

Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

February 2011

www.mpla.us

Volume 55 #3

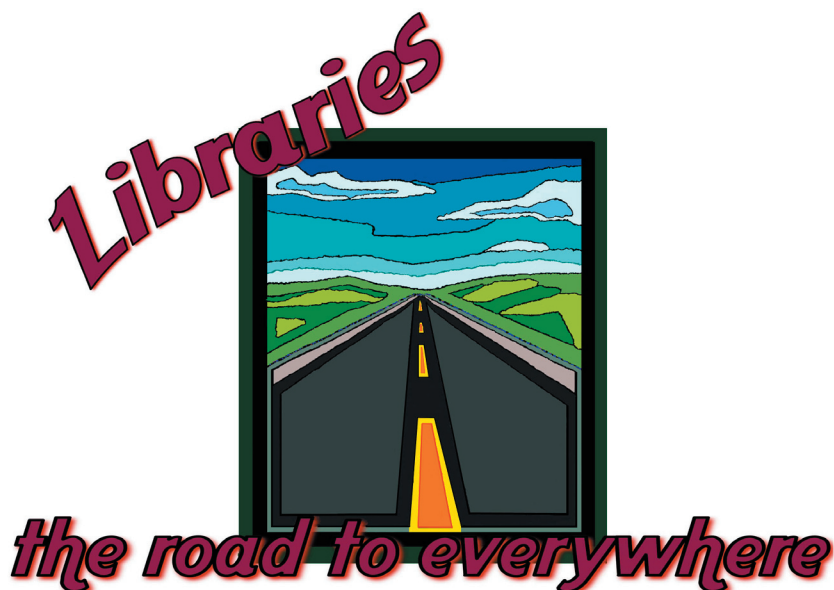
INSIDE

- 2 ... President's Message
- 3 ... 2011 Conference Information
- 6 ... There's a Toilet in my Office!
- 7 ... Professional Development Grants Deadlines
- 8 ... IMLS National Medal Winner
- 10...Around the Region
- 24... "Reference Extract" Project
- 24... ALA Authors' PSA's
- 25... British Library Smartphone Apps
- 25... Conference Dates
- 26...MPLA Board and Staff
- 27...MPLA Membership Form
- Advertisers Supporting MPLA
- 7 ...ALA/APA Library Support Staff Certification
- 6 ... New Mexico State University/Dona Ana Community College



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

Register now for MLA/MPLA Conference
April 6-9 in Billings, MT
<http://tandtevents.com/>



MPLA New Members Breakfast
MPLA Membership Meeting
MPLA Leadership Institute Reunion
MPLA Hot Tub Roundtable
and much more!

More information inside

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

President's Message

As my presidential year moves along, the MPLA/Montana Library Association joint conference is becoming clear on the horizon with the theme: *Libraries; the Road to Everywhere*. Billings, MT is the place and the dates are April 6-9, 2011. Put those dates in your Outlook, smart phone, iPad/Phone, BlackBerry, Franklin Planner, refrigerator, or whatever electronic device you use to help remind you of important events.

Marilyn Johnson, author of *This Book is Overdue; How Librarians and Cybrarians Will Save Us All*, Adriana Trigiana, author of numerous bestselling adult and young adult novels, and Sneed B. Collard III, award-winning author of many children's nonfiction books, will be featured speakers.

Do you have a new idea, innovation, and case study in librarianship that would benefit the profession? Consider submitting a paper to the MPLA Professional Forum to be held at the Billings Conference. School and public librarians, as well as those from academia, are encouraged to participate. A monetary prize will be awarded to the winning paper presentation. Guidelines for the competition can be found at www.mpla.us/events/2010ProfessionalForum.pdf The deadline (February 4) is fast approaching so don't delay.



Elvita enjoying a cup of tea at the Library's Mango Tree Coffee Shop

Remember an important MPLA membership perk: the professional development grants program, which are intended to improve library services in the region by supporting continuing education and research experiences for members. Grants are available for formal course work leading to an advanced degree in library science or a related discipline, and for course work directly related to an individual's library position, attendance at a library or scholarly workshop, seminar, or conference including the MPLA annual conference, visits to another library to receive or provide significant advanced training in library services or procedures, or library related research projects.

