

Close Community

# Newsletter

**December 2010** www.mpla.us **Volume 55 #2** 

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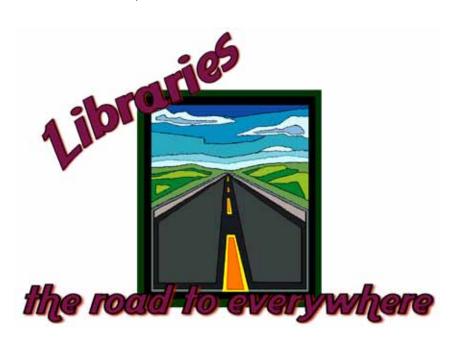
**?**^

Renew your 2011 MPLA Membership at http://www.mpla.us/ forms/membership.html

# Conference Keynote Speaker

Marilyn Johnson, author of *This Book is Overdue! How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All*, will be the keynote for the MLA/MPLA Joint Conference, April 6-9, 2011 in Billings, Montana.

"Are librarians still necessary in the age of Google?" asks Marilyn Johnson. "I wrote *This Book is Overdue! How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All* after chasing dozens of tech-savvy librarians who are wrestling the accumulated history and culture of the world in a variety of mutating formats while serving needy, techno-stressed patrons — us. These librarians are leaning into the digital age while they hold firmly to old-fashioned librarian values like privacy, accuracy, open access, and free speech. Irrelevant? Hardly. In fact, we've never needed them more."





Elvita presenting award to one of the winners of the library's Scary Story writing contest.

# President's Message

One of the perks of being MPLA president is visiting several state conferences during the year. I have been fortunate to attend the Utah, North Dakota, and Colorado state conferences and have really enjoyed meeting and greeting librarians on behalf of MPLA.

The Utah conference was held in scenic St. George, UT, amidst bluffs and mesas. It won my favorite site award for sheer beauty. Presentations by guest speakers ALA president Camilla Alire, author Rosemary Harris, and media producer Taki Telonidis were inspirational, and the general programming was interesting. I was very impressed by the amount of continuing education the Utah State Library and Utah Library Association offers throughout the year.

The trip to North Dakota took me north along the very flat Red River Valley on my way to a wonderful facility in Grand Forks. *Mad Magazine* Joe Raiola entertained us with his "Joy of Censorship" routine, exploring First Amendment issues and New Zealand author Kyle Mewburn charmed us with his wonderful accent. I was impressed by the quality of government documents produced by various North Dakota departments. The best of these are sent to the national level and generally win awards.

Colorado's lofty mountains got a dusting of snow during their conference, but it didn't take anything away from the three full days of sessions. Dr. Stephen Krashing was preaching to the choir as he urged us to get society back to reading. Political consultant Rick Ridder helped us understand anti-tax issues in Colorado with possible repercussions to other states. Often censored author Lauren Myracle gave humorous and horrifying examples of correspondence regarding her books for young adults. Colorado had the best hula dancers of any conference (actually the only hula dancers at any conference) at the Colorado Library Consortium exhibit booth.

All things considered, the issues were similar at all the conferences. We're concerned about advocacy, connecting to our users through social media, developing skills to stay relevant for the 21st century, and doing our best with what we have. We enjoy authors as speakers, but are not afraid to hear someone a little more controversial. We pull together in times of fun and in times of crises. Thank you for the opportunity to share your conferences.

I will be attending the Arizona conference in a few weeks and I'm sure it will just as inspirational.

----Elvita

# **Membership Renewal Time**

http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html

The MPLA membership year ends December 31, 2010 and now is a good time to renew. It's easy to renew online at http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html. Mail a check, or use a credit card through MPLA's secure PayPal gateway. You do not need a PayPal account to use this service.

# **NEW Institutional Member Benefits**

http://www.mpla.us/forms/institutionalmembership.html

- Receive one personal voting membership in addition to the Institution's membership
- Place one half-page ad in the MPLA Newsletter each year at no cost. Consider promoting events, publications, or staff achievements with this ad.

# **Corporate Member Benefits**

http://www.mpla.us/forms/institutionalmembership.html

- Get an "insiders" view of what's happening in the profession: Libraries are undergoing major changes and it's important for companies to understand how these changes can impact operations and purchase decisions.
- Get Your Message Out More Efficiently and Effectively: The MPLA newsletter reaches library professionals in twelve states at once. Your company will receive a ½ page advertisement (\$75 value) when you join and additional ad space may be purchased at special member rates. You can also reach a diverse regional group of industry professionals when attending the joint conferences with member states.
- Give Back To The Profession: MPLA encourages all members to become actively involved by joining a committee, running for office, and contributing information to the newsletter. It takes a strong village of professionals willing to share their creative ideas, energy and expertise to help the library industry continue to thrive. Along with being an Institutional Member, your company will also receive a personal membership that can be used by one of your employees.
- Exclusive Leadership Institute Sponsorship Opportunities: The prestigious MPLA Leadership Institute was initiated in 2002 and is recognized as one of the premier programs for developing leaders in the library profession. Institutional members are given an "early bird" option for reserving key sponsorship levels.

