassandra Osterloh**, NMLA President, along with a committee of New Mexico librarians, is creating a first-time New Mexico Book Festival. The expected date of the Festival will be in September 2009.

The **New Mexico State University, Zuhl Library**, participated in Banned Books Week by featuring many students and librarians on READ posters. Displays of banned reference books along with caution tape were used for effect.

North Dakota

Robin Cabot, Senior Program Officer for the Institute of Museum and Library Services visited North Dakota this summer to evaluate the impact of IMLS funding on library services in the state. He made site visits and met with the library directors from the **Minot Public Library**, the **Velva School and Public Library**, the **Dickinson Area Public Library**, the **Bowman Area Public Library**, and the **Morton Mandan Public Library**. Having been the first person in eight years to visit North Dakota from IMLS, he saw first hand how federal funding can improve library and information services to citizens of North Dakota and the value of continuing to support LSTA funding.

The **Grand Forks Public Library** Teen Advisory Board, with support from the Friends of the Library, hosted a Guitar Hero Tournament in August. Forty teens, in grades 7-12, participated in the contest, enjoyed pizza and pop, and voted for the best-dressed "Rock Star." Chris Glenn was declared the winner and treated everyone to a guitar solo. Gift cards to local businesses were also given as door prizes.



The **North Dakota State Library** is now offering webinars, a new avenue for receiving training. While State Library training staff will continue to travel and present trainings in person, the new online trainings are designed to reach librarians who have limited time and travel budgets for conferences, workshops, and professional development. Online training will offer librarians more flexibility in their daily schedules

for attending professional training without having to travel. Trainings can be scheduled in the morning before libraries are open, or at night after hours and online courses can also be taken at home. Currently, the State Library is offering webinar training for the E-rate program, eLibrary BookCarts, and State Library Services for School Librarians. Development will continue for other types of web-based training, including Online Library Resource training and other library-related topics.

The **Dickinson Area Public Library** is part of a pilot program to help North Dakotans quickly replace Social Security cards. The idea is to cut down on the need to travel long distances and to shorten the wait to get a replacement card. The program began on October 1, 2008, and uses video technology. An individual goes to the library and holds up his/her driver's license to a teleconference camera. The information is read at an office in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, which faxes a form to the individual to complete. The signed form is faxed back to the Fergus Falls office, which issues a receipt and faxes that to the client, who can take it to an employer to prove that a replacement Social Security card is on its way. The replacement card usually arrives in about two weeks. If the pilot project is deemed successful after its six-month review it could become permanent.

Through a joint fundraising project of the **Heart of America Library** and the Rugby Lions Club, a Merlin LCD magnifier has been purchased for the library. The reading machine enables individuals with low vision to read, write, view photographs, enjoy crafts, hobbies, and more. The project was also supported by individual gifts and grants from the Northern Plains Operation Round-Up and Pamida.

Kay Berg retired as the **Grand Forks Public Library** Circulation Supervisor at the end of December. **Carol Junk** has been hired as the new Circulation Supervisor.

ALA's "I Love Libraries" website recently published a story by MPLA member **Eileen Kopren**, Public Services Librarian at **Dickinson State's Stoxen Library**. Her article, "Murder in the Library," was about an event that Stoxen Library hosted during National Library Week 2008 and was originally published in the June 2008 issue of *The Good Stuff*. See the article at <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/libraryshowcase/murder.cfm>

Oklahoma

Kudos for the **Tulsa City County Library** system! In the study conducted by Central Connecticut State University, of all cities with more than 250,000, Tulsa ranked 21st among America's Most Literate Cities for 2008. Six indicators were used: newspaper circulation, number of bookstores, library resources, periodical publishing resources, education attainment and Internet resources. Tulsa ranked 16th in the category of library resources which takes into consideration volume and circulation per capita of the library service population.