With all those possibilities, one would think that all the funds available would be awarded every year. However, there were two deadlines that went by with no applications. So if there is a conference, class, workshop, or seminar that has caught your eye and you can convince your supervisor/board/dean to let you travel, think seriously about submitting a grant application. The deadlines are February, April, June, August, October, and December. Check the MPLA website for more information.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that I would be attending the Arizona Library Association conference in November. The weather was wonderful. (Remember I'm from South Dakota) I got to spend quality time with incoming MPLA president Dana Braccia and Leadership Institute chair Dan Stanton and be on a panel promoting the MPLA experience. While attending an early morning Service Awards Breakfast, I was very impressed with the support shown Darlene Westcott, winner of the Outstanding Youth Services Award. There were three tables of supporters from her community who made the more than two hour trip to be there by 7:30 a.m. That reaffirmed the love that our communities have for libraries and librarians. We just need to continue to tap into that feeling to keep us motivated.

Keep warm or cool, depending where you are.

----*Elvita*

Conference Registration now Open!

Registration form at <http://www.tandtevents.com/MLA2011/forms/regForm2011.htm/> .

All speakers: <http://tandtevents.com/MLA2011/Speakers/speakers.html>

Program descriptions at http://tandtevents.com/MLA2011/program_des/programs.html/

MLA/MPLA Conference Highlights

Marilyn Johnson



“Although futurists predicted that libraries would be dead by now, and many dismiss librarians as irrelevant in the age of Google, Marilyn Johnson argues with passion and humor that librarians are more important than ever. Her speeches and presentations demonstrate how savvy and wired librarians are not just necessary, but indispensable. She profiles a dazzling array of visionary librarians who fuse the tools of the digital age with love of the written word and the old-fashioned values of free speech, open access, and scout-like assistance to all who need it. She shows how this new breed of librarian is the missing link between proliferating technology and information and the ordinary person with an old PC and a library card. Johnson’s encounters with creative librarians continue and, along with her ability to illuminate the profession in surprising and perceptive ways, she has emerged as an outspoken advocate of library funding and an energetic leader in mobilizing authors for libraries.”

Adriana Trigiani

Award-winning playwright, television writer, and documentary filmmaker Adriana Trigiani is the author of the bestselling *Very Valentine* and *Brava, Valentine*, part of the Valentine series, *Viola in Reel Life*, the first book in a new young adult series, the bestselling Big Stone Gap series, and the bestselling novel, *Lucia, Lucia*. She has written and will direct the big-screen version of her first novel, *Big Stone Gap*. She lives in New York City with her husband and daughter.



Sneed Collard III

Bucking Out—Exploring New Frontiers in Children’s Literature Winner of the 2006 Washington Post–Children’s Book Guild Award for Nonfiction, shares an entertaining journey through his life and adventures as an author. He gives the inside scoop on some of his most popular books and describe the changing face of children’s publishing. He will highlight new titles from his new publishing venture, Bucking Horse Books, and discuss other exciting trends in children’s publishing.



Hotel Information



Billings Hotel and Convention Center

1223 Mullooney Lane
Billings, MT 59101
Phone: 406.248.7151

Reservations

Contact the Billings Hotel directly to reserve a room.

Toll free 1.800.537.7286
Directly 406.248.7151

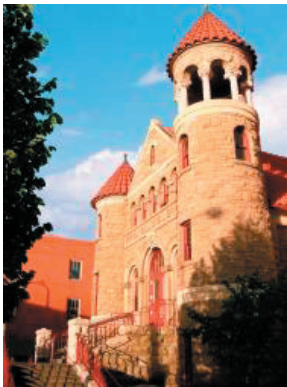
Rooms are available for MLA/MPLA attendees at discounted rates.
\$72.00 + Tax (1 King or 2 Queen beds)

The Billings Hotel offers Indoor Pool and Hot Tub; Free Parking; Complimentary Airport Shuttle; Exercise Room; Business Center; Refrigerators

Special Events

Wednesday April 6, 2011

Billings Buzz at Carter's Brewery - Enjoy an hour spent at one of Billings' premiere local breweries, Carters, on historic Montana Avenue. Hear from the Brew master about his various styles of brew as you relish a sample tray of Carter's beer. Join other MLA and MPLA members before the Opening reception for taste of Billings Montana. 4:30 - 5:30