# Why should you become a member of MPLA?

- A myriad of librarians from many different institutions bring new perspectives and experiences o
- Programs and sessions at MPLA conferences offer something that everyone will enjoy 0
- Larger than a state association, but smaller and more responsive to our regional needs than a national association
- Membership dues are often less than state association dues. o
- News and networking opportunities from twelve states o
- Exciting conferences with nationally-known speakers held in scenic areas o
- Attending annual conference does not break your travel budget 0
- MPLA Leadership Institute 0
- "Why didn't I think of that!" sharing opportunities 0
- Professional Development Grants



WPLA By Herry Close Commingty

# MPLA Elections - Online Voting - January 24-February 16

Candidate for Vice-President/President-Elect

# JaNae Kinikin



Science Librarian at Weber State University; MPLA member since 2000

#### Previous position(s):

 Science Librarian at Oklahoma State University, 1999-2001

#### Education:

- M.A. in Library & Information Sciences from the University of Iowa;
- B.S. in Geography from Utah State University Professional activities:
- MPLA Leadership Institute 2007
- Co-chair of MPLA Membership committee
- Chair of MPLA Awards committee
- Chair of MPLA Nominating committee
- Chair of Utah Academic Library Consortia
   Professional Development committee 2009/2010

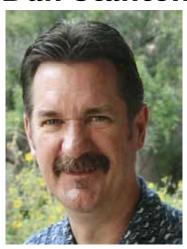
I have served as chair for many MPLA committees and attended the MPLA Leadership Institute in 2007. I believe these experiences would serve me well as vice-president/president-elect of MPLA. I truly enjoy helping people and organizing events and I believe that I would bring both of these skills to the position.

I would like to continue helping the members of MPLA become more involved in the organization. MPLA IS its members and as such, it provides great opportunities for professional development and service. I would also like MPLA members to become more involved in state professional development.

opment opportunities. Having MPLA co-sponsor some state professional development programs would give members a chance to contribute to their state organizations, MPLA, and the field of librarianship.

Candidate for Vice President/President Elect

# **Dan Stanton**



Government Information Librarian at Arizona State University; MPLA member since 2003

#### Previous position(s):

 Coordinator, Organizational Development, Arizona Local Documents Librarian @ ASU

#### **Education:**

- MLIS, University of Arizona, 1997
- BA Religion, Trinity College, Hartford, CT, 1986

#### Professional activities:

- MPLA Leadership Institute Committee (oversaw 2010 LI renewal), Chair 2009-Present
- Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), Arizona Chapter Representative, 2009-Present
- Arizona Library Association (AzLA) College and University Libraries Division, Co-chair 2009-Present
- MPLA Program Committee for Joint MPLA/ KLA Conference, 2009
- MPLA Newsletter Contributor, Government





Information Column, 2006-09

- Presenter, "Local Government: How It Works, Where to Get Information," Wyoming Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Annual Conference, Jackson, WY, October, 2005.
- MPLA Continuing Education Committee, 2003
   2006, Chair 2004-05
- AzLA Government Documents Interest Group, Chair, 2002-04, Chair-elect 2001-2002
- AzLA Conference Program Committee, 2001-03
- MPLA Leadership Institute Fellow, 2002

I have greatly benefitted both personally and professionally from my affiliation with MPLA. I would approach this position with alacrity, bringing curiosity and a sense of humor to the table, along with seventeen years library experience as staff, librarian, and administrator.

I would like to tap into the enthusiasm, diversity, and expertise of MPLA members and leadership, past and present, to reach out to our state associations and their members and highlight the opportunities and mutual benefit of partnering with a regional association.

Candidate for Recording Secretary

# **Royce Kitts**



Director, Tonganoxie, KS Public Library; MPLA member since 2009

Previous position(s):

• Reference Librarian, Manhattan, KS Public Library

#### Education:

• Masters of Library Science, Emporia State University

#### Professional activities:

- 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute
- American Library Association
- Kansas Library Association
- o Vice President/President Elect 2009-2011 (President in 2011)
- o 2011 Conference Planner
- o Newsletter Editor 2008-Current
- o Chair of Kansas Progressive Librarians Acquiring Continuing Education, 2008-Current
- Chair of Membership Committee, 2007-2008
- Chair of Kansas Interlibrary Loan Roundtable, 2006-2007
- Association of Rural and Small Libraries

What ability, talent, interest, or strength would you bring to this position? Leadership, Networking, People skills, Pride in doing a good job

What would you like to accomplish during your term of office? An accurate and accessible account of the activities of the organization. A chance to get to know other MPLA people and work towards bettering the organization.

Candidate for Recording Secretary

# **Connie Lamb**



Social Sciences Librarian, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University; MPLA member since 1979

continued on page 6





### Connie Lamb, continued:

Previous position(s):

- Reference Librarian, History/Religion
   Department, BYU; Chair of Computer-Assisted
   Research Services, BYU;
- Reference Librarian, Utah State Library Division Education:
- BA and MS (Biology) and MS (Anthropology), University of Utah;
- MA (Middle East Studies) and MLS, Brigham Young University

#### Professional activities:

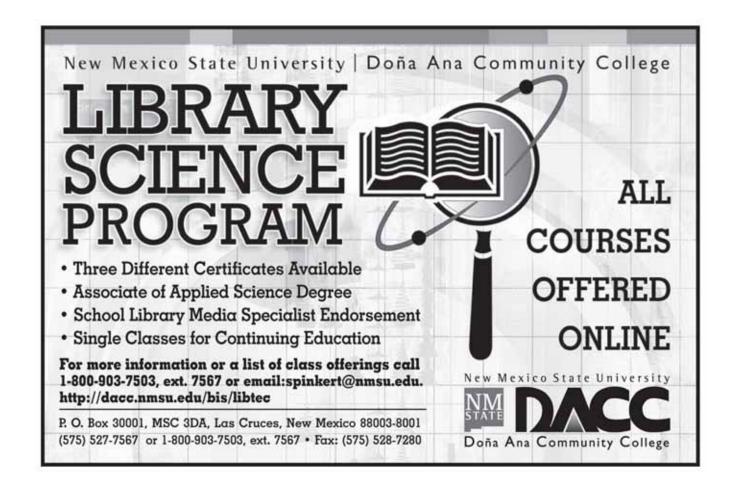
- Utah Library Association: President, 1985-86,
- Chair or member of the Continuing Education Committee for many years; Program Co-Chair, 2000-03.
- Chair of MPLA Public Relations Committee,

1992-93;

- Member of MPLA Bylaws Committee, 1995-97;
   Secretary of the Academic Section, 1997-98;
- Member of MPLA Nominating Committee, 2001-03;
- Member of MPLA Professional Development Committee, 2006 & 2007 and Chair, 2008.

I am knowledgeable about MPLA's organization and activities and have been a member of the board so I understand how it works. I am dependable, hard working, and detail oriented. I work well with other people and enjoy interacting with colleagues from around the region.

My goal would be to produce good minutes of MPLA Board meetings that are of benefit to the officers. I want to support and help further the good work of MPLA and to contribute to its progress. I have been a member for many years and have learned much from attending MPLA conferences and would encourage others to participate.





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www.encoreforlibraries.com

# MPLA Leadership Institute Reunion at Ghost Ranch August 19-21, 2011

All who have attended an MPLA Leadership Institute over the years are invited to attend a Reunion at Ghost Ranch, Abuquiu, New Mexico; August 19-21, 2011.

Mary Tuytschaevers is coordinating arrangements. Please return the form below to Mary to indicate attendance and type of room. Those attending pay one night's lodging in January, and the rest by June 20, 2011. For more information contact Mary at <a href="mailto:mtysch@yahoo.com">mtysch@yahoo.com</a>.

Please clip and return the form below

	_I will attend the Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, August 19-21, 2011.
My room	preference is:
	_Single room with private bath: \$129/night
	_Single room with connecting bath: \$89/night.
Name	
Phone_	E-mail
	turn this form to Mary Tuytschaevers; 3901 Central Drive, I 204, Hobbs, NM 88240-1226. <a href="mailto:tsch@yahoo.com">tsch@yahoo.com</a> .

# Call for Papers MPLA Professional Forum

The deadline for submitting papers for the MPLA Professional Forum is Friday, February 4

Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) announces a call for papers to be presented, with the co-sponsorship of Montana Library Association, at MLA/MPLA Joint Conference; Billings, Montana, April 9, 2011

The MPLA Professional Forum is designed to present new ideas, innovations, and case studies in librarianship that would benefit the profession. Research methodology is encouraged, but not essential.

School and public librarians, as well as those from academia, are encouraged to participate. The papers are peer reviewed; a prize will be awarded to the winning paper presentation.

#### **Guidelines for Papers**

- \* Problems are clearly identified and solutions proposed
- \* Themes can include locally implemented experiences; (successes or failures), theoretical models, statistical studies, or state of the art reviews.
- \* Although formal research methodology is not required, papers should develop clear positions or concepts.

#### Evaluation

Papers will be judged on:

- \* Significance of topics (15 points)
- \* Development of concept and quality of organization (20 points)
- \* Clarity of ideas and objectives (10 points)

Final presentations will be judged at the annual conference on:

- \* Objectives evident, with clear ideas and concepts (15 points)
- \* Quality of organization (15 points)
- \* Quality of presentation, use of visuals, etc. (15 points)

#### Submission Requirements

- \* Papers must be original-not published or presented elsewhere
- \* Selected authors will make presentations at the conference
- \* Papers (2-6 pages in length) must be submitted electronically to <a href="mary.caspers-graper@sdstate.edu">mary.caspers-graper@sdstate.edu</a>
  no later than 4 February 2011.

#### For more information contact:

Mary Caspers-Graper, Hilton M. Briggs Library, SDSU, Box 2115, Brookings, SD 57007-1098; <a href="mailto:mary.caspers-graper@sdstate.edu">mailto:mary.caspers-graper@sdstate.edu</a> (605) 688-5565





# **Welcome New MPLA Members**

## **ARIZONA**

Sarah Garrett Library Aide, Scottsdale Public Library; Scottsdale, AZ

Gina Kelley Director of Library Services, Argosy University, Phoenix Campus Library Phoenix, AZ

Irving Nelson Program Director, Office of Navajo Nation Library Window Rock, AZ

Jane Rucker Library Assistant, Sr., Arizona State University Hayden Library Gilbert, AZ

Chanel Wheeler SIRLS Student, University of Arizona; Tucson, AZ

Marilyn Howard State Documents Cataloger, Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records; Phoenix, AZ

Sara Goulet Librarian, Scottsdale Public Library Scottsdale, AZ

Dorothy Hemmo Librarian, Brown Mackie College-Tucson Library; Tucson, AZ

# CALIFORNIA

Robert Franks Librarian, Oxnard Public Library Oxnard, CA

## COLORADO

Creed Kidd Director, Red Feather Lakes Community Library; Red Feather Lakes, CO

Briana Francis Information Services Librarian, Jefferson County Public Library Evergreen Library; Evergreen, CO LeeAnn Benkert Librarian, NSSI Resource Center Colorado Springs, CO

Maria Lin Student, University of Denver Denver, CO

Brian Rauscher Reference/Instruction Librarian, Adams State College Nielsen Library Alamosa, CO

Meghan Casey Owner, Rocky Mountain Puppets Westminster, CO

Emily Wild Physical Sciences Librarian, US Geological Survey Library; Denver, CO

Barb Tinklenberg Teacher/Librarian, Alameda High School; Lakewood, CO

Chris Hudson Project Coordinator, University of Denver Westminster Law Library Frederick, CO

Laura Burnett Library Enthusiast; CO

## **NEBRASKA**

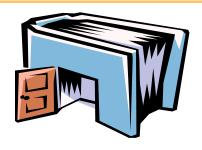
Michele Archibeque Teacher/Student LMS program, NE

Micki Dietrich Library Specialists, Omaha Public Library; NE

Jean Hurst Computer/Reference Services Librarian, LaVista Public Library; NE

Laura Johnson CE Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission; NE

Mary Koch Library Director, Gothenburg Public Library; NE



Kate Ostenrude Director, Neligh Public Library Neligh, NE

Tammy Teasley Librarian III, Lincoln City Libraries NE

## **NEVADA**

Rae Baumgartner Las Vegas, NV

Terri Currier Owner, Total Imaging Solutions Las Vegas, NV

Valerie Acklin Library Director, Career College of Northern Nevada; Sparks, NV

## NORTH DAKOTA

Maren Niemeier Information Resource Manager, University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health; Grand Forks, ND

Grant Carlson Digital Library Assistant, Dickinson State University Theodore Roosevelt Center; Dickinson, ND

Patricia Fisher Serials & Acquisitions Librarian, Valley City State University Allen Memorial Library; Valley City ND

Kelly Kornkven Coordinator of Technical Services, Mayville State University Library Mayville, ND

Cindy Clairmont-Schmidt Assistant State Librarian, North State North State Library; Bismarck, ND





Rhonda Schwartz Director, University of North Dakota Law Library; Grand Forks, ND

Janet Rex Coordinator, Distance Education Services, University of North Dakota Chester Fritz Library Grand Forks, ND

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Maria Gruener Assistant Director, Watertown Regional Library; Watertown, SD

Mary Francis Reference/Instruction Librarian, Dakota State University Library Madison, SD

Tina Eisenbraun SWIM Grant Recipient, Rapid City, SD

Gary Linn K-12, Lead-Deadwood Schools Lead, SD

Raynette Schulte Young Adult Librarian, Watertown Regional Library; Watertown, SD

Douglas Lee Library Assistant -ILL Lending, South Dakota State University Briggs Library; Brookings, SD

Jane Healy Electronic Resources Coordinator, South Dakota State Library Pierre, SD

Edith Nelson Director, Canton Public Library Canton, SD

# **WYOMING**

Fremont County School District #21 Attn: Robin Levin, Fremont County School District #21; Fort Washakie, WY

Teresa Authier Student, Cheyenne, WY Sponsored by ALA

# LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF CERTIFICATION

www.ala-apa.org/lssc

# RECOGNIZING VALUE – ENCOURAGING GROWTH



"I have a great passion for libraries, for what they are and what they stand for. I feel my participation in LSSC will allow me to learn new methods, procedures, and techniques to share my love for the library with others."

Michael Stanaland, Minden, LA



# Final Professional Development Grant Deadline 2010

#### 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 consequitive 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 AZLA Conference was held November 15 – 18 at the Radisson Fort McDowell Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona. The theme Click it Forward highlighted the ways in which Arizona libraries and library staff contribute to the profession, community, and to the world through innovations in technology, programming, services and a myriad of other ways that enhance the world in which we live. MPLA President-Elect Dana Braccia moderated a panel discussion: Forward Fast: It's Who You Know AND What You Know – How The Mountain Plains Library Association Can Help Build Your Leadership Skills & Expand Your Professional Network.



Pictured L to R: Jana Bradley (SIRLS), Dana Braccia (MPLA Incoming President), Dan Stanton (MPLA Leadership Institute Chair), Elvita Landau (MPLA President)



MPLA Arizona State Rep Anna Mathews and MPLA President Elvita Landau overlooking the famous fountain in Fountain Hills, AZ

The 2010 Arizona Library Leadership
Academy graduation ceremony was held August
18 at the Arizona State Library. Participants from
eight library systems throughout the state presented their group projects to a full house. Projects are
based on a service improvement to customers and
are written in LSTA grant format. State Librarian GladysAnn Wells gave the graduation address.
In addition to the group project each participant
works on a personal outcome to further the leadership
goals. The program is coordinated by Elaine Meyers and
sponsored by the Arizona State Library and Institute of

The Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Library Development Division offered a daylong summit September 20 on e-readers and technology showcase. To qualify, one representative per library location registered. The opportunity gave 100 Arizona library locations pre-selected bundle of e-readers (IPad, Nook, Sony, Kindle or Kobo) plus e-book gift cards to use at their branch. Presenters provided overviews of current trends and issues associated with e-reader usage in libraries. Participants took their e-reader bundles and gift cards back to their libraries to continue learning and sharing new skills with customers.

# COLORADO

Museum and Library Services.

MPLA member Louise Treff-Gangler is retiring from the Auraria Library in Denver where she worked for 25 years. She will be honored at a reception on December 2. She and her husband plan to travel. Louise served on the MPLA board in the past and has performed accounting reviews for the association. She says, "I want you to know how much I have enjoyed being a part of MPLA, not only the value of attending the conferences, but meeting all the great people."

The Rangeview Library District and Anythink Libraries in Adams County has received the 2010 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The National Medal, given yearly to only five libraries and five museums, is the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries that make extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions. In addition to

the National Medal, which will be awarded in an upcoming Washington, D.C. ceremony, each institution receives a \$10,000 award and visit from StoryCorps. In 2009, the Rangeview Library District underwent a major overhaul. The traditional structure of the library no longer worked for its busy, growing Adams County, Colorado, community. After years of staff watching patrons struggle to use the library, the Dewey Decimal System was eliminated – a decision supported by research from the nearby Denver Public Library. The library took a risk and re-engineered library services. Now organized by words (like cooking, home, and travel) instead of numbers, the library is witnessing amazing results from the new "WordThink" system, which is user-friendly and well-loved by the community. According to the IMLS, "Since the "Anythink" state of mind took over at the library, program attendance has more than doubled and circulation of materials has tripled. The Rangeview Library District's work is a testament to letting go of conventions, listening to community members, and allowing ideas to flourish, with an ongoing commitment to allowing imagination, optimism, and creativity guide its work." Pam Sandlian Smith is Anythink library director. See www.anythinklibraries.org.

KANSAS

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) named Johnson County Library as the 2010 Federal Depository Library of the Year. GPO selected Johnson County Library for its excellent customer service and ongoing commitment to open government. Public Printer Bob Tapella presented the award to library officials October 18 at the annual Fall Federal Depository Library Conference and Depository Library Council Meeting in Washington, D.C. JCL catalogs its government documents as part of its regular collection. The library also emphasizes outreach to bring government information to the attention of potential users. Three examples: The annual GovFest for Entrepreneurs event, which connects government agency representatives and business owners and would-be entrepreneurs to create and expand economic opportunities. Government Documents Librarian Martha Childers coordinates the event with its partners and the 50 exhibitors; During the 2009 tax season, the Johnson County Library's government information web pages and Tax Tips blog assisted over 5,000 people with federal tax-related issues.; Childers writes guest columns about helpful government sources, emphasizing their relevance to everyday life. The library is also an active participant in GovDoc Kids Group, a

national group of government document librarians that provides government information and resources to K-12 students, teachers and librarians. For the GovDoc Kids Group's 2010 Constitution Day Poster Contest, more than 10,000 entries were received from children all over the U.S. Childers is a co-founder and currently chairs the Group.



(l to r): Public Printer Bob Tapella, Johnson County Library's Martha Childers (Government Documents Librarian) and Donna Lauffer (County Librarian) and Acting Superintendent of Documents Ric Davis. Photo Credit: Government Printing Office.

MPLA member
Eric Norris is
Director of the
Hays Public
Library, replacing
MPLA member
Melanie Miller
who recently took
an early retirement.
Eric was formerly
Adult Department
Head.



New Statewide Library Web Conferencing Platform announced Elluminate has been selected as the statewide web-conferencing platform by Kansas State Library staff and the regional system consultants. The Library Development staff is working to set up administration and training. Learning Express Webinars will be Offered this Fall Learning Express will be offering four webinars to the Kansas library community this fall. Each of the Learning Centers -- Elementary, Middle School, High School, College Prep, College, Computer Skills, GED Prep, Job Search & Workplace Skills, Jobs & Careers, Adult Skill Building, U.S. Citizenship and Recursos para Hispanohablantes -- offers the practice tests, exercises, skillbuilding

courses, and information users need to achieve the results they want at school, at work, or in life.



Ender Bebensee Taylor was born October 30 to MPLA member Tom Taylor and his wife Amy. Weight: 8 lb 8 oz. Height: 18". Place: Wichita, KS. Tom is Continuing Education Coordinator for the South Central Kansas Library System in South Hutchison. He attended the 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute.

The Kansas State Library has produced Kansas Jigsaw Puzzle featuring the state's heroes, heroines and recog-

nizable locations. Included are Carrie Nation, Amelia Earhart, Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Kansas Speedway, the Cosmosphere,



and energy-generating windmills. Every picture tells a story, and every story is a part of the history of Kansas. The 550-piece puzzle for ages 10 and older is for sale at retail outlets across the state. Contact MPLA representative Mickey Coalwell (mcoalwell@nekls.org) to purchase a puzzle. Cost is \$17.95

MPLA member Royce Kitts, Director of the Tongan-oxie Public Library was named Emporia State University's Outstanding Recent Graduate. Royce says, It is quite an honor and something that I hope provides me some mental momentum to keep trying harder at what I do. My son gave a little speech before my speech last week and there was not a dry eye in the house when he was done." Harrison: "I think libraries are the most important place in the community. I once dreamed of a library made of chocolate cake and I ate the shelves." Royce attended the 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute.



l-r: Royce Kitts; Dean Gwen Alexander; Harrison Kitts

# MONTANA

Hearst Free Library in Anaconda has hired Mitch Grady to replace former director John Finn, who moved to Beaverton OR to take the director position of the Murray Scholls branch of the Beaverton Public Library system.

**Trista Smith**, replaces retired Gloria Langstaff as Director at the **Bitterroot Public Library**.

**KellyAnne Terry** is the new Director at **Lewistown Public Library.** 

In October, teens at the Parmly Billings Library were invited to participate in a Teen Mystery Contest. A mystery novel, torn into pieces, was in a jar at the Reference Desk. The mystery was to determine the book's title and

author. Teens were also invited to create a Who's Who Mystery Collage with pictures or descriptions of favorite movie stars or singers, with friends guessing the object the collage. All materials were provided.

The 3rd annual Children's Festival of the Book was held in Bozeman November 6, featuring Newbery Award winner Lois Lowry. She was joined by authors Karma Wilson, Elaine Marie Alphin, Michele Corriel and Jeanette Ingold. The free event is sponsored by the Bozeman Public Library Foundation.



Authors from Children's Festival of the Book

MPLA member Alice Meister, Director of the Bozeman Public Library for the past 13 years will retire December 31. Her 43-year career began as a high school English teacher in Chicago Heights, Illinois and Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin followed by several years at the East Baton Rouge Public Library (LA) as a reference librarian; 7 years as library director in Summit County (CO) Library; 16 years as library director at Sheridan County

Fulmer Public Library System (WY); one year as a school librarian in the Transkei, South Africa. Immediate plans include travelling to New York to attend the opera Carmen at the Met and a month's vacation in New Zealand. She will also serve on the Humanities Montana Board. She



says, "I do appreciate all that MPLA has done for me, other librarians, and libraries!! Keep up the good work!"

The Montana State Library is preparing to offer downloadable e-books as part of the downloadable audio project through OverDrive.

Terri Dood, Head of References, and Lois Dissly, Head of Technical and Automated Services, at the Bozeman Public Library will be interim directors until a new director is hired.

# **M**EBRASKA

The annual Nebraska Library Association (NLA) conference was held jointly with the Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA) on October 13-15 in Grand Island. The theme was "Celebrating the Past, Creating the Future". Joe Murphy, Yale University Science Libraries, presented Past to the Future: Meeting Technology Trends as the keynote. Other keynoters were Maria Reyes and Sharaud Moore, two of the original Freedom Writers.

The 2010 NLA Award Winners are: Mari Sandoz Award – Jean Lukesh (Grand Island Public Schools); NLA Meritorious Service Award - MPLA member Rebecca Pasco (University of Nebraska at Omaha); NLA Presidential Award for Excellence - Michael Straatmann (University of Nebraska at Lincoln); College & University Section Distinguished Service Award - Joan Giesecke (University of Nebraska at Lincoln); New Member Round Table Houchen Beginning Professional of the Year Award - Mo Khamouna (University of Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis); New Member Round Table Houchen Mentor of the Year Award – MPLA member Christine Walsh (Kearney Public Library); Paraprofessional Section Paraprofessional of the Year - MPLA member Martha Grenzeback (Omaha Public Library); Public Library and Trustee Section Excalibur Award – John Seyfarth (Sump Memorial Library, Papillion); School, Children, & Young People Section Mad Hatter Service Award – Judy Henning (Kearney High School); School, Children, & Young People Section Golden Sower Awards -Primary - The Secret Service Project That Almost Ate the School by Judy Sierra and illustrated by Stephen Gammell; Intermediate – Deep and Dark and Dangerous: A Ghost Story by Mary Downing Hahn; Young Adult - Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata

Governor Dave Heineman recently appointed Sherry R. Crow, of Kearney, to a 3-year term on the Nebraska Library Commission. Dr. Crow is Assistant Professor of School Library Science and Educational Media at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She has also served as a member of the Meridian Library System Board of Directors.

The **Nebraska Library Commission** was recently awarded a \$2,416,400.00 grant by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce to fund Nebraska's public computer center project, "Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities". This 3-year project is designed to expand broadband capacity; upgrade public computing resources in libraries; and advance access to employment, learning, health information, and E-Government services. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation also provided \$1,251,786.00 in matching funds which include a grant and technical assistance to support the project. The total project fund is \$3,668.189.00.

For a 10-minute introduction to the **Bellevue Public Library**'s staff, collections, programs, and services see www.youtube.com.

The Nebraska Center for the Book honored its 2010 Nebraska Book Awards winners on November 6 at the Nebraska History Museum in Lincoln. The 2010 Jane Geske Award was presented to *Plainsongs* and Hastings College. Originating in 1980 at Peru State College and moving to Hastings College in 1983, *Plainsongs* has been a rare survivor among small poetry magazines. It has published 3 times a year for 30 years, maintaining a quality poetry journal in Nebraska and encouraging poets from within, as well as outside, Nebraska to submit their works. Plainsongs is indexed by Humanities International Complete. The current editor is Laura Marvel Wunderlich.

# NEVADA

The Washoe County Library System has been offering a free program designed for seniors. *Lifescapes*, encourages seniors to write their life stories. The C-Span Digital Bus recently visited. The bus is equipped with the latest interactive technology. Four Touchsmart computer kiosks access C-SPAN's resources including the C-SPAN

video library-CPAN Classroom and Book TV.

Presented by Friends of Henderson Libraries, the Seventh Annual *Library Tree Lane* event will take place November 16-December 3, 2010. This annual Henderson Library fundraiser displays trees, wreaths and

holiday baskets available to the public for purchase. The

Holiday Chat will feature a talk and tea with Bestselling authors Robyn Carr and Robin Burcell. Children's programs will complement the festivities with popular children's book character visits, a special holiday puppet play and a visit from Santa will be offered to children. The Gala Reception and Auction will take place December 3 with guest authors Steven Kalas and Carolyn Schneider attending.

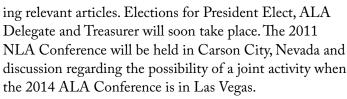
The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District hosted

a Fall Festival of Authors on Saturday, October 23, 2010 at the Clark County Library, Jewel Box Theater. A meet and greet had over thirty local authors and writers groups attending with book signings and sales.

All Nevada Libraries participated in Nevada Snapshot Day and will be collecting comments from patrons and photographs to forward

The Nevada Library
Association (NLA) now
has a Facebook and Twitter
account. The social networking sites will allow libraries
to update classes and library
events and encourage attendees to forward interest-

to community leaders.





# MEW MEXICO

University of New Mexico Health Sciences and Informatics will be hosting a traveling exhibit from the National Library of Medicine (NLM®) and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture in February and March. The exhibit, *Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons*, follows the journey and challenges faced by African American physicians from the pre-Civil War to modern day. For a preview of the exhibit, visit the NLM website at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/aframsurgeons/.

The Thomas Branigan Public Library held a "Teddy Bear Sleepover" as part of their 75th birthday celebration. Kids left their bears overnight for their own sleepover at the library. The next day the children picked up their teddy bears and saw all the adventures they got into. Twenty six bears and stuffed animals participated with over forty attending the Teddy Bear Storytime.



Mary Tuytschaevers is the new Director of Library Services at New Mexico Junior College Pannell Library.

# MORTH DAKOTA

The 2010 NDLA Conference was held September 29-October 1 in Grand Forks. Joe Raiola, senior editor for *Mad Magazine*, was the keynote speaker. Notable State Documents are: *Bridges Across North Dakota* by the ND Dept. of Transportation, *Palaces on the Prairie* by Rod Evans (ND Institute for Regional Studies), and *Identification and Control of Invasive and Troublesome Weeds in North Dakota* by Rodney G. Lym and Andrea J. Travnicek NDSU Extension Service and ND Dept. of Agriculture). The Flicker Tale Award winning books of 2010 are: *Kiss! Kiss! Yuck! Yuck!* by Kyle Mewburn (picture book), *Punished!* by David Lubar (intermediate book), *Soldier's Secret* by Sheila Solomon Klass (juvenile book), and *Two Bobbies* by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery. Both Sheila Solomon Klass and Kyle Mewburn spoke at the conference.

Newly elected NDLA officers: MPLA member Aubrey Madler, President-elect; Konnie Wightman, Academic & Special Libraries Section; Curt Hanson, Archives/Records Management Roundtable; Kalan Knudson Davis, Government Documents Roundtable; Mark Markland, Health Sciences Information Section; MPLA member Eric Stroshane, MPLA Representative; Laura Trude, New Members Roundtable; Daphne Drewello, Public Library Section; and Tina Kuntz, Nominations & Elections. Rita Ennen is the new President of NDLA.

MPLA member Doris Ott, State Librarian of North Dakota, was recently chosen as the 2010 Librarian of the Year at the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA) annual conference. She retired November 30, after 8 years of service in the position. She is a native of Carson, North Dakotan graduating from Dickinson State University and earned her Master of Library Science degree from George Peabody College (now Vanderbilt University) in Nashville, Tennessee. She started her professional librarian career as the Assistant Professor of Library Science at Dickinson State University. She was the first librarian at Magic City Campus in Minot and held positions at a school library and a public library in Indiana prior to returning to North Dakota in 1986. Doris came to the State Library in 1986 and held various positions there before becoming State Librarian in 2002.

Hulen Bivins was recently named State Librarian of North Dakota. Bivins presently serves as the Assistant Director of the Alabama Public Library Service, the state library agency of Alabama, where he coordinates the Field Services staff, in-agency library programs, services to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and the certification program for the payment of state funds to libraries in accord with state regulations. With more than 35 years of librarian experience, he has also worked with the Public Library of Nashville (TN) and the library system of Marshall University (WVA). Bivins will begin his duties as State Librarian on December 6, 2010. Bivins holds a B.A. in History from Lipscomb University, an M.S.L.S. in Library Science from the University of Tennessee, and a J.D. from the Jones School of Law at Faulkner University.



North Dakota State Library staff on Halloween. l-r: Al Peterson, Eric Stroshane, Matt Hovland, Krista Kurtz, and BreAnne Meiers.

# OKLAHOMA



MPLA member David Oberhelman won the "Funniest Costume" award in the OSU Library Halloween Costume Contest, 2010.

Ceiling cat is watching YOU!

The OLA Gold Leadership Institute was held November 3-5.

On October 28, the biennial Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People featured several author/illustrators including Tamora Pierce, Stephen Krensky and Laura Vaccaro

ESPN's traveling pregame show camped on Oklahoma State's Library lawn before the April 27 "Bedlam" showdown between the 10th-ranked Cowboys and No. 14 Oklahoma at Boone Pickens Stadium. The loss dropped OSU to 10-2, into a three-way tie for the Big 12 South Division title and likely out of the Big 12 Conference championship game.

MPLA Board member Wayne Hanway sends photos of a recent visit to St. Louis.











Missouri Botanical Garden. The trellises with Chihuly glass arches are on either side of the rose garden. Close-up of a striking water lily bloom. Scenes in the beautifully done Japanese garden.

# South Dakota

Five awards were presented at the South Dakota Library Association conference in Sioux Falls: Librarian of the Year - Nancy Sabbe, Madison Public Library; New Librarian of the Year - MPLA member Mary Francis, Dakota State University; Support Staff of the Year - Becky Folkerts, Augustana College; Trustee of the Year - Eunice Siler, Burke SD; and Friend of the Library - Jean Nicholson, Sioux Falls.

SDLA and Minitex jointly sponsored Stephen Abram in a presentation to librarians at the Siouxland Main Library in Sioux Falls. His talks were, "Catching the Vision: The Library in 2020" "Advocacy for Libraries: In Our Own Interest but still for Our Communities." There was no charge to attend either session.



MPLA President Elvita Landau, Director of Brookings Public Library, presenting award to winners of the library's Scary Story writing contest. The library has a special event to dress up, read the winners and eat strange food. In it's 9th year, there were 124 entries in 6 age categories. Elvita reports "it's always fun."

MPLA Board member **Mike Mullin** sends photos of Watertown Library staff members on Halloween, plus a photo of the city's finance director.



# Utah

The Whitmore Library of the Salt Lake County Library System sponsored two lock-in events this summer for teens. The theme for the June activity was "Zombies Sank My Battleship." Participants read books and played games, including the new games Wasabi and Arabian Nights. The August party rewarded teens who completed the summer reading programming. In addition to reading and games, a movie, crafts and giveaways took place.

The Highland Public Library began a Teen Book Club which meets monthly. The club received a grant from the Utah Humanities Council to buy books for members and the library collection. Members are 12-18 years of age and the club can have up to 15 members. Books are selected from lists by ALA and the library. Murder Mystery events are also held each year.

The **Provo City Library** sponsored a Teen Book Fest October 30. The keynote speaker was Scott Westerfield and several Utah YA authors spoke as well. Other activities included a costume contest, magician, food vendors and book giveaways.

The Park City Library held a free author program on October 23 in conjunction with the Utah Humanities Book Festival. Author Dominique Browning, who wrote Slow Love, How I Lost My Job, Put on Pajamas & Found Happiness and former editor of House & Garden and Phyllis Barber, the author of Raw Edges spoke and signed books.

MPLA member Christy Donaldson, Media Librarian at Utah Valley University, was chosen to serve as assistant librarian aboard the Semester at Sea ship, the MV Explorer during the Spring 2012 semester. The senior librarian aboard will be Keith Weimer and is always chosen from the University of Virginia. Semester at Sea is a pioneer and leader in global comparative studies, a critical educational

component in an increasingly global world. During the Spring 2012 semester the MV Explorer will ship out of Nassau, Bahamas and travel around the globe visiting many diverse ports including Dominica, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius,



India, Singapore, Viet Nam, China, and Japan. Christy attended the 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute.

The Grand County Public Library sponsored a Cardboard Boat Race. Sixty spectators cheered the three boat entries. The Vikings boat won, with 2,000 feet of duct tape keeping the entry functional.

The **Davis County Library** and King's English Bookstore sponsored a presentation by author/illustrator Jan Brett, whose current work is *The 3 Little Dassies*.

# WYOMING

MPLA member Cameron Duff is the new Library Director for the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library. He began November 15 and will meet the community at a reception on December 2. He was previously Collection Development Manager for the High Plains

Library District in Colorado and was a 2007 fellow of the MPLA Leadership Institute. Cameron and his wife, Kaitlin, grew up in library families. Duff's father was a school librarian in Canada and Kaitlin's mother



is a public librarian in Colorado.

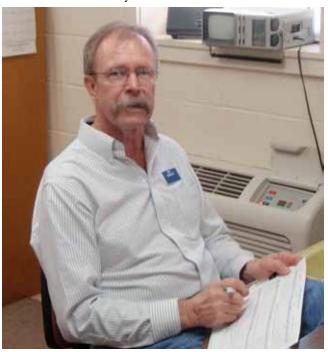
Local citizens can learn about their energy use by checking out new Kill-A-Watt<sup>TM</sup> EZ electricity meters from the Natrona County Public Library. The meters measure the power consumption of household appliances and determine the cost of electricity used. Cost can be shown by the hour, day, week, month or year. The device

is simple to use and can help citizens make energy-wise and cost-effective household decisions. The meters were provided to



the library by the local Home Depot, and are available for a two week checkout at no cost to patrons.

Kip Bethurem, Facilities Manager for Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, was recognized with the 2010 Unsung Hero Award at the annual Wyoming Library Association Conference in Casper. Staff from the Fulmer Library nominated Bethurem for his above and beyond service in maintaining the buildings and grounds that serve the community and staff.



The Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library has sponsored several author appearances. Bruce Smith, a field biologist and author, appeared at the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library for a presentation and book signing of his new book, *Wild Life on the Wind*. Craig Johnson discussed his latest novel, *Junkyard Dogs*, at the Clearmont Library. He read from his sixth book in the popular Walt Longmire Mystery series.

The Laramie County Library System (LCLS) and its supporters won five of the ten major awards at this year's Wyoming Library Association conference. The winners are: Unsung Hero: Julie Eatmon, LCLS Volunteer Specialist for efforts in organizing individuals to help move the entire library to its new location, managing the library's new book sale room, and general excellence in coordinating thousands of volunteer hours for LCLS each year; Meritorious Service: The Honorable Doug and Susan Samuelson for distinction in their roles as advocates and benefactors for LCLS, including their generous gift to make the interactive literacy area "My Library Place" one of the most successful and popular areas of the new library. The award also recognizes Rep. Samuelson's work

in helping pass the Public Library Endowment Challenge Program; Trustee Citation: Denise Kelsey, LCLS Board of Directors, for dedication to LCLS, particularly her work during many crucial aspects of the building project. She was twice chair of the board of directors, as well as chair of the political action committee that helped with the successful campaign, which she accomplished while she was not on the board.; Media Support: Karen Cotton. The Wyoming Tribune-Eagle's features and entertainment reporter, Cotton was recognized for her body of work that helped promote many events and services at LCLS, including extensive pieces about the new library and the summer reading celebration; Andy Fisher Award: Laramie County Library System. Presented to a county library that has achieved a special goal of outstanding merit, LCLS won this award for its new library facility (which was named the nation's Library of the Year in 2008), and for all of the work by various people associated with the organization in making this building a reality.

As part of its Saturday U programs, the **Teton County** Library presented Free Speech in Universities; Risks, Rewards of Web 2.0; Balancing Costs of Climate Change. Now in its second year, Saturday U is a collaborative program designed to connect top University of Wyoming professors with life-long learners in Jackson Hole. The free, one-day college experience offers Jackson residents an opportunity to exercise their minds without homework, or tests – the only requirement is a love of learning. Offered three times a year, Saturday U is sponsored by the University of Wyoming, University of Wyoming Foundation, Wyoming Humanities Council and co-presented by Central Wyoming College, National Museum of Wildlife Art and Teton County Library Foundation. Participants may earn half a college credit (in-state tuition is \$44.50) or half a PTSB credit free for each Saturday program from Central Wyoming College.

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# MPLA Nominations Deadline January 31, 2011

Nominations may be sent to Award Committee Chair, Steve Decker (Cedar City Public Library, UT) at <a href="mailto:dsteve@cedarcity.org">dsteve@cedarcity.org</a>. Please clearly mark the subject line MPLA Award Nomination. The MPLA Awards Committee is seeking nominees for:

Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award: For an individual, organization or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated by repeated conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees and professional activities.

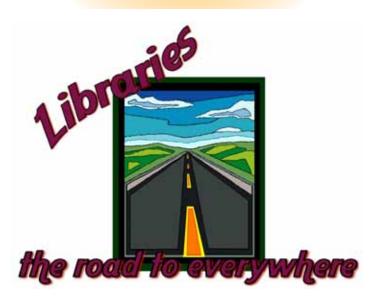
MPLA Distinguished Service Award: For an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession or has furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. In the case of retired individuals, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA.

MPLA Literary Contribution Award: For 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 selection 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.

MPLA Beginning Professional Award: To recognize an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist within the first five years after receiving a library/media masters degree, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service. Factors such as innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and special projects will be considered.

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 some significance to a community but which has not been eligible for a library award, or which has for other reasons specified by the nominator not been recognized to the degree that it merits, by any library organization.

# MPLA Jobline now has an RSS newsfeed available for new position listings. URL http://mpla.us/feed.xml!



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Join the MPLA Page! It 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.

# State & National Conferences 2011

ALA Midwinter Meeting Jan. 7–12, San Diego, CA

Oklahoma Library Association Conference March 30 - April 1; Tulsa, OK

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

MLA/MPLA Joint Conference April 6-9, Billings, MT

New Mexico Library Association Conference April 27-29; Albuquerque

Utah Library Association Conference May 11-13; Layton, UT

ALA 2011 Annual Conference June 23–29, 2011; New Orleans, LA

Nebraska Library Association Conference October 5-7, Lincoln, NE

South Dakota Library Association Conference October 5-7, 2011 - Spearfish

Colorado Association of Libraries Conference October 13-15; Loveland, CO

# 2012

Nebraska Library Association-Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Conference Fall - Omaha

# 2013

South Dakota - North Dakota-Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Conference Fall - Sioux Falls

## 2014

Arizona Library Association-Mountain Plains Library Association Joint Conference Fall







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