In November, **Kay Boies** celebrated her 25th anniversary as Executive Director for the **Oklahoma Library Association**. When Kay applied for the position, she had a background in journalism and an enthusiasm for libraries that continues to be contagious. "She has been invaluable to so many Oklahoma librarians," says MPLA Oklahoma representative Barbara Ray. "Her ability to manage the administrative duties of the organization as well as facilitate successful workshops and conferences enables the rest of us to do the work of the association knowing we can call on her expertise."



Kay Boies

The **Oklahoma Library Association** board recently approved its 2009 Legislative Goals:

1. Support the Oklahoma Department of Libraries' budget request to increase state aid for public libraries by 10 cents per person, continue to provide online research resources to all Oklahomans, and replace federal funds previously used to pay key state library staff.
2. Support equal access to information for all Oklahomans.
3. Keep library governance local.
4. Ensure quality school library programs for students staffed by certified master's level library media specialists.
5. Protect and enhance existing tax base or revenue streams.

With the help of an MPLA Professional Development Grant, Oklahoma Representative **Barbara Ray** recently attended the ALAN (Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the National Council of Teachers of English) workshop in San Antonio entitled *Because Shift Happens: Teaching in the Twenty-First Century*. More information on MPLA grant recipients and their experiences will be featured in the April issue of the *MPLA Newsletter*.

South Dakota

Librarians and staff throughout South Dakota have been participating in the *South Dakota Library 2.0 Challenge*. Developed by **South Dakota State Library** staff, participants were encouraged to learn more about emerging technologies on the web that are changing the way people, society, and libraries access information and communicate with each other. The ten weekly lessons were self-directed with forty librarians rising to the challenge, earning nine contact hours for CE credit and becoming eligible for a library technology grant.

South Dakota State officials are trying to determine how much damage was done to the **South Dakota State Library** after fire occurred in the building's boiler room December 18. Officials are not aware of any structural damage to the building at this time, but there is extensive smoke damage. The fire occurred on the library's first floor, which is under renovation. Workers had been using a saw to cut concrete and apparently sparks from the saw blade ignited cardboard

lining used in the initial construction of the building. The fire smoldered for some time and was discovered by an employee checking the building's boilers about midnight.



Daria Bossman has joined the **South Dakota State Library** staff as the Assistant State Librarian for Development Services. Her library experiences include public, school and academic libraries, with the past 15 years as director of the Morningside College Library. She has a bachelor's degree from Midland Lutheran College in English, history and education, and an MLS from Emporia State University. She has also taken finance and business administration graduate courses from University of Iowa and the University of South Dakota.

Pamla Lingor, Library Director at Alexander Mitchell Library in Aberdeen, died on November 8, 2008, at her home after a long battle with cancer. She had resigned from her library position on Aug. 11. Pam had been an active member of the Aberdeen Area Literacy Council, the South Dakota Library Association, Mountain Plains Library Association, and numerous book clubs.

Utah

Utah State University's Merrill-Cazier Library hosted a Regional Design Workshop on the Open Library Environment (OLE) Project in January, with members from the University of Kansas will facilitating the 1.5 day workshop. The Open Library Environment is an alternative to the current model of an Integrated Library System. The goal of the Open Library Environment Project is to define a next-generation

technology environment based on a thoroughly re-examined model of library operations and connected to other technology systems.

The Utah Women's Health Information Network (UWIN), a program of the **University of Utah, Health Sciences Center**, Center of Excellence in Women's Health, became a reality in November with receipt of a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to improve health care for Utah women and thus all Utah residents through their families. Through this initiative, public libraries across Utah will form partnerships with their community health clinics. Clinicians will become informed about the consumer health resources and help at their public libraries and in turn patients will become more informed about not only health but all the services and resources at their neighborhood library. Utah librarians are currently working on "toolkits" to market library services to clinic staff and training for librarians to insure that referred patients will get special care when they arrive at the library seeking medical information. These will also be available in Spanish. UWIN Partners are **Susan Hamada**, Associate Director, **Salt Lake County Library System**; and **Sally Patrick**, Outreach Librarian, **Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library**.



The Teton County Commission and Town Council gave final approval for \$812,300 in state funds to build a new **Alta Branch Library**. The building timeline targets May 2009 for breaking ground for the new branch, with plans to open in December 2009. In concert with state funding, Alta residents are working with the Teton County Library Foundation to raise private funds to provide additional support for the project. All of the state funding will be put towards actual building costs, while private donations will pay for interior fixtures and furniture for the new space.

The Teton County Library will host Live Broadcasts from 92Y featuring Paul Krugman, Salman Rushdie, Jerry Seinfeld, Al Gore and others. Sponsored by the Teton County Library Foundation, the broadcasts originate from the 92nd Street Y Cultural Center in New York City. Lectures are viewed live via satellite, and members of the local audience can submit questions to the speakers via email. The broadcasts take place in the library's auditorium and are free and open to the public.

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** began a free a five-part reading and discussion series called "Let's Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness In the Presence of the Enemy" in January. Participants will read and discuss *The Iliad* by Homer, *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte, *Embers* by Sandor Marai, *The Guardians* by Ana Castillo, and *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library is one of 50 libraries nationwide receiving grants to host the series developed by the American Library Association and the Fetzter Institute's Campaign for Love and Forgiveness. Local support for the series is provided by Sheridan Media, The Sheridan Press, Sheridan Stationery Books and Gallery, the Center for Peace and Research, and First Christian Church.



Karen Czarnik, a storyteller & musician from Walled Lake, Michigan will be featured at a free workshop on February 26 for the **Natrona County Public Library's** Youth Services staff and others in the com-

Wyoming

The second floor of the **Laramie County Library** in Cheyenne features an animation station, designed to give kids an opportunity to create their own stop-motion movies (complete with sound effects). The library is also making all of the films accessible online to view at home or upload to other sites. MPLA member and County Librarian **Lucie Osborn** says, "To our knowledge, this is the only public library in America offering this wonderful technology to kids." Complete information about the animation station, including a "video of the month" as well as instructions on how to use it and access videos, can be found at LCLSonline.org/animation_station.

munity who work with children. She will also perform in Natrona County schools.

The **Teton County Library** recently presented, "*The Hollywood Librarian: A Look at Librarians through Film*," followed by a Q&A with Film Director and Librarian **Ann Seidl**. The full-length documentary weaves together the work and lives of librarians – in schools, prisons and public libraries – with their entertaining portrayals in American movies.



Starting in January, the **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** will host "Crime and the Cultural Landscape," a reading and discussion series in the Wyoming Humanities Council's *Reading Wyoming* program. Participants will read and discuss *A Study in Scarlet* by Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett, *Black Cherry Blues* by James Lee Burke and *Listening Woman* by Tony Hillerman.

The **Laramie County Library** was featured in the international magazine *The Economist*. In the latest issue readers found "Why Cowboys Read," an article exploring the successes of the Laramie County Library. One of the magazine's reporters spent a day at the Laramie County Library, including an extended trip to Burns to see the branch facility. According to Troy Rumpf, manager of community relations for the library, the reporter was fascinated how this library continues to thrive and grow. While many others are scaling back services or losing tax elections to garner additional funding, the reporter wanted to visit a community that was willing to tax themselves to obtain a new library building. The library was also named "2008 Library of the Year" by *Library Journal*.

CSQR

@ OUR LIBRARY *continued from page 9*

manuscripts, 12.5 million photographs, 2.9 million recordings, 5.5 million pieces of sheet music, and 5.3 million maps, on approximately 650 miles of shelving. In addition to its collections, a wide range of services are offered <http://www.loc.gov/about/more/index.html>, some of which are highlighted:

THOMAS - <http://thomas.loc.gov/> - Federal legislative information made available to the public.

Global Gateway - <http://international.loc.gov/intldl/intldlhome.html> - International resources in the Library.

Exhibitions - <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/> - Online versions of Library exhibits.

American Memory - <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/> - Free access to a digital record of the American Experience. Learning Page - <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/> - Designed to assist educators in using American Memory to teach history and culture.

America's Story - <http://www.americaslibrary.gov/> - Demonstrates to younger folks that libraries are more than books.

Librarians and Archivists - <http://www.loc.gov/library/> - Tools and resources for us, including incredible publications <http://www.loc.gov/loc/pub/>.

Copyright Center - <http://www.copyright.gov/> - Important information for arts creators and users.

National Library Service - <http://www.loc.gov/nls/> - Program designed to increase access for unable to read or use standard print materials because of visual or physical impairment.

Reading Rooms/Research Centers - <http://www.loc.gov/rr/research-centers.html> - Access to the various research collections available at the Library.



Visit the MPLA Website
www.mpla.us

MPLA “Board Choice” Membership Award Winners for 2009



The MPLA Board Choice Award, begun in 1999, is an initiative by Board members to identify and recruit individuals with demonstrated ability in a library setting to membership in the Mountain Plains Library

Association. The membership winners are selected with consideration of their potential to benefit MPLA and the profession in a broader sense.

Board Choice Awards winners for 2009 were chosen by members of the MPLA Administration Committee. They are:

Julie Boyle

selected by Recording Secretary Annie Epperson



Julie Boyle is Reference Librarian with High Plains Library District's Lincoln Park Library in Greeley, Colorado. A Westerner hailing from Denver, Julie's first career was as a pediatric physical therapist. She spent time in Costa Rica, and her facility with Spanish is a valuable asset in her

current position in Greeley, Colorado. Like many in the MPLA region, Julie enjoys gardening and other outdoor activities. Julie began working in libraries in 2003 and earned the MLS in 2006. She is currently active in Greeley Research Assistance for Business (GRAB), a partnership between five libraries providing monthly workshops tailored to the needs of the local business community. Annie's comment: "I've selected Julie because, in my mind, she embodies the engaged collaborative, cooperative nature of the MPLA. Julie's wit and enthusiasm are infectious, and her willingness to work for the good of the team is evident. A natural fit with MPLA."

Britt Fagerheim

selected by By-Laws Chair Betty Dance

Britt Fagerheim is a Reference Librarian at Utah State University's Merrill-Cazier Library. She is the subject specialist for departments in the Huntsman School of Business and the department of Journalism and Communication. She received an undergraduate degree from Mount Holyoke College



in International Relations, and a Masters degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Washington. Britt has responsibilities in three areas of the library related to librarianship: reference, instruction and collection development, demonstrating excellence in all three. Betty's comments: "She also has an excellent record of research and service both to the university and with our national organization. Britt has outstanding qualities which her colleagues agree make her 'to be as close to indispensable to the library as possible.' Britt will make an excellent member of MPLA."

Royce Kitts

selected by President Rob Banks



Royce Kitts is the director of the Tonganoxie Public Library in Tonganoxie Kansas. He recently received his Masters degree in Library Science from Emporia State University. He worked at the Manhattan Public Library for seven years and credits that organization for instilling his love for librarianship and service to one's community. "I honestly feel," says Royce, "that there is no better place to work in the world than the public library, and look forward to flipping the 'open' sign around every morning. Librarians rock! Kansas Librarians Rock the House!"

Pamela Martin

selected by Awards Committee Chair JaNae Kinikin

Pamela N. Martin is a Reference Librarian at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. Pam liaises with Engineering departments and teaches as many library instruction sessions as possible. She is active in Utah Library Association and is the current chair of the Utah



Academic Library Consortium's (UALC) Professional Development Committee. Originally from Tennessee, Pam still has a bit of a southern drawl and remains an avid University of Memphis basketball fan. JaNae comments: "I worked with Pam at last year's joint ULA/MPLA conference and am currently serving with her on the UALC Professional Development committee. She is vivacious, has a "get it done" attitude, and will be a great addition to MPLA."

Anne Moore

selected by South Dakota Representative
Elvita Landau



Dr. Anne Moore is the Dean of Libraries at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion. Previously she was the Associate Director for User Services at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and has held positions at New Mexico State Univer-

sity, George Mason University, and the University of Arizona. She has a PhD in Educational Management and Development with Concentration in Higher Education Administration and Technology Integration and a Masters degree in Library and Information Science. Elvita's comment: "She just started in her position at USD and is thrilled to have been selected as for the Board Choice Award."

Mary Moroney

selected by Past-President Wayne Hanway

Mary Moroney is the Assistant Director of the Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, headquartered in Muskogee. She has her MLIS degree from the University of Oklahoma. She says, "As is true for all 'Assistants', I do many, many things. I oversee hiring for all branches, help create and monitor \$4 million budget, directly supervise Support Staff, assist with collection development and manage the Horizon automation system. I have held many committee positions within OLA and I look forward to branching out - working with other states on some of the issues that all libraries have in common, i.e. protecting the 1st Amendment, funding, personnel issues." Wayne's comment: "Mary Moroney brings experience and enthusiasm as a new MPLA member."

Suanne Reymer

selected by President-Elect Eileen Wright

Suanne Reymer is Statewide Consulting Librarian for the Montana State Library. She is an active member of the Montana Library Association, where she has been the MLA webmaster and currently is the Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the



Academic and Special Libraries group. According to Eileen, "One responsibility of this group is the organization of the very fun and informative couple of days at Chico Hot Springs. She has also joined in on the fun of being a member of the winning Sheila Cates Scholarship Jeopardy contest. Suzanne has received the Bibliotechie Award given at our popular two day meeting called Offline."



Academic Librarian Community of Practice, *continued from page 10*

Conclusion

The MPLA Academic Cooperative has now celebrated the one year anniversary of the group's formation and we look forward to many more mentoring, networking, and social opportunities. Future activities for the group include continued monthly meetings, regional or national presentations on online collaboration, the creation of communities of practice in a virtual environment, and subgroups focused on topics of interest to particular members. All of these activities have made and will continue to make our cooperative a successful community of practice in the area of leadership in libraries. The creation of projects, presentations, and articles requires a significant amount of cooperation to complete. In fact, these projects have given the group a sense of purpose and helped create greater cohesiveness among the group members. They also serve to fulfill a mentoring and career development element of the collaborative. One group member has noted, "After attending workshops, conferences, and seminars, we often are so busy that we just put away our notebooks and conference materials and seldom refer back to them. This activity ensures that we continue on the path we started." Without the monthly calls and projects, the MPLA Leadership Institute might be just a memory, but the regular communication with the other academic librarians has provided a way to extend the learning that began at the MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute. Finally, the creation of subgroups will provide smaller learning communities for individuals with an interest in a particular area.

Organizations

Mountain Plains Library Association

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

MPLA Leadership Institute

<http://www.mpla.us/leadership/index.html>

Ghost Ranch, New Mexico

<http://www.ghost ranch.org/>

Group Technology

Doodle™

<http://www.doodle.ch/main.html>

Google Groups™

<http://groups.google.com/>

LibGuides™

<http://www.springshare.com/libguides/>

Libstats™

<http://code.google.com/p/libstats/>

Skype™

<http://www.skype.com>

MPLA Academic Cooperative Members

Jennie Burroughs, Assistant Professor, Government Documents Librarian, The University of Montana, jennie.burroughs@umontana.edu

Erin Dini Davis, Reference Librarian, Utah State University, erin.davis@usu.edu

JaNae Kinikin, Science Librarian, Weber State University, jkinikin@weber.edu

Karen Neurohr, Associate Professor, Assessment Librarian, Oklahoma State University, karen.neurohr@okstate.edu

Holly Phillips, Electronic Resources and Access Coordinator, University of New Mexico, hpphillips@salud.unm.edu

Robert Russell, Electronic Resources Coordinator and University Archivist, Northern State University, robert.russell@northern.edu

Heather Smith-Collins, Curriculum Resources Librarian, Washburn University, heather.collins@washburn.edu

Danielle Theiss-White, Assistant Professor, General Reference Coordinator, Kansas State University, dtheiss@ksu.edu

(Footnotes)

¹ Etienne Wenger, "Communities of Practice: A Brief Introduction," www.ewenger.com/theory/index.htm (accessed August 2008).

² Ibid.



TIME



TO RENEW YOUR MPLA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2009!

RENEW ONLINE AT

[HTTP://WWW.MPLA.US/FORMS/
MEMBERSHIP.HTML](http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html)

2009 DEADLINES FOR MPLA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

FEBRUARY 4	AUGUST 5
APRIL 1	OCTOBER 7
JUNE 3	DECEMBER 2

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE
[HTTP://WWW.MPLA.US/COMMITTEES/
PROFDEV/GRANTS.HTML](http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grants.html)

Plan Now to Attend!

KLA/MPLA Joint Conference

Wichita, Kansas

State & National Conferences 2009

- American Library Association Midwinter Conference; Jan. 23–28, Denver, CO
- Association of College & Research Libraries March 12-15, Seattle, WA
- KLA/MPLA Joint Conference March 31 - April 3, Wichita KS
- Oklahoma Library Association Conference April 20-22, Midwest City OK
- Montana Library Association Conference April 22-25 Kalispell, MT
- New Mexico Library Association Conference April 22-24 Albuquerque NM
- Utah Library Association Conference Apr. 22-Apr. 24, Sandy UT
- American Library Association Annual Conference; July 9–15, Chicago, IL
- Pacific Northwest Library Association August 5-8, Missoula, MT
- North Dakota Library Association Conference Sept. 23-25, Jamestown ND
- Wyoming Library Association Conference October 1-3, Laramie WY
- South Dakota Library Association Conference October 6-9, Aberdeen SD
- Nevada Library Association Conference October 7-10, Elko, NV
- Nebraska Library Association Conference October 28-30, La Vista NE
- AASL National Conference & Exhibition Nov. 4-8, Charlotte NC
- Colorado Association of Libraries Conference Nov. 19-21 Denver CO
- Arizona Library Association Conference December 7-9, Glendale AZ

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Librarians Benefit with MPLA

- Professional development
- News from member states
- Forum for the exchange of ideas
- Professional development grants
- Support of regional library efforts

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

Special! 1/2 Price New Member Offer

New personal members calculate dues below, then reduce them by 50%

MPLA Dues Schedule
(Membership is for calendar year)

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP - Open to anyone interested in library services. _____ up to \$29,999 - \$40;
_____ \$30,000 - \$49,999 - \$55; _____ over \$50,000 - \$65

RETIREE _____ \$15/yr. **STUDENT** _____ \$15/yr. **TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP** _____ \$15/yr.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP - For Libraries, Business Firms, and other Institutions supporting the Association. Institutional members receive FREE advertising for job openings in the newsletter! Membership fee is based on total annual budget

_____ Under \$100,000 \$50/yr _____ \$300,000-499,999 \$100/yr
_____ \$100,000-\$299,999 \$75/yr _____ \$500,000- up \$125/yr

Name _____ New _____
Position/Title _____ Renewal _____
Institution _____
Address to appear in Directory _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Mailing Address *if different from above* _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Primary Phone _____; Alternate Phone _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____

Newsletter Format Preference: Receive Newsletter by Mail View Newsletter Online Only

I am interested in serving on the following committee(s) ___ Awards ___ Communications
___ Leadership Institute ___ Nominating ___ Professional Development ___ Membership

___ I am willing to be nominated for an MPLA office

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

Mail to: MPLA ; Judy Zelenski, Executive Secretary; 14293 West Center Drive; Lakewood, CO 80228