

Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

December 2009

Volume 54 #3

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www.mpla.us

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

OLA/MPLA Joint Conference Keynote Speaker

Dr. J. Rufus Fears will be the keynote speaker for the OLA/MPLA Conference April 19-21, 2010 in Oklahoma City. Dr. Fears is David Ross Boyd Professor of Classics at the University of Oklahoma, where he holds the G. T. and Libby Blankenship Chair in the History of Liberty. He also serves as David and Ann Brown Distinguished Fellow of the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs. He earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University. Before joining the faculty at the University of Oklahoma, Professor Fears was Professor of History and Distinguished Faculty Research Lecturer at Indiana University, and Professor of Classical Studies and Chair of the Department of Classical Studies at Boston University.

An acclaimed teacher and scholar with 25 awards for teaching excellence, Professor Fears was chosen Professor of the Year on three occasions by students at the University of Oklahoma. His other accolades include the Medal for Excellence in College and University Teaching from



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ARIZONA
NEW MEXICO

COLORADO
NORTH DAKOTA

KANSAS
OKLAHOMA

MONTANA
SOUTH DAKOTA

NEBRASKA
UTAH

NEVADA
WYOMING



MPLA Board & Staff

*The MPLA Newsletter is published
by-monthly by the Mountain Plains
Library Association*

ISSN 0145-6180

*Material of regional
interest may be submitted to:*

Judy Zelenski, Editor
MPLA Newsletter
14293 West Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
judyz@operamail.com

Submissions:

Copy deadlines for articles, news,
information, advertisements, and
other copy:

January 1	July 1
March 1	September 1
May 1	November 1

Advertising:

There is no charge to MPLA
personal or institutional members
for classified advertising.
Non-members are charged
\$1.25/line. Display
advertisement copy rates are
available from the Editor
(see address above).

MPLA Membership or Subscription Business:

Matters pertaining to individual or
institutional membership, address
changes, and claims or orders for
back issues should be sent to:

Judy Zelenski
Executive Secretary
14293 West Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
mpla_execsecretary@operamail.com

Domestic Subscription Fees:
1 yr./\$25
2 yrs./\$45 3yrs./\$65

President

Eileen Wright
Montana State University-
Billings Library
1500 University Dr.
Billings, MT 59101
(406) 657-1656
ewright@msubillings.edu

Vice-President/President-Elect

Elvita Landau
Brookings Public Library
515 Third St.
Brookings, SD 57006
(605) 692-9407
elandau@sdln.net

Past President & Chair, Administration Committee

Robert Banks
Topeka & Shawnee County
Public Library
1515 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 580-4481
rbanks@tsopl.org

Recording Secretary

Robin Brooks Clark
Sump Memorial Library
222 North Jefferson
Papillion, NE 68046
(402) 597-2042
robin.clark@sumplibrary.info

Awards Committee

Ellen Fockler
Washoe County School District
Learning & Resource Center
425 E Ninth St P.O. Box 30425

Reno, NV 89520
(775) 682-5550
efockler@washoe.k12.nv.us

Communications Committee

Annie Epperson
University of Northern
Colorado Michener Library
Campus Box 48
Greeley, CO 80639
970-351-1535
annie.epperson@unco.edu

Leadership Institute Committee

Dan Stanton
Arizona State Univ. Libraries
P. O. Box 871006
Tempe, AZ 85287
(480) 965-1798
danton@asu.edu

Membership Committee

Rita Severt
Wichita Area Technical College
Southside Education Center
4501 E 47th St South
Wichita, KS 67210
(316) 677-9400
rsevert@wat.edu

Nominating Committee

Jerry Hudson
High Plains Library District
Centennial Park Branch
2227 23rd Avenue
Greeley, CO 80634
(970) 506-8655
jhudson@highplains.us

Professional Development Committee

Tamara Meredith
University of Wyoming
Learning Resource Center
1203 E. Baker Street
Laramie, WY 82072
940-453-6830
tamarameredith@hotmail.com

Webmaster

Dan Chaney
Oklahoma State University
306 Edmon Low Library
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74075
(405) 744-9772
dan.chaney@okstate.edu

Community Portal Administrator

Roy Degler
Oklahoma State University
Edmon Low Library
215A Edmon Low Library
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-6541
roy.degler@okstate.edu

Executive Secretary

Judy Zelenski
14293 W. Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
mpla_execsecretary@operamail.com

www.mpla.us

State Representatives

Arizona

Dana Braccia
Scottsdale Public Library
System
DBraccia@scottsdaleaz.gov

Colorado

Mary Katherine Katzer
Marmot Library Network
mk@marmot.org

Kansas

Mickey Coalwell
NE Kansas Library System
mcoalwell@neks.org

Montana

Pam Henley
Bozeman Public Library
phenley@bozeman.net

Nebraska

Theresa Jehlik
Omaha Public Library
tjehlik@omahapubliclibrary.org

Nevada

Florica Hagendorn
Henderson District Public
Libraries
fhagendorn@hdpl.org

New Mexico

Lynette Schurdevin
Thomas Branigan Memorial
Library
lschurdevin@las-cruces.org

North Dakota

Al Peterson
North Dakota State Library
alpeterson@nd.gov

Oklahoma

Basha Hartley
Norman Public Library
basha@pls.lib.ok.us

South Dakota

Michael C. Mullin
Watertown Regional Library
mmullin@sdln.net

Utah

Dorothy Horan
Family History Library
Horandm@familysearch.org

Wyoming

Deborah McCarthy
University of Wyoming
Libraries
mccarthy@uwyo.edu



Eileen and husband Peter on White Haven Beach within the Whitsundays Islands

President's Message

An Experience at Leadership Institute

Maureen Sullivan taught us concepts on leadership through lectures, lessons, and interactive group activities. Through the daily lessons, we learned new skills, but we also discovered our hidden talents and strengths we already possessed.

At night, when we could let the day's lectures soak into our brains, the friendships were bonded. Our bonds of friendship were formed over the nightly games of charades. Our laughter would shake the roof and colleagues became life-long friends and mentors to each other. My roommate and I still call upon each other as our

personal mentors, but we also keep in touch just for the bond of friendship.

Through both the days and nights activities, we would return to be stronger and more confident leaders within our jobs and more importantly within our lives.

Leadership Institute represents varied experiences for alumnus, but no matter what, it is a success and a point of pride for MPLA.

I invite you to become part of the Leadership Institute legacy. Join other MPLA members for an undeniably positive experience with the renowned facilitator Maureen Sullivan and the supportive mentors who will join you on this adventure.

--Eileen

New Mexico State University Doña Ana Community College

15TH ANNIVERSARY

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- Three Different Certificates Available
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- School Library Media Specialist Endorsement
- Single Classes for Continuing Education

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<http://daac.nmsu.edu/bis/libtec>

P. O. Box 30001, MSC 3DA, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8001
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Keynote Speaker -continued from page 1

the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, the University Continuing Education Association (UCEA) Great Plains Region Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the UCEA's National Award for Teaching Excellence.

Professor Fears's books and monographs include *The Cult of Jupiter and Roman Imperial Ideology* and *The Theology of Victory at Rome*. He edited a three-volume edition of *Selected Writings of Lord Acton*. His discussions of the Great Books have appeared in newspapers across the country and have aired on national television and radio programs.

Dr. Fears' keynote topic is: "The Price of Change: Are We at Risk of Losing Our Heritage?"

Visit the MPLA
Website
♦
www.mpla.us

Explore the Possibilities



OLA/MPLA Joint Conference
April 19 - 21, 2010
Oklahoma City, OK

Potpourri of Conference Information

From Wayne Hanway, Oklahoma Library Association

The theme: *Explore the Possibilities*

ALA President and MPLA member Camila Alire will be a featured presenter at the conference.

On Monday, she will present a pre-conference workshop on Frontline Staff Advocacy.

On Tuesday, she will be the speaker for the Legislative Luncheon, will present an afternoon program on "Serving Your Latina Communities: Whose Responsibility Is It and Why?", and then will speak at the ALA Forum.

The MPLA Executive Board meeting will be Sunday, April 18th, starting at 3:00 p.m., and will be followed by a dine-around. With a plethora of restaurants, bars, night clubs, and other entertainment just a short walk away from the conference hotels in Bricktown, it will be a great way to start the conference.

There will be a full slate of pre-conference workshops on Monday, April 19th.

The banquet Monday night will be an awards banquet, plus a featured speaker.

Special MPLA events will include the Hot Tub Round Table (planned for after the banquet on Monday night), the pub crawl in Bricktown (time not yet determined, but probably either Sunday night or Tuesday or possibly both), the Leadership Institute alumni reunion (Monday before the banquet), the MPLA President's reception (Tuesday night in the President's suite), and the MPLA Business Meeting (Wednesday morning at 8:45.) Roundtables will have several chances to meet, but most scheduled ones will be first thing in the morning.

The All-Conference Event on Tuesday night will be very special. Oklahoma City's recently constructed

downtown library will be closed to the public that night so that conference attendees can enjoy refreshments, top-notch piano music by Wayne McEvelly, and a special event where costumes made from library materials will be paraded on a runway and judged, with rough-riding and fun-loving Oklahoma author Michael Wallis as the emcee. There should be lots of entertainment in this. After all, library materials are not commonly considered to be wearing apparel, and it will take both imagination and humor to come up with outfits that work and stand a chance of winning one of the prizes. More information about this will be forthcoming as the ACE planners work on it, but take note that MPLA members are strongly encouraged to get in on the fun. Start planning your costumes now! Working in teams would be a good idea, too.

The annual Oklahoma Book Awards ceremony will be Saturday night, April 17th, at the Edward L. Gaylord - Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Center, and MPLA members are invited to attend. But tickets cost at least fifty dollars and must be purchased in advance. Contact Wayne Hanway or the Oklahoma Center for the Book for more details.

The conference runs through Wednesday, April 21st, and there will be a full slate of programs scheduled right up till 3:30 p.m., so try to schedule your departure after that time. And with Bricktown next door, staying over Wednesday night and leaving in the morning is definitely a smart idea.

The conference web site will make its appearance soon, with hotel reservation information, information about traveling to and around Oklahoma City, conference information, and lots of stuff about things to do. Online registration will be available via the web site at a later date.

2010 MPLA Awards

Do you know someone in the library world who goes above and beyond to provide service well above the level of their job description, someone who has innovative ideas, new approaches to old problems, a level of enthusiasm and positive thinking that affects both librarians and patrons? Is there a special project in your community that libraries and librarians have been a part of, perhaps one that has not been recognized in other ways? Or perhaps you know someone who has given years of service to school or public libraries, or who has made a significant contribution to the profession over a period of years. Please consider nominating such a person, organization, or company for an MPLA award.

Awards will be presented at the 2010 MPLA Joint Conference with the Oklahoma Library Association in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in April 2010. Academic, public, and school librarians are eligible; groups, organizations or companies will also be considered for appropriate awards. Nominees for some of the awards must be MPLA members. The MPLA Literary Contribution Award will be given to an author whose work has furthered an understanding and appreciation of the twelve-state Mountain Plains region.

Nominations must be made by a current member of MPLA. To nominate a person or group for any of the five awards, please use the nomination form on next page, or find it on the website, <http://www.mpla.us/committees/awards/index.html>. Nominations must be postmarked by the deadline, January 15, 2010 and may be sent by mail or by email.

The MPLA Awards Committee is seeking nominees for the following five awards:

- **MPLA Beginning Professional Award:** To recognize an MPLA member who, within the first five years after receiving a library/media masters degree, has made a positive impact as a library media specialist on the quality of library service in his/her library or community. Innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and the implementation of special projects will be considered.
- **MPLA Distinguished Service Award:** To be given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession or has furthered significant development of state, academic, public, or school libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or who has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. If a retired individual is nominated, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA.
- **MPLA Unsung Hero Award:** To be given to any library individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region who have worked on a special project that has significance to a community but which has not been eligible for a library award, or which, for other reasons specified by the nominator, has not been recognized by any library organization to the degree that it merits.
- **Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award:** To be given to the individual, organization, or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated through repeated conscientious endeavors in support of libraries, library staff, and trustees, or through professional activities.
- **MPLA Literary Contribution Award:** To be given to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region. The author need not reside in the region, and the nomination may be based on either a single work or a body of works. Published works will be evaluated on the basis of literary worth, readability, and evidence of responsible research.

If you have questions about the nominating process, please contact Ellen Fockler,
efockler@washoe.k12.nv.us ; 775.682.5552 or 775.742-0184 (cell)

**Mountain Plains Library Association
Awards Nomination Form**

Nomination For _____ **Award**

Nominee:

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ email address _____

Submitted by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ email address _____

Nominee's Specific Contribution(s) to Merit the Award:

*Additional information about the nominee's achievements and contributions should be attached to this form.
Please include supporting documentation if available. Photographs are welcome.*

Nominations and documentation should be mailed to:

Ellen Fockler
Washoe County School District
425 E Ninth St P.O. Box 30425
Reno, NV 89520

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JANUARY 15, 2010.

Call for Presentations

Due date: February 12, 2010

The Colorado Academic Library Consortium Summit planning committee seeks proposals for presentation and poster sessions for the fourth CALC Summit. The Summit will be held at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel (6th Ave & Union) on May 20-21, 2010.

Collaborate Like You Mean It!

We've all heard that collaboration is important, but how can academic libraries forge lasting, effective partnerships both within and outside their institutions? What makes some partnerships succeed, and others fail? Come share your successes, failures, research, and innovative ideas related to academic library collaboration. We're particularly interested in proposals that address:

- Collaboration to expand library services or improve student success
- Collaboration to develop Web 2.0 applications
- Strategies for building and maintaining partnerships
- Inter-institutional collaboration
- Institutional barriers to collaborative efforts, and how to overcome them
- Assessing the success of collaborative efforts
- Collaboration with non-library partners

Presentation Options:

1. Concurrent Presentations:

A speaker or team of speakers presents for 45 or 75 minutes, with a 15-minute Q&A session after the presentation. Presentations that involve discussion, audience participation, or activities are strongly encouraged.

2. Poster Sessions:

A graphical presentation (paper or digital) of research results, case studies, projects, or ideas. Poster presenters will discuss their work with attendees during the poster session time slot (likely to be 1 hour long.)

Details:

Presentation and poster proposals will be reviewed and competitively selected by a committee of academic librarians.

Proposal Requirements:

- Names and full contact information of presenter(s)
- Title of presentation or digital poster session
- Abstract and brief outline (200 words max)
- Desired presentation length (45 or 75 minutes) or poster session

Submit proposals using this online form:

Proposals are due by February 12, 2010. Notification about the status of your proposal by March 12, 2010.

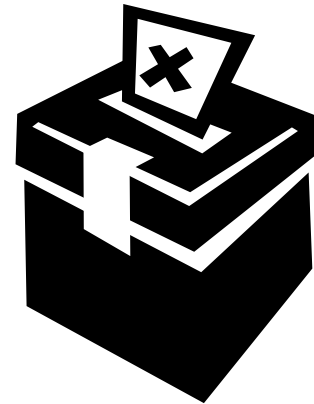
For more information visit www.calcweb.org or email jay.devaughn@cca Aurora.edu

Sponsored by: CALC – Colorado Academic Library Consortium;
 CLiC – Colorado Library Consortium;
 CoALA – Association of Colorado Libraries – Academic Division

The MPLA Election for new officers will take place early next year. Watch the MPLA website for candidates profiles and statements. Members will receive a message through MemberClicks when voting is open.

Please update your membership profile to allow receipt of group messages from MPLA.

For more information contact Jerry Hudson, Chair of the MPLA Nominating Committee (jhudson@highplains.us).



LITERARY IRELAND TRIP

From Sharon Osenga, Nebraska

Ireland has produced four Nobel prize winners in one century: Yeats, Shaw, Beckett, and Heaney, and the Irish way with words is alive, alive-oh!

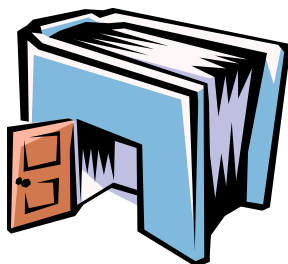
Join us on a customized tour of the streets and fields which gave birth to generations of writers and explore the hidden places which colored their work.

Forget the summer schools with their intense concentration upon the finer points of allegory and hyperbole - we have designed a tour to take you to the places which are the backdrop and the inspiration to so many modern Irish writers. In addition, we will tour some of Ireland's favorite tourist attractions, including tours of Guinness, the Bushmills distillery and Belleek Pottery.

Our trip will be two weeks during July, 2010. Anyone with an interest in Ireland is welcome to come along. The minimum number we must have is six and the maximum number is 20.

For full information, go to:
www.mpla.us/irelandbrochure.pdf

Welcome New MPLA Members



Arizona

Dawn Gardner
Community Partnerships Librarian,
Pima County Public Library
Valdez Library; Tucson, AZ

Nebraska

Debbie Aden
Reference Desk Assistant,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Love Library; Lincoln, NE

Nevada

Linda Hanks
Henderson, NV

Kristina Drury
Henderson, NV

New Mexico

Tammy Brawn
Library Director, Hobbs Public
Library; Hobbs, NM

North Dakota

Steve Axtman
North Dakota State Library,
Mandan, ND

Julie Reiten
Library Assistant, Minot Public
Library; Minot, ND

Pat Hastings
Wilder Elementary School
Grand Forks, ND

Renee Paasch
Reference/ILL Librarian, Dick-
inson Public Library, ND

Iris Swedlund
Velva School And Public Library;
Velva, ND

Susie Sharp
City Librarian, New Rockford
Public Library; New Rockford,
ND

Dee Disardina, Librarian
UND Southwest Clinical Cam-
pus One Health Sciences Library;
Bismarck, ND

Elizabeth Jacobs
North Dakota State Library
Bismarck, ND

Oklahoma

Karen Alexander
Library and Legacy Archives Di-
rector, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Miami Tribal Library; Miami, OK

Elizabeth Jones
Access Services / Systems Librar-
ian, Oklahoma City University
Dulaney-Browne Library;
Norman, OK

South Dakota

Daria Bossman
Assistant State Librarian, South
Dakota State Library; Pierre, SD ;

Nicki Yackley-Franken
Instructor, Lake Area Technical
Institute; Watertown, SD

Sandra Brown
Director, Mount Marty College
Library; Watertown, SD

Stacia McGourty
Digital Initiatives Librarian, South
Dakota State Library; Pierre, SD

Paula DeMars
Hill City Community Library; SD

Patty Andersen, Library Director,
SD School of Mines & Technol-
ogy Devereaux Library;
Rapid City, SD

Joyce Waddell
Bison School Library; Bison, SD

Jean Diedtrich
Custer School District; Custer, SD

Deedra Holdhusen
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, SD

Marguerite Cullum
Custer County Library;
Custer, SD

Fei Xu
South Dakota State University;
Brookings, SD

Utah

Jamie Griffith
Salt Lake County Library System
Calvin S. Smith Library;
Salt Lake City, UT

Tiffany Harrison
Library Director, Stevens-Henager
College; Salt Lake City, UT

Christopher Lake
Cataloger, LDS Family History
Library; Salt Lake City, UT

Barbaraella Frazier
Behavioral Sciences Librarian,
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT

Brenda Brown
Washington County Library
St. George, UT

Around the Region

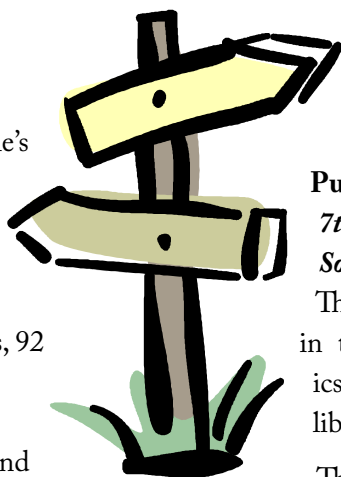
ARIZONA

Appaloosa Library, Scottsdale's newest branch, opened November 4, 2009. The 21,500 sq. foot library was designed to merit a LEED Gold rating with the U.S. Green Building Council and features over 80,000 items, 92 public computers and computer lab, free WIFI, an interactive early literacy children's area, dedicated teen space, and a drive-through service window.



Arizona commemorates 100 years of Statehood on February 14, 2012, being the last of the contiguous 48 states admitted to the Union. Two statewide efforts have been designated Arizona Legacy Projects: The Arizona Memory Project and the OneBookAZ. The ASU Public History Program and Coordinating Committee for History in Arizona are gathering this information in support of the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission and its work in commemorating the Arizona Centennial. See www.asu.edu/clas/history/arizona/.

Arizona Library Association (AzLA) conference will be held in Glendale, December 7-9 with the theme *Libraries Lighting the Way*. Contact AzLA Association Management Office for questions about



registering for the conference at 480-609-3999 or admin@azla.org.

Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records - Arizona Tribal Librarians *7th Gathering: Confronting 21st Century Social & Safety Issues* was held November 6th. The Gathering focussed on the issue of safety in tribal libraries during turbulent times. Topics include addressing dropouts, gangs, and library policies.

The Special Collections at the **University of Arizona Libraries** is hosting an exhibit and lecture series examining the origins of early writing and literacy. *Writings Out of Time: The University of Arizona's Cuneiform Collection*, on display until Dec. 8, 2009, is an archaeological exhibit showcasing the Arizona State Museum's extraordinary holdings in Near Eastern antiquities.

The **Arizona State University Libraries** is looking for ASU undergraduate and graduate students who are book collectors to participate in an annual Student Book Collecting Contest which will run through February 18, 2010. Undergraduate and graduate student winners of the contest receive cash prizes, with the top prize in each category being \$600.

COLORADO

A *Colorado Storytime* on You Tube includes read-alouds of children's books along with literacy tips, produced by Friends of Food For Thought, a non-profit that focuses on early childhood literacy. See <http://www.youtube.com/coloradolibraries>.

BCR and the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), have agreed to develop a reciprocal continuing education program to complement and expand the training opportunities for the

members of both organizations. It is the first time a multistate consortium such as BCR and an ALA division have combined to undertake a broad-based continuing education program for their respective members. To submit a proposal for a continuing education program, visit <http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/education/proposalform.cfm>.

Several workshops for public library youth services librarians were held during the month of October. The purposes were to network and learn about the 2010 Statewide Summer Reading Program and other youth services in public libraries.

- 2010 statewide summer reading programs, presented by Kathy Barco
- “Make a Splash” (children) and “Make Waves” (teen)
- After-school programming including “The After-School Network”
- Report on the LSTA Early Literacy (CLEL) Storytime grants
- State Library youth services initiatives
- Summer Reading manuals

Beginning October 1, 2009, all Colorado library staff have 24/7 access to WebJunction courses available for \$10.00. WebJunction offers hundreds of on-line self-paced courses in Technology, Library Service, and Management. This service is being sponsored by the Colorado State Library and by CLiC (Colorado Library Consortium.)

A new feature to the **Colorado Association of Libraries** Conference in November is the “Technology Petting Zoo” where latest trends in online resources and software are introduced. In addition, economics and fundraising are the featured topics in many of the programs and workshops.

CAL’s **Colorado Library Instruction Interest Group** held its August Brown Bag at the University of Denver’s Penrose Library. The meeting began with lunch and a meet and greet with librarians from around the state. A tour of the Penrose Library highlighted its rare book collection and the Research Center.

CLiC (Colorado Library Consortium) offers a variety of workshops throughout the year and across the state. The dates for the Spring Workshops are March 1-2, 2010 in Grand Junction, April 8, 2010 in Fort Collins, and April 15-16, 2010 in Pueblo. <http://www.clicweb.org/>.

According to **Mary Katherine Katzer**, Colorado’s representative to MPLA, “as the hibernation season begins for our furry mascot the marmot (also known as *Marmota flaviventris* or whistle-pig or rock chuck,) the library consortium known as Marmot is



far from sleepy.” The **Marmot Library Network** announces the appointment of **Jimmy Thomas** as Executive Director. Thomas has worked at OCLC, Unisys, CARL Corporation, The Library Corporation (TLC), and Medialab Solutions. He holds an MLS from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA from Oberlin College. The Marmot Library Network consists of 20 member library systems with 90 buildings scattered over 60,000 geographically challenging square miles in Western Colorado. The Network manages a Millennium integrated library system and provides online library services to approximately 300,000 library users. Marmot supports 1,000 staff and public access workstations as well as network equipment as the Internet service provider for most member libraries.



Jimmy Thomas

In November the **University of Colorado Denver Health Sciences Library** and the **Colorado Council of Medical Librarians** hosted the MLA (Medical Library Association) live webcast, *Cut the Cord: Connecting to our Mobile Users*.

Holly South has joined the staff at BCR, filling the position of project coordinator for a National Endowment for the Humanities-funded project, Digital Preservation for Digital Collaboratives. She has several years of reference and collection development experience in libraries and archives, including her most recent position at the Texas Legislative Reference Library.



Mary Katherine Katzer, CAL rep to MPLA began knitting almost two years ago. Here is her cat, Snowy, who has developed an affection for yarn.

KANSAS

The **State Library of Kansas** has posted the first Online Learning Round-up, produced by the State Library's Continuing Education staff, **Shannon Roy** and **Cindi Hickey**, with the latest information about online webinars on a variety of library related topics. (This idea was initiated by **Jamie Markus** of the Wyoming State Library). URLs and registration information for all of these webinars is available at <http://statelibrary.mykansaslibrary.org/>.

Kansas Talking Books began its widespread delivery of digital Talking Book machines to Kansas veterans and centenarians on September 11. From Great Bend to Chetopa, from Garden City to Harper, nearly 200 users were simply delighted. "This is the difference between a model T and a new Lincoln," commented one user. "It's out of this world – a big improvement." Title selection for the new digital

cartridges is somewhat limited for now, but Richard Coleman of Hutchinson noted that it's hard to listen to the cassette machine now that he has the digital machine — the difference between the two is like night and day.

Fifteen librarians from three regional systems in Kansas attended the **Association for Rural and Small Libraries** Conference in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, September 9-14. Attendees learned how small libraries can achieve staff training goals in 15-minute increments without leaving the library, and what free internet products enable even the smallest libraries to hold online meetings. The Director of *Library Journal's* "Best Small Library" in America described her community's economic, literacy, and employment situation. Next year's ARSL conference will be in Denver, October 14-16, 2010.

The newly-established Kansas statewide courier service, **Kansas Library Express**, experienced a usage increase of 40% from 32,737 in July to 45,745 in August. That resulted in an overall unit cost of .79 per item shipped in August. A significant increase in volume is expected



in October and November, typically the high volume interlibrary loan period in the Fall school semester. Kansas Library Express now serves a total

of 223 libraries, including a number of school libraries that began participation in September.

The **State Library of Kansas** and the **Kansas Center for the Book** are again presenting a statewide reading program that brings communities together through reading. Coming next spring is 2010 Kansas Reads... *Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance* by Barack Obama. This book was first published in 1995, after Obama was elected the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review, but before his political career began. It was chosen because it addresses issues faced by Kansans

across the state. These include memoir writing, the search for an individual's identity, relationships with fathers, and issues of blended families.

ALA's Every *Child Ready to Read* campaign inspired a new *6 by 6 Early Literacy Space*, launched in September at the **Antioch Neighborhood Library** of the **Johnson County Library**. The name reflects ECRTTR's "Six Skills by Age Six" slogan. Kansas City artist Brad Sneed created six graphics *pro bono* for 6 by 6 flash card sets depicting the six principles of reading readiness, for parents' use, and the same graphics are on the accompanying Web page at www.jocolibrary.org. The Space features specially-designed spaces and furnishings, along with programming. In addition, library staff in all 13 facilities is integrating the 6 by 6 principles into storytimes and following the same model.



The **Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library** and **NEKLS** hosted Celebrate the Book! A regional Reader's Advisory Conference in November. Key-note speaker was Michael Gannon, Booklist review and author of *Blood, Bedlam, Bullets and Badguys: A Reader's Guide to Adventure/Suspense Fiction*.

The 2008 **Johnson County Library** Annual Report has won an Award of Excellence from the City-County Communications and Marketing Association (3CMA) in its population category (124,000-3,900,000) and was the only county publication among the winners. Judges' comments: "*Terrific piece of collateral that demonstrates the many offerings and uses of the Johnson County Library. Publication demonstrates the library's relevance to the community.*"

MONTANA

The **Montana State Library** announced that the Gale statewide periodical databases have been renewed for the next two years, at no cost to libraries. The State Library is able to pay the cost of this renewal with support of the Governor's budget office and the 2009 Legislature, and the efforts of the State Librarian, the Library Commission, the Montana Library Association and Montana librarians. In addition, Gale's Small Business Resource Center has been added to the statewide suite for one year. The existing EBSCO statewide databases have also been renewed through August, 2010. New to the EBSCO suite this year is "Career Library".

The **Montana Festival of the Book** was held October 22 – 24 in Missoula. This annual festival is sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts, in association with the Montana Arts Council and Humanities Montana.

The Montana Legislator READ poster series won in the category Innovative Advocacy at a recent National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). Photos of legislators were taken during a reception

sponsored by the State Library and superimposed on READ posters with "I support Montana Libraries" written on them.

The Big Read under the Big Sky is a month-long event at the Lewis and Clark Library in Helena, featuring *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. The Library hosts a series of lectures, documentary viewings, book discussion groups, and programs based on the themes presented in O'Brien's work.

Lewis & Clark Library plans to expand its East Helena branch, presently part of the East Valley Middle School library. The branch has outgrown the present space, and will move to a vacant building which will be renovated by the owner and leased back to the library.

The annual **Academic & Special Libraries/Public Libraries** retreat took place October 25-26 at Chico Hot Springs. Topics include genealogy research, medical resources online, hosting a movie night at the library, digitizing your collection and serving the mentally ill.



The **Children's Festival of the Book** was held in Bozeman September 25. Artist Chris Raschka, poet Paul Janeczko, and authors Dorothy Hinshaw Patent, Ben Mikaelson and Sneed Collard were some of the featured speakers.

Jim Peters, Assistant Director of **Billings-Parmly Library** has retired after a long career, and **DeeAnn Redmond** has been promoted to that position.

NEBRASKA

Tracie D. Hall presented *The Ten Social Trends that Change the Way Libraries Can and Should Do Business* at the **Eastern and Southeast Library**

Systems' Fall Colloquium in November. She also presented an interactive afternoon workshop.

The **Eastern Library System** received a grant from Dollar General to help support the Book Bags for Kid's program.

John Felton, Nebraska Library Commission has developed an interactive, thematic map of Nebraska Public Libraries: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/Statistics/LibraryMap.html>. Data is based on the 2007-09 Nebraska Public Library Statistical Survey.

William Ayers, will speak at the fall program/annual meeting of the **Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON)**. It was one year ago that he was "uninvited" to speak at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Julie Beno's term as Nebraska's representative to MPLA ended in October. She says, "I appreciated the opportunity to represent Nebraska and thank you for all the opportunities from attending conferences to meeting new friends. I will continue to be a strong advocate for MPLA."

Teresa Jehlik, Benson Branch Manager of the Omaha Public Library, is the new MPLA representative.

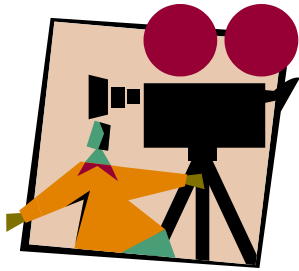
NEVADA

Daphne DeLeon, division administrator of the Nevada State Library & Archives, will join the other ten state agency trustees to the Board of BCR.

NEW MEXICO

MPLA Member **Kathleen Teaze** is leaving her position as Thomas Branigan Library Administrator in Las Cruces to become Executive Director of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System in Maryland.

The New Mexico State Library and Fogelson



Library at the College of Santa Fe have been chosen as settings in a movie, "The Loop," being shot in Santa Fe. Other locations are around Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico.

North Dakota

This fall, the Friends of the **Underwood Library** organized a pre-school story hour for children ages 2-5. Children, their parents and caregivers from the town of Underwood are invited to the Underwood library on the third Tuesday of each month for story and craft time.



Librarian Harmony Higbie helps a young participant in the apply some glue



Librarian Myra Rasmusson reads to a group of kids.

The **Max Community Library** has a new director. **Amy Hauf** will take over from **Julie Osadchy** who has been the director since 2001. Julie stated, "that it was time to move on to new things, but I really loved my job. The library was like a second home for me." Hauf is a Max resident who has recently been added as an assistant and quickly assimilated into the director's position. According to members of the library's board of directors, Hauf's ability to learn the duties of the director's position, her hard work, and her dedication to the Max library as determining factors in her hiring.

The **Bismarck State College Library** has received a Theodore Roosevelt Center Kiosk. The dedication was held on October 11. This dedicated computer provides students with a direct portal to the Theodore Roosevelt Center website, www.theodoreroosevelt-center.com. The Theodore Roosevelt Center is a project of Dickinson State University and the Theodore Roosevelt Initiative. The kiosks provide a focal point for Theodore Roosevelt enthusiasts to conduct their research.

Ten year old Racquelle Ackre won the **Cando Community Library** Design a Book Bag contest. Her bags will be available at the Cando Library.



OKLAHOMA

Pawhuska's Osage Tribal Museum became Oklahoma's eighth official Literary Landmark on November 17, honoring Osage writer John Joseph Mathews. The Literary Landmark project honors historic or community sites that are tied to a deceased literary figure, or to his or her work. More than 100 sites across the country have received the designation since 1986. November is National American Indian Heritage Month, and the City of Pawhuska has declared the week of November 16-20 as John Joseph Mathews Week. Mathews (1895-1979) is best known for his accounts of Southwestern history and the relations between Indians and whites. He became one of the earliest writers to address the loss of traditional Native American culture, and much of his work reflects an appreciation of the land and its connection to that culture. Born near Pawhuska, of mixed heritage, he grew up among the Osage tribe. America's Literary Landmarks program is a project of the national Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF) and is sponsored in Oklahoma by FOLIO.

Librarians in Norman, Oklahoma were concerned when a visit by a best-selling author to a local middle school was cancelled after a parent protested the event. Author Ellen Hopkins wrote *Glass*, which chronicles her daughter's addiction to methamphetamine. The **Norman Public Library** has been buying more books to keep up with the demand of readers in the community.

Almost 200 people, including 120 Oklahoma high school students, attended the 2009 **First Amendment Congress** in Oklahoma City in October. The state's library community has been partnering with Freedom of Information Oklahoma, Inc. to host the annual event for the past eleven years. This year's theme was "Muzzling the Watchdog," and sessions focused on the impact of Internet news, blogs and social me-

dia on the traditional role of journalism as a watchdog of government. Highlights included an address by award-winning journalist Marvin Kalb, an on-line tour of watchdog websites by OSU Government Documents Librarian Barbara Miller, a debate on traditional vs. new media by two high school teams, and information on how to be a smart news consumer in the Information Age.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The 2009/2010 *Prairie Bud & Pasque* state book award program is ready to go for grades K-5 students, teachers and librarians. Sponsored by the **South Dakota Library Association**, the contest features two lists of 15 nominated titles. In a change from previous years, the Prairie Bud list is now designed for students in grades K-2 and Prairie Pasque is for grades 3-5. Voting, done online only, begins after Jan.1 and concludes by March 15.



In early September, representatives from South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana met to discuss the Laura Bush (SWIM) grant program. The Institute of Museum and Library Services grant program will give scholarships to 50 students from the four states to earn a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas's distance education program or earn a School Library Media Endorsement from distance programs at Black Hills State University, Montana State University, or the University of Montana. The South

Dakota State Library will award at least six MLIS scholarships and four media endorsement scholarships on April 30, 2010.

The winners of the free MPLA memberships from South Dakota this year are: Marguerite Cullum, Nicki Yackley-Franken, Sandra Brown, Stacia McGourty, Paula DeMars, Patty Andersen, Joyce Waddell, Jean Diedrich, Deedra Holdhusen and Fei Xu. **Mike Mullin**, South Dakota representative, welcomes them to MPLA and encourages them to join the hot tub roundtable in Oklahoma City in 2010.

Colleen Smith, Director of the Huron Public Library, is retiring. Her plans include travel and care of her mother.

The **Hermosa Library** found a way to jazz up its walls and keep track of how many books children read over the summer. Librarian Roberta (Bert) Upton created a vine to cover their walls. Each time a child read a book they got a small green paper leaf with their name on it to put on the vine. At the end of

their program the vine went over halfway around the library. This could easily be done in fall colors and spring flowers as well.



UTAH

The **University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library** was rededicated on Monday, October 26 after a reconstruction period of 4 years and a cost of \$80 million. Former First Lady Laura Bush delivered the keynote address at the rededication ceremony about the new role of libraries in the 21st Century. Also in attendance was Utah Governor Gary Herbert and the son of the library's namesake, Bill Marriott. Highlights of the renovated library include more

areas of the building open to natural light, adding more electrical outlets and Internet ports, and new furnishings with 20-40 year warranties which include "womb" chairs. The new Knowledge Commons is filled with 350 computer work stations and glassed-in sound-proofed group study rooms. The library also features safety measures designed to withstand a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Another new feature is an automated book retrieval and storage facility. 1.5 million people visit the library each year. Funding came from the State Legislature, federal funds, and pledges and donations.

Josh Hanagarne, Director of the **Rose Park Library**, a Branch of the Salt Lake City library system was recently featured in an article in the Salt Lake Tribune holding a sledgehammer in the library stacks. Josh is known as the "World's Strongest Librarian" as he exercises with both the sledgehammer and 70 and 53 pound kettlebells to strengthen his wrists. Josh authors a website: www.worldsstrongestlibrarian.com which chronicles his struggle with Tourette's syndrome and his personal philosophies derived from the self-discipline that allowed him to complete his MLS in a year.

The **Utah Library Association Children Services** and the **Young Adult Round Tables** co-sponsored a workshop at the Ogden Valley Branch, located in Huntsville, Utah on September 11. Almost 100 participants attended several programs. Non-fiction expert and author Kathleen Baxter spoke about non-fiction books for teens and tweens and recent popular titles. Other programs covered the topics of crafts for teens, marketing nonfiction collections, and "60 in a Jiffy," which highlighted 60 program ideas.

The **Salt Lake City Public Library** and the **Weber County Library** co-sponsored the **2009 Thinking Ahead Symposium** at the Salt Lake City Public Library Sept. 10-12. Headlining the conference was Stephen Abram, immediate Past President of SLA and Vice President of Innovation for SirsiDynix;

Helene Blowers, Director of Digital Strategy at Columbus Metropolitan Library and creator of Learning 2.0: 23 Things; Danielle Patrick Milam, Director of Las Vegas-Clark County Library District Development Office and Foundation, and previously Senior Vice President of Programs and Development for the Urban Libraries Council; Sandi Parkes, Assistant Vice President of Continuing Education and Professor in the Master of Public Administration Program at the University of Utah; and Nancy Tessman, retired as Director of the Salt Lake City Public Library in July 2007, Executive Director of the Library Leadership Institute at Snowbird, 1994-2001.

Utah libraries have been featured in several news articles lately. An article published in the *Davis Clipper* discussed several topics currently being addressed by the **Davis County Library Board** of Trustees.

The foremost policy addressed was whether game-playing will be allowed at the library. Information is being gathered about how other Utah libraries handle game-playing issues. Meeting room rules were also discussed.



WYOMING

The **Laramie County Library System** recently unveiled an entirely revamped website to the community, which can be accessed through LCLSonline.org or LaramieCountyLibrary.org. Gerry Teano, the LCLS webmaster, spent months working on the new design since he was hired last year. He conducted a variety of usability studies and incorporated numerous focus groups into his planning process. An ongoing project, the website will continue to feature regular changes and updates .

Lori Phillips, MPLA Member and Associate Dean of the University of Wyoming Libraries, joins the BCR Board as an at-large trustee.

The **Teton County Library and Foundation** presented four lectures this fall from the 92Y Cultural Center in New York City. The programs are broadcast exclusively to Teton County Library and cannot be viewed on television or the Web. Speakers include contemporary thinkers from politicians to religious leaders to business pundits. Speakers included Howard Dean, Maria Bartiromo, Paul Krugman, and Rabbi Harold Kushner.

The **Sheridan County Library System** held a food drive for the Salvation Army in November. During this time patrons could donate nonperishable food items in exchange for having their overdue fines forgiven.



The new **Alta Branch Library of the Teton County Library** opens December 1, with a grand opening celebration is planned for early January 2010. The library circulates books, magazines, audiobooks, DVDs and videotapes for adults and children with access to materials from the main branch in Jackson. Computers with Internet access, word processing and Spanish language capabilities are available to the public.

An article in Library Journal <http://www.library-journal.com/article/CA6701001.html> highlighted the 50% library budget cut at the **University of Wyoming Libraries**. Read about the cuts across Wyoming at <http://will.state.wy.us/statistics/>

With both The **WYLD** visioning group and the **WLA** Crossroads Task Force, the way libraries work together in Wyoming is being reviewed to see if changes are needed and if so where. The hope is to develop a model that better serves the people in the state. Information about the WYLD visioning is <http://will.state.wy.us/admin/WYLD-Visioning-FINAL.pdf> and information about the WLA Crossroads Task Force is forthcoming.

State Librarian **Lesley Boughton** was honored by the Wyoming Library Association with the Unsung Hero Award for her efforts to provide MP3 players to all members of the Wyoming National Guards' 115th Brigade, currently deployed to bases in Kuwait and Iraq. With their Wyoming library cards this allows them to download books and music from WYLD for free, providing a needed diversion for the soldiers.

Michelle Havenga of the Sheridan County Public Library won the Distinguished Service Award from the **Wyoming Library Association**.

The **Natrona County Public Library** in Casper is inviting sports and history fans to experience the remarkable history of baseball's Negro Leagues and the challenges and successes of the players at the library this winter. *Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience*, a traveling exhibition for libraries, was organized by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Cooperstown, New York, and the American Library Association Public Programs Office, Chicago. The traveling exhibition has been made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: great ideas brought to life. Several special events will be held in conjunction with the exhibit.



The Pittsburgh Crawfords in front of their team bus at Greenlee Field, Pittsburgh, 1935, Courtesy of National Baseball Hall of Fame Library



Emmett Ashford, first black umpire in the major leagues, Courtesy of National Baseball Hall of Fame Library)

The grand opening ceremony for the renovation of **Coe Library at the University of Wyoming** was set for November 19. After working in a construction zone for three years, the staff are pleased that the project is over.

The Sheridan County Library Foundation presented Sam Morton, author of *Land of the Horse: the Art and Photography of Absaraka*, in September at the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library. He discussed the history behind his latest book, the research and the contributors. A reception and book signing followed the presentation.

For holiday shoppers preferring to visit their favorite stores with the click of a mouse, **Teton County Library** offers *Safe Shopping Online: eBay and Beyond*. The class will include the use of library laptops for students to follow along as they learn about retail and auction web sites.



Notes *In & Beyond the Region*



Freedom to Read Foundation

The **Freedom to Read Foundation** (FTRF) is offering free one-year memberships to students graduating from ALA-accredited MLS and MLIS programs and from school library media programs recognized by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), an educational unit accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Students whose graduation date was Aug. 1, 2009 or later can, upon their graduation, download a membership form at www.ftrf.org/graduates and mail, fax or e-mail it to the Freedom to Read Foundation. As benefits of their membership, the graduates will receive the Freedom to Read Foundations quarterly newsletter, and be eligible to vote in the annual trustee election and attend FTRF member receptions. The membership will be good through December 2010. The Freedom to Read Foundation, an affiliated organization of the American Library Association, was founded in 1969 to promote and defend the right of individuals to freely express ideas and to access information in libraries and elsewhere. FTRF fulfills its mission through the disbursement of grants to individuals and groups, primarily for the purpose of aiding them in litigation, and through direct participation in litigation dealing with freedom of speech and of the press. Question? Contact Jonathan Kelley at jokelley@ala.org or (800) 545-2433 x4226.

National Information Standards Organization - NISO

The **National Information Standards Organization** (NISO) Voting Members have approved a new work item to develop a Recommended Practice related to the physical delivery of library materials. The Working Group roster is now finalized, and work will begin on November 18. Building on the efforts of

three recent projects--Moving Mountains, Rethinking Resource Sharing's Physical Delivery Committee, and the American Library Association's ASCLA ICANS' Physical Delivery Discussion Group--the recommended practice document is proposed to include recommendations for: packaging, shipping codes, labeling, acceptable turn-around time, lost or damaged materials handling, package tracking, ergonomic considerations, statistics, sorting, a set of elements to be used for comparison purposes to determine costs, linking of regional and local library carriers, and international delivery.

Sisters in Crime

Sisters in Crime has made the decision to provide funds to libraries whose book acquisitions budgets have been slashed, Sisters in Crime will award \$1,000 to a library each month in 2010. Details of the library grants program will be posted on the national website, www.sistersincrime.org.

OCLC Americas Regional Council

The **OCLC Americas Regional Council** will hold its first meeting at ALA Midwinter, January 15, 2010, in Boston. The Americas Regional Council meeting will provide an open forum to discuss issues of importance to its members and to advise OCLC about its products, services, policies and operating direction. The Americas Regional Council Executive Committee, members of OCLC Board of Trustees, Global Council and OCLC Management will be present for interactive discussions. Comprised of members from libraries and other cultural heritage organizations from Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean and the United States, The Americas Regional Council is part of the OCLC cooperative's new governance structure that consists of three Regional Councils and a Global Council to facilitate member-to-member discussions across the cooperative.



MEMBERSHIP ENCOURAGEMENT CORNER

Rita Severt, Chair, MPLA Membership Committee

"Take me home, country road, to the place...wah, wah, wah"

Okay, it's not West Virginia, but it comes from John Denver and he's one degree from Denver and that's part of Colorado!

If nothing else is an incentive to join MPLA, dreaming of the gorgeous scenic Colorado Rockies and spending a week there with some fantastic people, should win you over! I'm talking about the MPLA 2010 Leadership Institute you can apply for by December 1. So what happens if you don't get picked and now you're a member of this organization that you don't know anything about? First off, don't be really sad. The Leadership Institute is very competitive and I've known people who got in after trying lots of times. Second, read this newsletter. You'll meet all kinds of neat people from all types of libraries and all types of states (except those with an ocean!!!). Give me a break—we have some neat scenery in MP country without the ocean. Third, you can meet all these people and many more when you go to a MPLA conference or when the MPLA comes to you. Just join; it's half price the first year.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR 2010 MPLA MEMBERSHIP



MPLA Memberships are on a Calendar Year
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year!

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

*

CHECKS OR CREDIT CARDS

Become a “Fan” of MPLA on Facebook

The Facebook group for the Mountain Plains Library Association is transitioning to a Facebook Page.

According to MPLA Webmaster Dan Chaney, “The Facebook Page offers the association more options for posting and interacting with MPLA members. The MPLA Page is an actual page for the association that you can all become a ‘fan’ of, and one benefit is you will know about postings on the MPLA page, be it an event for conference, a video, whatever.”

The new MPLA Facebook page is at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=logo#/pages/The-Mountain-Plains-Library-Association/55122193140?ref=mf>. Any Facebook member can become a fan of MPLA.



2009 REMAINING DEADLINE FOR MPLA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

DECEMBER 2

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

State & National Conferences 2009

Arizona Library Association Conference
December 7-9, Glendale AZ

2010

ALA Midwinter Meeting
January 15-19, Boston MA

Montana Library Association Conference
April 7-10, Bozeman MT

New Mexico Library Association Conference
April 7-9, Ruidoso NM

Kansas Library Association Conference
April 7- 9, Wichita KS

Oklahoma Library Association /MPLA Joint
Conference, April 19-21, Oklahoma
City OK

Utah Library Association Conference
May 12-14, St. George UT

ALA Annual Conference
June 24-30, Washington, DC

South Dakota Library Association Conference
September 22-24, Sioux Falls SD

Colorado Association of Libraries Conference
October 7-9, Loveland CO

Association for Rural and Small Libraries
October 14-16, Denver CO

Wyoming Library Association Conference
September 29 -October 2, Casper WY

North Dakota Library Association Conference
September 29-Oct 2, Grand Forks ND

2011

ALA Midwinter Meeting
Jan. 7-12, 2011, San Diego, CA

Kansas Library Association
April 6 - 8, 2011 Capitol Plaza Hotel
Kansas Expocentre Topeka, KS

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

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

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_____ Under \$100,000	\$50/yr	_____ \$300,000-499,999	\$100/yr
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