Welcome Reception - Western Heritage Center - The Western Heritage Center has a collection of over 17,000 objects, including historic photographs, American Indian beadwork and artifacts, western art, including the James Kenneth Ralston Collection, architectural drawings, fire fighting equipment, Thomas Molesworth furniture, western tack, clothing and textiles, historic guns, advertising memorabilia and oral histories pertaining to the people and places of the Yellowstone River Valley and the Northern High Plains. 5:30 - 7:00

Thursday April 7, 2011

New Member & Past Presidents' Breakfast, MLA & MPLA. New MPLA members from the past year sign up free. 7 am



Thursday April 7, 2011, continued:

Keynote. 11:15

Awards Lunch, MLA & MPLA. 12:45

MPLA Membership Meeting. 3:45

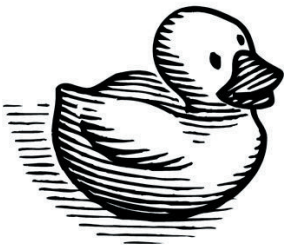
MPLA Leadership Institute Reunion. Alumni from past Institutes, come join your MPLA President, Elvita, and fellow alumni for an evening of laughter and discussion. Bring a friend who may be interested in the Institute. They can come learn about the valuable experiences that so many of us have had at the Leadership Institutes. 5 pm

Sheila Cates Event. Sheila Cates was an inspirational librarian who cared about the development of every librarian and library in Montana; she died of cancer in 1993, but MLA carries on her passion for libraries and librarians by raising money for a scholarship fund created to honor her. This evening event always features fun and laughter. 8 pm

Friday April 8, 2011

Membership Dinner, MLA & MPLA. Get together for an evening of dinner and entertainment. No business - just fun! 7 pm

MPLA Hot Tub Roundtable - Hot water, laughter, and rubber duckies are all part of the frivolity of this roundtable. Come and enjoy a relaxing but amusing evening with your friends and help name this year's rubber duckies! around 9ish – after the Membership Dinner



Saturday April 9, 2011

Author Luncheon 12:30

Tours

What Do Oil, Wetlands and Billings Have in Common? A one-hour tour of the ExxonMobil Refinery and the wild wetlands ExxonMobil built on the site of a reclaimed gravel pit. Wednesday April 6, 2011 12:45 – 2:30

Billings Historic District and Moss Mansion. What do underground tunnels, a floating bar during prohibition, and a haunted Historic Hotel have in common? Board the “Fun Express Bus” and enjoy a one hour guided tour of the Historic Moss Mansion, and an one hour of unforgettable, fun filled, learning experience tour of Billings. Wednesday April 6, 2011. 2:00 -4 :30

There's a Toilet in My Office!

by Mike Mullin, Director, Watertown Regional Library, South Dakota; MPLA State Representative

Another title for this could be, "What Happens When You Turn 60 and Don't Come To Work at the Regular Time."

My 60th birthday was the same day that the library board had their regular evening meeting scheduled. That morning, after taking brownies to the library (traditionally the birthday kid brings treats in our library), I spent most of the day at home.



When I arrived at work that afternoon I found my office doors sealed shut and the windows covered with typical "he's old" stuff such as an 'Older Than Dirt Quiz' with 25 questions. If you answered 16 or more, you are older than dirt. (I answered all 25!)

In my office, I found that someone had replaced my desk chair with a porcelain throne, because I had 'gone to pot.' I loved it - it's wonderful to be appreciated (or teased?).



Sponsored by ALA

LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF CERTIFICATION

www.ala-apa.org/lssc

RECOGNIZING VALUE – ENCOURAGING GROWTH



- ▶ Learn new knowledge and skills
- ▶ Demonstrate your competence
- ▶ Receive recognition
- ▶ Gain nationally recognized certification
- ▶ Increase your confidence

ALA APA

MPLA Professional Development Grant Application Deadlines 2011

February 2

April 6

June 1

August 3

October 5

December 7

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

New Mexico State University | Doña Ana Community College

LIBRARY SCIENCE PROGRAM



**ALL
COURSES
OFFERED
ONLINE**

- Three Different Certificates Available
- Associate of Applied Science Degree
- School Library Media Specialist Endorsement
- Single Classes for Continuing Education

**For more information or a list of class offerings call
1-800-903-7503, ext. 7567 or email: spinkert@nmsu.edu.
<http://dacc.nmsu.edu/bis/libtec>**

P. O. Box 30001, MSC 3DA, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8001
(575) 527-7567 or 1-800-903-7503, ext. 7567 • