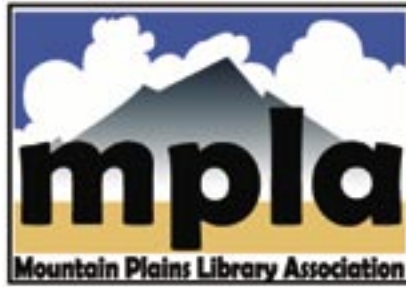


Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

April 2010

www.mpla.us

Volume 54 #5

MPLA Officers Elected for 2010-11 Term

Dana Braccia, Collection Development Manager, Scottsdale Public Library System, AZ, is MPLA's new Vice-President/President-Elect. Dana has a Master's of Information Systems and Library Science from the University of Arizona and a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Arizona State University. She has extensive marketing and public relations experience, including Marketing and Development Coordinator of the City of Scottsdale Community Services, Scottsdale Stadium Coordinator, and Public Relations Manager for Guam Hilton International. She is also an Adjunct Professor for the University of Arizona SIRLS Program and Mesa Community College. A member of MPLA since 2007 she has served on the board as Arizona's representative since 2008. Dana's stated goals for the Association:



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With so many of the amazing "redwoods" of our profession retiring as well as the rapid rate of change in the library industry, MPLA plays a critical role in helping our members and library organizations thrive and succeed. During my term in office I will build on the work that is being done by the current administration and focus on three main areas:

1) Leadership Development For MPLA Members

- Enhance Leadership Institute as well as ongoing member development through training, cross-exposure, and expanded committee responsibilities
- Expand Recognition Programs

2) Partnerships With State & National Associations

- Increase sharing of resources and best practices
- Deepen our relationships with outside organizations
- Build membership benefit linkages

3) Fiscal Planning

- Discover new revenue streams to enable MPLA to further enhance activities and promote long term sustainability
- Ensure strong Return-On-Investment with association spending

Dana will begin her three-year term at the OLA/MPLA Conference, serving first as Vice-President in 2010-11; President in 2011-12; and Past-President and Chair of Administration Committee in 2012-13.

ARIZONA COLORADO KANSAS MONTANA NEBRASKA NEVADA
NEW MEXICO NORTH DAKOTA OKLAHOMA SOUTH DAKOTA UTAH WYOMING

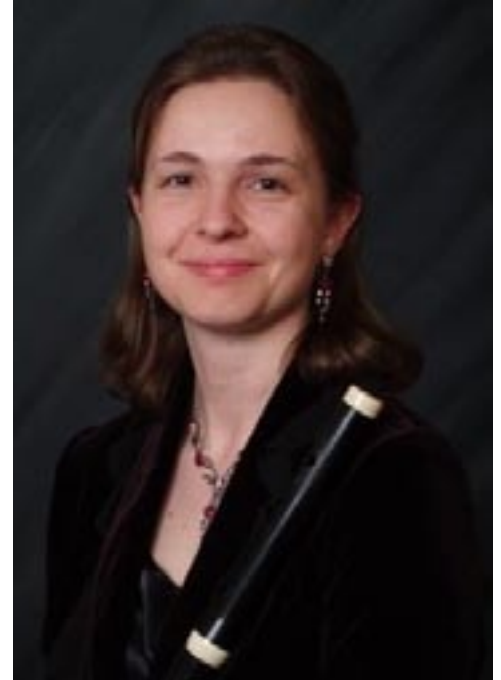
MPLA Officers *continued*

Tamara Meredith, Head, Learning Resource Center, University of Wyoming Libraries in Laramie, is elected Recording Secretary. Tamara has a Masters of Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas, Masters in Music from Indiana University, and Bachelors in Music from Central Washington University. She was previously Director of the Eaton Public Library, CO. She has extensive experience in project management, resource promotion, teaching and facility/institution renewal. She was an Early Music Colorado Board member from 2005-2009. A member of MPLA since 2007, Tamara served on the MPLA board as Chair of the Professional Development Committee in 2009.

Tamara's goals for MPLA:

As an MPLA member, I have seen the wealth of experience and networking potential available through a multi-state (and multi-type) organization and would like to see more involvement from all types of libraries and librarians. One of my goals during my term in office would be to heavily promote MPLA membership and resources. I would also like to see us develop a better method for communicating those resources to colleagues across the MPLA region.

Tamara begins a one year term at the OLA/MPLA Conference in April.



President's Message



I cannot send a big enough thank you to my board and all the committee members who stepped up this year to make MPLA such a strong and energetic organization. My year as President was a success because of the hard working and dedicated people that I got to work with. Even with the hard times we have felt within our lives and jobs this past year, the board and committee members saw the value of working for MPLA. We accomplished many tasks this year and the highlight was the re-launch of the Leadership Institute, and I know it will be a success because of the people who are working to make it so and the participants that are attending.

MPLA is a vibrant and valued organization, and I feel deeply privileged to have had the opportunity to be your President. When I first joined MPLA, I felt the camaraderie of the librarians that attended the conferences. Everyone was inviting

and fun! I knew I wanted to be active within the organization. So, kudos to all the board members, committee members, and all of you who are active within MPLA.

--Eileen



MPLA 2010 Leadership Institute Participants Named

Congratulations to the 30 participants selected for the 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute, to be held in Estes Park, CO, April 25-30. Facilitator for the Institute is Maureen Sullivan, ACRL Research Librarian of the Year for 2010. The Institute is subsidized by MPLA with \$2500 contributed by Innovative Interfaces and \$750 contributed by EBSCO. Sixty-five applications were received. Participants chosen are:

Pam Arroues - Library Director, Montana DEQ Water Quality Planning Bureau Library, MT

Marcia Dority Baker - Assistant Professor of Law Library, Access Services Librarian, University of Nebraska College of Law Schmid Law Library, NE

Gloria Brodle - Branch Manager, Fremont County Library System, Riverton Branch, WY

Robin Clark - Library Director, Sump Memorial Library, NE

Luise Davis - Support Services Librarian, Douglas County Public Library, NV

Megan Dazey - Bibliographic Management Services Librarian, University of Montana Mansfield Library, MT

Sarah Devereaux - Head of ILL/Reference Librarian, Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, ND

Christy Donaldson - Media Librarian, Utah Valley University, UT

Katherine Eberline - Children's Services Coordinator, Brookings Public Library, SD

John Eye - Interim Dean of Library Services, Southern Utah University Sherratt Library, UT

Carol Foreman - Former Reference Coordinator, Aurora Public Library, CO

Kristen Gettys - Youth Librarian, Tulsa City County Library, Kaiser Branch, OK

Tiffany Herbon - Assistant Manager, Salt Lake City Public Library, UT

Jamie Hollier - Branch Manager, Delta Public Library, CO

Matthew Hортt - Adult Service Librarian, Henderson District Public Library, NV

Royce Kitts - Director, Tonganoxie, Public Library, KS

Cynthia Messenger - Library Director, Hot Springs Public Library, SD

Cindy Moore - Reference Librarian, Sweetwater County Library System, WY

Jim Pawlak - Public Services Librarian, Acting Library Director, Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso Campus Library, NM

Anali Perry - Assistant Librarian - Collections & Scholarly Communications, Arizona State University Libraries, AZ

Kathryn Plunkett - Digital Information Literacy Librarian, Assistant Professor, Southeastern Oklahoma State University Bennett Memorial Library, OK

Stephanie Ralph - Public Services Coordinator, Grand County Library District, CO

Tamara Sandia - Librarian, Jemez Pueblo Community Library, NM

Gail Santy - Department Head, Reference & Outreach Services, Central Kansas Library System, KS

Larry Schmidt - Associate Librarian, Reference Instruction Services, University of Wyoming Libraries, WY

Lynette Schurdevin - Interim Library Administrator, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Las Cruces, NM

Aiden Street - Branch Manager, Pioneer Library System Norman Public Library, OK

Tom Taylor - Continuing Education Coordinator, South Central Kansas Library System, KS

Wendy Wendt - Director, Grand Forks Public Library, ND

Michele White - Branch Manager, Pima County Public Library, AZ

Singin' "Muskrat Love"

From Rob Banks, MPLA Past President, Deputy Director of the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library

The weatherman predicted major thunderstorms. Our parking lot and dock area drain into a large sump to manage the run off. Anticipating a gully-washer, our maintenance crew checked the sump to make sure it was clear of debris and everything operating properly. Much to their surprise on opening the cover, they discovered a muskrat swimming in the sump! Our desire was to remove the muskrat without harm. It took two staff; one with a long pole with a mesh bag on the end and the other with a long pole to help guide the muskrat towards the bag. Our muskrat seemed happy swimming in the sump and managed to elude capture for some time, swimming around the different pipes and pumps. Finally, the muskrat, the obstacles and the mesh bag all aligned properly and the sump-swimming muskrat was oved.



It would be easy to assume the muskrat would be frantic now that it was contained in the mesh bag. However, this muskrat must have recognized our excellent customer service for all species, because he sat calmly in the bag cleaning his whiskers and peering at us. However, he didn't have a library card and couldn't show proof of address!

Not far from the library is the Shunganunga Creek. The muskrat was released and happily swam off looking for a new home. We were happy that the muskrat was safe and the sump was prepared for the storm.

ALA Notes

The **Association of Jewish Libraries** became an affiliate of the American Library Association as of January, 2010. Among ALA's twenty-eight affiliate organizations, there are a number that, like AJL, represent religious or ethnic library services, including the American Indian Library Association, the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, the Catholic Library Association, the Black Caucus of ALA, and the Chinese American Librarians Association.

Susan Durbin, AJL's president noted "AJL's mission is to support Judaic libraries and promote Jewish literacy. ALA wants to do the same for American libraries. Our goals overlap and reinforce each other. We hope that this new affiliation will help AJL grow and strengthen even as it helps ALA diversify."

Benefits of membership began immediately for AJL, when the winners of its 2010 Sydney Taylor Book Award were announced on the ALA website alongside their other children's literary prizes such as the Newbery and Caldecott medals.

ALA is "going green" with its first ever, all electronic, interactive Annual Preliminary Program, with online registration available.

Links:

[ALA 2010 Annual Conference Preliminary Program](#)

[ALA 2010 Annual Conference Preliminary Program Accessible Version](#)

[ALA 2010 Annual Conference Preliminary Program Mobile Version](#)

The new Preliminary Program is also easy to forward to others.

For more information contact: Karee Williams - kwilliams@ala.org or Deidre Ross - dross@ala.org

Also find the ALA 2010 Preliminary Program at [ALA 2010 Annual Conference](#)

Roundtables at the OLA/MPLA conference

From Eileen Wright, MPLA President

We are trying something different by creating just three types of roundtables for the upcoming conference. Each is described below in title and who might be interested in which one to join. We will have a scheduled time at the conference to meet. The Hot Tub roundtable gets to meet twice: once at the hot tub and once at the scheduled meeting. Make sure to come to the roundtable session and have a great time networking with fellow MPLA folks.



Hot Tub Roundtable

- *New Members*
- *Distinguished Mentors*
- *Leadership Institute Alums*
- *Anyone Who Wants To Laugh*

Serving the Public Roundtable

- *Reference & Adult Services*
- *Children Services*
- *Young Adult Services*
- *Diverse Population*


Technical Staff Roundtable

- *Technical Services*
- *Collection Development*

Stop by the MPLA Booth for more information.

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REFORMA Invites Applications for Mora Award

REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, is now accepting applications for the 2010 Estela and Raúl Mora Award.

The Estela and Raúl Mora Award was established by author and poet Pat Mora and her siblings in honor of their parents and to promote El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day, Book Day), also known as Día. Culminating celebrations of this year-long initiative that links all children to books, languages, and cultures are traditionally held on or near April 30.

Libraries and schools that host Día programs during 2010 are encouraged to submit an application by August 15, 2010. The award will be presented at the American Library Association's 2011 Midwinter meeting to the most exemplary program celebrating El día de los niños/El día de los libros. The Mora Award consists of a \$1,000 stipend and a commemorative plaque.

Application guidelines are available on the REFORMA website www.reforma.org or at <http://www.patmora.com/dia.htm>.


Reference Renaissance 2010

A Reference Renaissance 2010: Inventing the Future, co-chaired by Marie Radford and Rivkah Sass, will be held August 8-10, 2010, in Denver, Colorado. The event will feature numerous presentations showcasing the latest reference trends and techniques for better customer service. Also included are vendor exhibits, presentations specifically focused on products and services of interest to reference and information staff and plenty of opportunities for networking and sharing with colleagues.

In addition to Virtual Reference, conference tracks will include Meeting Our Users Where They Are and New Roles and Future Directions for Reference Librarians.

For more information about Reference Renaissance and to see the 2008 presentation programs, see <http://www.bcr.org/referencerenaissance/>.

The Proceedings of the 2008 conference will be published by Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc. in February 2010.



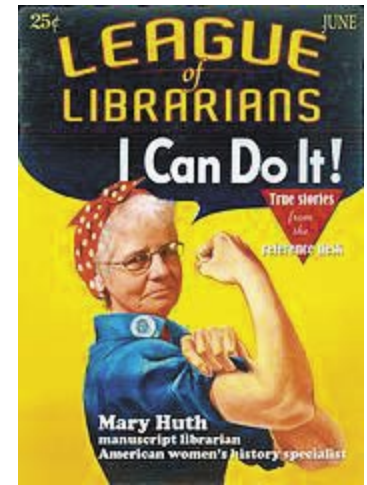
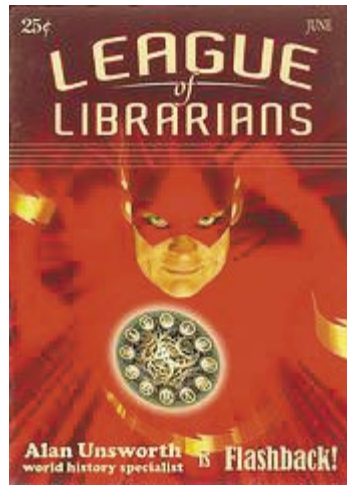
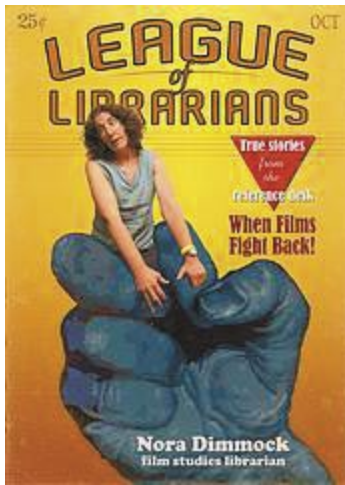
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Librarian Trading Cards

At the University of Rochester and other colleges around the country, libraries are creating collectible trading cards to make finding library experts fun and easy.

Inspired by a set of cards from Carleton College in Minnesota, Rochester's Katie Clark and Marc Bollman invited librarians to develop their own character for their cards. They found inspiration in figures from King Kong to Rosie the Riveter.

Does such a decidedly retro approach work in the internet age? Definitely, says Clark: "Kids are starting to recognize librarians by name because they know who we are from the cards."

Are other libraries following suite? Enough that there is a flickr group dedicated to the card: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/librariancards/>.

View Rochester's trading cards at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/carlsonlibrary/sets/72157622006503335/>. For more information contact Susan Hagen, Press Officer for Social Sciences University of Rochester; Phone: (585) 276-4061; Fax: (585) 275-0359; susan.hagen@rochester.edu.

Professional Development Grant Deadlines 2010

April 6
June 2
August 4
October 6
December 1

For mini-grants (up to \$150) Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past full calendar year.

For regular grants (up to \$600) Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past two calendar years (total of three consecutive years).

For additional eligibility and application requirements see <http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grants.html>

Around the Region

ARIZONA

The **2010 Information Architecture Summit** will be held in Phoenix, April 9-11. The Summit is the premier gathering place for information architects and other user experience professionals. It's grown from a special interest group's efforts to define an emerging field, to a rich and expanding community of practice, shaping and informing multiple disciplines. Details at: <http://2010.iasummit.org/>



A: I think we all find that few people in the library profession match that old stereotyped view of a librarian. I certainly enjoy working in the library but I also enjoy working in the weight room, body building, riding my Harley-Davidson motorcycle, and other activities that might surprise the average person.

Q: What would constitute a perfect Sunday afternoon?

A: Hiking in the Santa Catalina mountains north of Tucson.

Dana Braccia, Arizona Representative and newly-elected Vice-President/President-Elect provides these profiles of two Arizona MPLA members, saying, "Along with having great weather and great libraries – we also have some amazing MPLA members."

David Gunckel – Director of the Sierra Vista Public Library

Q: Why did you join the library profession?

A: From a very early age I've always loved being in a public library. My dad served in the Navy and was at sea much of my childhood. My mom used to take my brother, sister, and me to the public library where we'd spend hours all through the 1950's and 1960's. I loved knowing my mom would let me check out any book I wanted. I also remembered one public library that offered Viewmasters in the kids' area. That made me realize that public libraries can be fun places. As I got older



I began to understand the important role libraries have in relation to First Amendment issues and our right to information access. I began to see that joining the library profession was a way for me to contribute in a positive way.

A: I am proud of several accomplishments over my 28 year career as a librarian. Without a doubt the one at the top is the planning and construction of our public library building in Sierra Vista. We completed construction in 1999 and it remains an important focal point in our community.

Q: What is your most marked characteristic?

Leslie Kent Kunkel - Academic Advising Coordinator - School of Information Resources & Library Science University of Arizona

Q: Why did you join the library profession?

A: I love books, reading, and discussing books and reading with others. I'm appalled at the low literacy levels of most Americans and want to help others to read, and enjoy reading books. I'm also interested in improving American's access to information needed to sustain our democracy.



Q: What accomplishment are you most proud of?

A: Obtaining my MLS and completing my internship at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University. I organized the papers of the Primrose League (a social and political organization honoring Benjamin Disraeli) for the Department of Western Manuscripts. I'm also proud of the work I did as director of the Pacifica Graduate Institute Library and Joseph Campbell Archives.

Q: If you could have any job in a library, what would it be and why?

A: Director! I like to make a difference, to help strengthen and improve organizations, and to bring people together for a common purpose.

Q: What would constitute a perfect Sunday afternoon?

A: Hiking Sabino Canyon (in northeast Tucson) with a good book and good food.

A RIZONA, continued:

Dr. P. Bryan Heidorn is the new Director of the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science. He has been a member of the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and most recently served as a program manager of the Division of Biological Infrastructure at the National Science Foundation. He holds a B.S. in Psychobiology, and M.S. in Information Science, and a Ph.D. in Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh.



COLORADO

The **Eglewood Public Library** will celebrate its 11th Annual “Meet the Faces Behind the Books” Program for Colorado Authors on, April 11. The Library is hosting 59 Colorado authors and their latest books, which will be available for purchase and signing. Jazz guitarist, Paul Musso will entertain.



The **Library Research Service at the Colorado State Library** launched a new website February 19. It has updated navigation, graphics, and features. Along with this redesign, the blog is moving to <http://www.lrs.org/news/>. The new site took months of intense work with the entire LRS staff and Zeth Lietzau and Jamie Daisey.

The **Marmot Library Network** is moving towards a new oPac. According to **Mary Katherine Katzer**, MPLA Representative from Colorado, “**VuFind** was a very much a dark horse until a few stars aligned. When Jimmy Thomas, Executive Director, joined Marmot last October, it was not clear if an open source solution could be implemented, let alone enhanced. After a visit to Colorado State University to learn about the first implementation of VuFind with Millennium, Jimmy was encouraged that CSU could

help Marmot get started. Hiring a new web developer and identifying a contract developer to expand our capacity for a few months brought everything into place to take VuFind seriously. Apache **Lucene**, a high-performance, full-featured text search engine library written entirely in Java, is at the heart of VuFind and is no stranger to supporting public and school libraries as well as academics. Lucene powers Encore by Innovative Interfaces, LS2 PAC by The Library Corporation, and many other web apps. The remarkable thing about VuFind for Marmot is how well it meets overlapping and conflicting needs of 19 separate Marmot institutions in spite of its academic roots.”

The **Colorado Library Consortium (CLIC)** offers links for continuing education opportunities, online tutorials, resource sharing, cooperative purchasing, and the greater library community on its website. <http://www.clicweb.org/>. The spring workshop held in Grand Junction March 1 and 2 was well attended with sessions on best books of 2009, hot teen reads, collection development for the 21st century elementary school, serving the Spanish speaking patron, customer service, economic gardening, introduction to HTML, advocacy, diversity, social networking, google analytics, staff training, and many more. Many of the sessions will be included in the spring workshops in Fort Collins on April 8, and in Pueblo on April 22–23.

Automation System Colorado Consortium (ASCC) released a new union catalog in December - AspenCat. The catalog contains the records from eight different ASCC libraries and utilizes LibLime Enterprise Koha system, an open source product. The system will continue to grow, with multiple libraries joining the catalog in 2010. ASCC is a consortium of over forty public, academic, school and special libraries scattered throughout Colorado. ASCC began in 2001 with an LSTA grant and a few libraries to share resources, save money, and learn from each other. More libraries were added each year and in May 2004, ASCC incorporated as a Colorado non-profit corporation. At present, ASCC supports two integrated library systems: AspenCat with eight pilot libraries and SirsiDynix with 34 libraries in a cooperative purchasing program running standalone Horizon systems. For more information see <http://www.ascc.lib.co.us/>.

The **Colorado Association of Libraries** has hired Interactive Management Inc. (IMI) to handle office duties, provide service, and handle CAL business. E-mail to cal@cal-webs.org will be received by IMI. The new address is 3030 W. 81st Avenue, Westminster, CO 80031. Phone number is the same, 303-463-6400.

COLORADO continued:

BCR, LYRASIS and OCLC are presenting “Digital Preservation for Digital Collaboratives,” a series of workshops designed to help collaborative digital initiatives develop long-term preservation plans. The workshops are presented and are part of a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant that was awarded to BCR in 2009. For more information see <http://www.bcr.org/dps/training/neh-dpdc.html>, or email info@bcr.org.

Colorado’s MPLA Representative **Mary Katherine Katzer** is shown here reading to grandkids 5 year old Isaac and 2 year old Ambrie. She was visiting her son’s family in southern Minnesota in January and went to their local library, the Blue Earth County Library in Mankato.



The 41st Annual Interlibrary Loan Conference in Colorado will be held April 29-30 at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, Colorado. Program includes Alison Circle, blogger for LJ (Bubble Room) and the Marketing Communications and Brand Manager for the Columbus Metropolitan Library, demonstrating ways to market library services to new and existing users. See www.coloradovirtuallibrary.org/coloillconf/ for registration information.



Poudre River Public Library District in Fort Collins is the 2010 winner of a \$3,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant. The grant, sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by the American Library Association’s (ALA) Public Awareness Committee, is awarded annually for the best public awareness campaign in support of National Library Week. As the winner, the Poudre River Public Library District will connect “Communities thrive @ your library” with the concept of the library as the “original renewable resource.” Events focused on related environmental themes will be spread throughout the month of April. The Library District will be partnering with the City of Fort Collins Natural Resource Department, Utilities Department and ClimateWise staff for some of the programming.

KANSAS

The **Johnson County Library’s** “Why Moby-Dick is the Great American Novel” lecture featured Dr. Elizabeth Schultz, Professor Emeritus, University of Kansas. Dr. Schultz’s lecture was highlighted with art work inspired by the classic. Following the presentation, the 43 attendees enjoyed clam chowder, and several learned how to participate in the ensuing online discussion. To date, 20 people are participating in the online discussion on <http://readingmobydick.wordpress.com> until March 31, 2010. This programming is a spin-off of the library’s “Connect with a Classic” promotional campaign using four courier trucks quite literally as the vehicle. One of the courier truck graphics features “Captain Ahab’s Fine Seafood,” playing off Moby-Dick.

It was a night to remember for the 89 hopeful children and 110 beaming parents attending the reception for the 17th Annual Young Writers Contest, co-sponsored by the **Johnson County Library** and The Reading Reptile children’s bookstore. Nine local, published author-illustrators judged the entries and honored 11 winners and runners-up with prizes consisting of original drawings by the judges, depicting a single scene from each winning story. **Dennis Ross**, Youth Services Supervisor at the Central Resource Library, coordinated the annual contest for children ages 5-12 and the reception. Photos and stories are posted on www.JoCoKids.org

Dan Knupp has been named the Director of the Silver Lake Public Library. Most recently he was director of marketing and communications for the Kansas Rural Water Association. Prior to that he was director of public relations for the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Kansas Learning Center for Health.



As a lead up to the Kansas’ 150th Birthday in 2011, the **State Library of Kansas** seeks recommended books for a Kansas 150 list. The grassroots project encourages book title suggestions from anyone—individuals, authors, booksellers, and publishers. Nominations may be made between January and October 31, 2010. The list of 150 notable titles will be announced at the beginning of 2011 and promoted throughout the sesquicentennial year.

Kansas continued

New mothers at Shawnee Mission Medical Center in Overland Park– the Kansas City metro area hospital that delivers the most babies – are receiving DVDs of 6by6 Early Childhood Literacy videos, created by **Johnson County Library's** Web Content Team. The "Six Skills by Age Six" is based on the American Library Association's Every Child Ready to Read program. The video is also available via the 6by6 Web page at www.jocolibrary.org, and DVDs of the video are available for check-out by patrons.

MONTANA

The **Lewis & Clark Library** in Helena once again offered their popular Teen Tech Tutor Class in March. The class is designed to give one-on-one assistance with a variety of technology related issues. Teen volunteers donate their computer skills and give one-on-one assistance with a variety of technology related issues and to help participants navigate the information highway. Topics vary, depending on participants. Teen Tech Tutors can assist with everything from showing how to post pictures to Facebook accounts to how to turn the off the ringer on a cell phone.



Teen Techs Tutoring

The **Montana Library Association** is gearing up for the annual conference this month in Bozeman. Preceding the conference, a fund-raising concert for MLA and Bozeman's historic Ellen Theatre will be held. "Ricky Nelson Remembered" stars twin sons Matthew and Gunnar Nelson performing their father's popular songs, and includes video footage of the Nelson family and interviews with celebrities influenced by Ricky Nelson. Matthew and Gunnar have had their own hit songs as well, placing the Nelson family in the Guinness Book of World Records as the only family in entertainment history with 3 genera-

tions of #1 hits. This concert is expected to provide an energetic start to the conference.

NEBRASKA

The **Omaha Public Library** unveiled its new logo, tagline, and website on February 13th. Webster Design Associates designed the new logo, tagline, and launch campaign. David Day & Associates redesigned the website. Funding for the project came from the Omaha Public Library Foundation, WOWT Channel 6, News Radio 1110 KFAB, and Friends of the Omaha Public Library. This



project was also supported in part by the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services and granted by the Nebraska Library Commission. Check out the new look at www.omahalibrary.org.

Governor Dave Heineman spoke in libraries' favor at the **Nebraska Library Association's** Legislative Day briefing on February 9th. He also made suggestions about libraries' role in the Nebraska P-16 Initiative to improve school success rates. This initiative covers Nebraska students from preschool through college. One of P-16 Initiative's goals is to increase the number of students who attend 2-year and 4-year colleges.

Seven Nebraska library volunteers were recognized at the Legislative Day luncheon by **Robin Brooks Clark**, Chair of the NLA Legislative Committee and MPLA Recording Secretary. The volunteers were introduced their state senators. Those honored:

- **Elizabeth Csipkes** from Gretna
- **Dakota Lawson** from Randolph
- **Carol Remmers** from Beatrice
- **Dean Ringlein** from Kearney
- **Gary and Vera Salmon** from Lincoln
- **Karen Tippets** from Omaha

Rivkah Sass, former Omaha Public Library Executive Director, spoke at a recent League of Nebraska Municipalities Midwinter Conference in Lincoln. Her topic was "What is the Future of the Information Age and the Role of Public Libraries? Are books and literacy as we know them ending?"

NEBRASKA continued

The 2010 One Book for Nebraska Teens is *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman. In a future America, parents can choose to have their 13-to-18-year-old children “unwound”. If a child is unwound, his or her body parts are harvested and given to others. Connor, 16, is shocked when his parents tell him they have decided to have him unwound. He runs away and strives to survive while encountering others like himself.

\$51,346.00 in **Library Improvement Grants** was recently awarded to five Nebraska libraries. These LSTA funds awarded by the Nebraska Library Commission will be distributed to:

- **Bennington Public Library** for technology-related improvements (\$3,380.00)
- **Columbus Public Library** for a public computer lab (\$22,690.00)
- **Keene Memorial Library** in Fremont for an emergent literacy program (\$3,390.00)
- **Goodall City Library** for a barcode scanner replacement project (\$1,346.00)
- **Omaha Public Library** for a “Welcome to Your Public Library” video for refugees (\$20,000.00)

Carolyn Brown, Kimball Public Library Director, left her position in March. After 25 years in Nebraska libraries, she plans to volunteer and learn to quilt in Midland, Texas.

NEVADA

The **Elko-Lander-Eureka County Library System** has a new website. With the new design patrons are easily able to search the catalog, search the web, utilize databases, find out information on their nearest library, check the Bookmobile schedule and even join an on-line Book Club where chapters are emailed weekly to participants.

Clark County Library District is holding their 3rd Annual *Viva la Vita Bella Italian Festival* at the Sahara West Library, March 27. The event celebrates the Italian culture with live entertainment, movies, children’s activities, food and vendors. The main theater at the Clark County Library will be showing the *Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour*, this event co-sponsored by the Desert Space Foundation will allow attendees to experience the best mountain films from around the world through a

big screen experience. Adventure sports such as climbing, kayaking, alpine skiing in some of the most remote places in the world will be the highlight of the event.

Carson City Library has invited their community to participate in a citywide reading initiative to discuss the timely message found in each of three versions of Greg Mortenson’s and David Oliver Relin’s best-selling book, *Three cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time*. Each Tuesday beginning February 9 through April 15 the library hosts an event inspired by Greg Mortenson’s philosophy of promoting peace through education.

The third annual *Read & Run for Your Health* 5K/1 Mile Walk hosted by **Henderson Libraries** was held February 27. The event is hosted annually in support of a healthy community. And while the event does not require its participants to run while reading, it does promote running to benefit reading. The family-oriented race was walker friendly and began and ended at the James I. Gibson Library, with the course looping through downtown Henderson and the Water Street District area. Proceeds from the event go toward purchasing health-related materials for checkout at all Henderson Libraries. 382 registered for the event and sponsors included the Water Street District, Clear, Sam’s Club and Ethos Three Architecture.



Running for Reading

The **Washoe County Library** presented *Growing up Basque* with Sandra Ott of the University of Nevada, Reno Center for Basque Studies discussed Basque heritage in a program presented as part of *Northern Nevada Reads: The Immigrant Experience*. The communitywide reading event extends from January through March and encourages residents to read *The Basque Hotel* by Robert Laxalt and discuss family heritage.

NEVADA continued

At a recent meeting the **Washoe County Library** board discussed the library system's financial outlook with the latest projection of a \$25,000,000 shortfall and a materials budget for the current fiscal year at 50% less than two years ago.

NEW MEXICO

Donna Birchell, long time staff member at **Carlsbad Public Library**, has completed a book, *Carlsbad and Carlsbad Caverns*, to be the latest volume of the Images of America series. Donna worked closely with the Southeastern New Mexico Historical Society that has amassed over 15,000 vintage photographs.

The Santa Fe Public Library announces the launch of *One-Click Audio*, a collection of audiobooks that can be downloaded to library patrons' home computers, iPods, or MP3 players. Just like checking out a CD audiobook from the library, the downloads are free. The Library has over 2,000 titles available and the vendor adds new books to the site every month. Ten books may be downloaded at one time for a loan period of 21 days.

During National Library Week libraries in New Mexico will be taking a one day "snapshot" – collecting information to capture the impact that New Mexico libraries have on their communities on a typical day. Called "Library Snapshot Day," it is a joint project between the **New Mexico State Library** and the **New Mexico Library Association**. The project is national advocacy project that has taken place in New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Pennsylvania. Many other states are expected to participate during the entire month of April. The purpose is to encourage libraries to collect basic data such as how many people use the library on a given day.

NORTH DAKOTA

The 2010 **North Dakota State Library** Spring Workshops will be held in Fargo on April 12 and 13, and in Bismarck on April 15 and 16. The locations for Fargo will be the Best Western Doublewood Hotel and the Fargo Public Library. Topics for this year's workshops include: developing a Friends of the Library group, utilizing social media tools, and summer reading programs. Round table discussions on various library related topics will again

be a part of the workshops. Technology workshops will feature representatives from EBSCO, Gale, and the State Library who will demonstrate and explain some of the new Online Library Resources.

Michele Reid, MPLA member and Dean of Libraries at North Dakota State University in Fargo, has been named a 2010 UCLA Senior Fellow. She is one of fifteen top academic library leaders chosen to take part in the residential program, to be held August 9-27 at the University of California Los Angeles campus. The Senior Fellows program, established in 1982 with support from the Council on Library Resources and UCLA, provides opportunities for senior library leaders to collaborate on joint research and publication in the areas of academic administration, professional development and technology.



The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council announced the recipients of latest round of grants:

- Five public libraries will be establishing training labs in their libraries. The **Bowman Regional Public Library, Carrington Public Library, Grand Forks Public Library, Velva School and Public Library**, and the **Leach (Wahpeton) Public Library** will coordinate and provide training on a regular basis and by special request.
- **The Enderlin Municipal Library** received an innovative grant in partnership with their County Nursing Organization to provide training to the public on health related Online Library Resources.
- **The Griggs County Public Library** and **Sitting Bull College Library** each received a grant to add their collections to the statewide online library catalog through WorldCat, which will result in access to an additional 50,000 North Dakota items. **The North Dakota State Library** and the **North Dakota Library Coordinating Council** awarded the grants with funding provided through Library Vision 2010 (LV2010) and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

OKLAHOMA

Karen Bays is the new Pottawatomie County Coordinator / Shawnee Branch Manager for Pioneer Library System. She was previously with the Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City.

OKLAHOMA continued

The **Moore Public Library**, in partnership with the Moore Community Garden, is holding a Plant Exchange in April. In addition, gardening experts will present information on *Lasagna Gardening* and *Six-Legged Super Heroes: Beneficial Insects in the Garden*. **Sherry Krukowski**, Library Assistant, is Coordinator of the Plant Exchange Event. The Moore Public Library is part of the Pioneer Library System.

Cathy Adams, Branch Manager of the **Noble Public Library** with the Pioneer Library System, has been selected to attend the Public Library Association (PLA) Leadership Institute in Portland, Oregon. The Institute, "Changing Course: Leadership for Navigating the New Library" is presented as part of the PLA National Conference, March 23-27. Adams has been Branch Manager for the Noble Public Library since 2008. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies, she has also served as the Teen Services Librarian for the Moore Public Library, and the Reference and Instruction Librarian at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee.



Planning is well underway for *Operation Military Kids*. April is the month of the military child and during the month, many libraries in South Dakota are joining with others in their communities to host events thanking families with members in the military.

UTAH

Plans are ongoing for two new libraries to be built as part of the **Salt Lake City Library System**. The branches will serve the Glendale and Marmalade neighborhoods of Salt Lake City. Two committees have been established to oversee the projects, as well as assisting with programming plans. Public forums will be held in the spring to encourage public input. The branches could be completed within three years.

The **Utah Library Association** 2010 Conference will take place May 12-14 at the Dixie Center in St. George, Utah. The theme is "Come together... for Utah Libraries." The keynote speaker will be ALA president, Camila Alire, who will also be presenting a pre-conference workshop about bilingual services. The film "Hollywood Librarian", which was shown at ALA a few years ago will be shown as part of this year's Presidents' Reception.

SOUTH DAKOTA

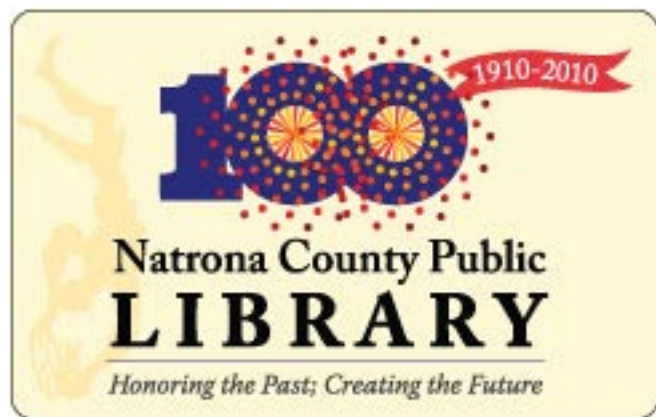
Mike Mullin, MPLA South Dakota Representative, reports that "Faces of librarians in South Dakota are smiling for many reasons. One reason more than others, but more on that later. Two librarians have smiles on their faces because they were selected to attend the MPLA Leadership Institute. Congratulations to Katherine Eberline from the Brookings Public Library and Cynthia Messenger from the Hot Springs Public Library. Many librarians are smiling because their South Dakota Library Survey is finished. The main reason librarians are smiling is because we can tell spring is close, the sun is shining, the snow is melting (I only have two feet left in my yard.) and our patrons are out and about with smiles on their faces."

The **Library Training Institute 2010**, coordinated by the **South Dakota State Library**, has been scheduled for June 6-11 at Northern State University in Aberdeen. The Library Training Institute is a four-year program of continuing education for library practitioners, support staff and trustees of small public libraries.

WYOMING

MPLA Member **Sandra Barstow**, is now Head of Collection Development at the University of SWyoming. This comes after managing the library's recently completed construction project.

The **Teton County Library** is applauding its Information Technology team for saving \$15,000 in the library's current budget and for reducing \$100,000 in estimated technology costs for the library's addition and improvements. The fiscal savings resulted from innovative open source software code that creates self-checker kiosks. The self-checker machines allow patrons to check out library materials themselves, providing the option for faster service and increased privacy, as well as reducing the time library staff spend performing these routine tasks. Read more about this on the MPLA's "MPLA Stories: Tales from around the region" at <http://www.mpla.us/stories/index.html>.



In May the **Natrona County Public Library** in Casper will celebrate its 100th anniversary. The celebration of this milestone begins with a centennial reading challenge called “Read 100!” Patrons are challenged to read 100 books or 100 chapters, alone or in a group, between March 1 and May 15. Each participant can earn a 100th Anniversary edition library card, as well as an entry into the grand-prize drawing.



The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** is hosting a Film Discussion Series on moon and space travel theme in March. The program is in conjunction with the *Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery* traveling exhibit presented by the Space Telescope Science Institute, Baltimore, Maryland; the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and the American Library Association, Chicago, through funding from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Humanities scholar David Romtvedt is the moderator.

Teton County Library Alta Branch held its Second Annual Seniors Open House at the new Alta. The “Cake and Cowboy Songs” event features local cowboy band Mike Hurwitz and The Aimless Drifters providing entertainment while attendees enjoyed desserts, hot chocolate and tea.

Dishing: A Club for Jackson Foodies brings together culinary aficionados to taste, discuss and explore the topic of food in a variety of formats at the Teton County Li-

brary. The first meeting included the film *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* and a tasting of Asian-inspired appetizers. Monthly meetings will include films, books, recipe sharing, cookbook reviews and tastings. Allison Arthur, a food columnist for the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* and lifelong cook, is the culinary guide.

The University of Wyoming, University of Wyoming Foundation, Wyoming Humanities Council, Teton County Library and Foundation, National Museum of Wildlife Art and Central Wyoming College are sponsoring *Saturday U: The Free One-Day College Education*, a new lecture discussion series on three Saturdays with three University of Wyoming professors offering the free classes. Participants may also earn half a college credit (in-state tuition is \$44.50) for each

Vicki Roth retired after more than 20 years working in Public Relations and Programming for the Sweetwater County Library System. Her retirement celebration was January 28 in Green River.

Agnes Milstead, a former MPLA board member, died February 19 at the age of 94. She was instrumental in creating the University of Wyoming graduate library science program. After her retirement from the University in 1981 she helped develop libraries in the Philippines, Guyana, Nigeria and Chile. She created the Agnes Milstead Endowment to help support the UW libraries. She served as president of the Wyoming State Association of American School Librarians. She has served on the boards of American Library Association, the Mountain Plains Library Association and the Society of School Librarians International.

The **Alta Branch of the Teton County Library** opened in January. The new building serves the residents of Alta and nearby community of Driggs, Idaho.



Welcome New MPLA Members



COLORADO

Sue Keefer
Director of Library and Learning
Resources, Otero Junior College
Wheeler Library ; La Junta, CO

Tiffanie Wick
Public Services Librarian, Western
State College of Colorado Leslie J.
Savage Library; Gunnison, CO

KANSAS

Heather Braum
Technology Librarian, Northeast
Kansas Library System
Lawrence, KS

Brandon Hines
YA Department Head, Hays Public
Library; Hays, KS

Patty Miles
Public Services Specialist, Topeka &
Shawnee County Public Library
Topeka, KS

MONTANA

Pamela Arroues
Library Director, Montana Depart-
ment of Environment Qu Water
Quality Planning Bureau Library
Helena, MT

Megan Dazey
Bibliographic Management Services
Librarian, University of Montana
Mansfield Library; Missoula, MT

NEBRASKA

Terry Wingate
Staff Development Specialist, Omaha
Public Library W. Dale Clark Main
Library; Omaha, NE

NEW MEXICO

Kathy Barco
Children's Librarian, Albuquerque/
Bernalillo County Library Taylor
Ranch Branch; Albuquerque, NM

NORTH DAKOTA

Jennifer Jenness
Assistant Professor, Valley City State
University Allen Memorial Library
Valley City, ND

Nancy Joyal
Trustee, Minot Public Library
Minot, ND

Lori Kozel
Library Technician, Minot AFB
Library; Minot AFB, ND

SOUTH DAKOTA

Angie Lynn Wixon
Periodicals/Acquisitions Associ-
ate, University of Sioux Falls Mears
Library; Brandon, SD

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**Welcome to the first issue of the
MPLA Newsletter to be published
online-only**

The MPLA Newsletter remains on its bi-monthly schedule and
includes convenient hyperlinks.

The format changes slightly for easier reading in web format.
Your comments are welcome.

Sent comments to Judy Zelenski, Editor - judyz@operamail.com

Oklahoma Library Association and Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Conference

April 19-21, 2010

Oklahoma City Renaissance Hotel and Cox Convention Center

CONFERENCE PRE-REGISTRATION FEES TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20-21

OLA and/or MPLA Member Full Conference	\$110
New OLA and/or MPLA Member (joined since 7-1-09) Full Conference	\$100
Trustees and Friends Full Conference	\$ 85
Students Full Conference	\$ 75
Non-OLA/MPLA Members One Day	\$160
Non-OLA/MPLA Members Full Conference	\$185

CONFERENCE HOTEL INFORMATION

The Oklahoma Library Association and Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Conference will be held Monday, April 19 to Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at the Oklahoma City Renaissance Hotel and Cox Convention Center. The room rate is \$139 per night plus tax for single/double/triple/quad. When making reservations, remember to state you are attending the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference in order to receive this special rate. This room rate will be honored until March 19, 2010.

The hotel offers complimentary airport transportation to registered hotel guests only. Guests are to call the hotel (405-228-8000) from the airport once their flight has arrived and they are ready to be picked up. Departures will take place every hour on the hour seven (7) days a week from 4:00 am until 12:00 noon (these times may be extended before April).

To Make a Reservation, Group Code is olaolaa

Phone: 1-800-468-3571; URL: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/okcbr>

If you have any problems with your hotel reservation, contact Kay Boies, OLA Executive Director, at 405-525-5100; or kboies@sbcglobal.net

REGISTRATION HOURS

Monday, April 19	8:00 am—5:00 pm
Tuesday, April 20	7:30 am—5:00 pm
Wednesday, April 21	7:30 am—1:00 pm

OLA STORE & BOOKSTORE

The store will feature conference-themed and OLA logo items for sale. Books written by conference speakers will be available at the bookstore. Show your spirit and help your association with your purchases.

OLA/MPLA Joint Conference Pre-Registration Form

April 19-21, 2010 at the Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City

Pre-Registration Deadline: Must be received by April 5, 2010; On-Site registration fees will be \$10.00 higher.

PRE-CONFERENCES—MONDAY, APRIL 19—(all preconferences include lunch)

“The Big Event: You Can Do It!”, 10 am-4 pm

Members _____ @ \$80; Non-members _____ @ \$130 _____

“Managing You: Self-Situational Leadership”, 10 am-4 pm

Members _____ @ \$80; Non-members _____ @ \$130 _____

“The Future of Technical Services: Exploring the Possibilities”, 9:30 am-3:30 pm

Members _____ @ \$80; Non-members _____ @ \$130 _____

“Managing in ToughTimes”, 9 am-12 pm

Members _____ @ \$50; Non-members _____ @ \$80 _____

“Advocating from the Library Frontlines”, 1 pm-5 pm

Members _____ @ \$50; Non-members _____ @ \$80 _____

“Everyone a Leader, Everyone a Change Agent”, 1 pm-5 pm

Members _____ @ \$50; Non-members _____ @ \$80 _____

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION—TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21-22 (Choose One)

OLA or MPLA Member	Full Conference	\$110	_____
New OLA Member (joined since 7-1-09)	Full Conference	\$100	_____
Trustees (FOLIO)	Full Conference	\$85	_____
Students	Full Conference	\$75	_____
Non-OLA/MPLA Member	One Day	\$160	_____
	Full Conference	\$185	_____

PROGRAM FUNCTIONS WITH MEALS

Monday, April 19

Banquet: Nancy Miller, TV writer, creator and executive producer

No. _____ @ \$35 _____

Tuesday, April 20

Legislative Luncheon: Camila Alire, ALA President

No. _____ @ \$25 _____

Sequoyah Authors Luncheon: Sara Pennypacker/Wendelin Van Draanen

No. _____ @ \$25 _____

Wednesday, April 21

Luncheon: “Reading and Boys and Books—Oh My!”, Michael Sullivan

No. _____ @ \$25 _____

FOLIO Luncheon: Poet/Writer/Editor/Publisher Dorothy Alexander

No. _____ @ \$25 _____

TOTAL COST FOR REGISTRATION AND MEALS

___ I want to participate in Dine-a-Round on Sunday evening (see p.)

___ I want to join tour to National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum on Monday afternoon (see p.)

NAME: _____

___ 1st Time Attendee; ___ Returning Attendee

INSTITUTION: _____

WORK ADDRESS (with zip code): _____

WORK PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

Method of Payment

Personal Check _____ Institution Check _____

Make checks payable to Oklahoma Library Association

Credit Card _____ Purchase Order _____

___ Purchase Order # _____

—Visa ___ MasterCard ___

Charge Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

MAIL FORM & PAYMENT TO:

Oklahoma Library Association

300 Hardy Drive

Edmond, OK 73013

Fax: 405-525-5103

Refund requests must be received by April 12

How to Update Your MPLA Directory Profile!



MPLA uses MemberClicks, an online membership maintenance service, for its Directory. The information is available only to members, not to the public.

- At the MPLA website: www.mpla.us, use the login section at the lower left of the MPLA homepage.
- Login with your username and password. If you don't remember these, click on "Forgot Your Password" (be sure to enter the e-mail address which you originally used in the directory).
- Upon arrival at the MPLA Membership Website, click on "My Profile" at the top left, or use the "Quick Name Search" to find your profile. To make changes to your profile click on "Edit."
- When your profile information appears you may add or change contact information, indicate your preferences, and change your username and password. "Save" the changes to your profile before exiting.

Visit the MPLA
Website
♦
www.mpla.us

State & National Conferences 2010

- 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
- Wyoming Library Association Conference
September 29 -October 2, Casper WY
- North Dakota Library Association Conference
September 29-Oct 2, Grand Forks, ND
- Nevada Library Association Conference
October 6-9, Henderson, NV
- Colorado Association of Libraries Conference
October 7-9, Loveland CO
- Nebraska Library Association Conference
October 13-15, Grand Island, NE
- Association for Rural and Small Libraries
October 14-16, Denver CO
- Arizona Library Association Conference
November 15 -17, Fountain Hills, AZ

2011

- ALA Midwinter Meeting
Jan. 7-12, San Diego, CA
- Kansas Library Association
April 6 - 8, Capitol Plaza Hotel
Kansas Expocentre Topeka, KS
- MLA/MPLA Joint Conference
April 6-9, Billings, MT
- ALA 2011 Annual Conference
June 23-29, 2011; New Orleans, LA
- SDLA October 5-7, 2011 - Spearfish



MPLA Board & Staff

The MPLA Newsletter is published by-monthly Online by the Mountain Plains Library Association at <http://www.mpla.us/documents/newsletter/index.html>

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

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

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

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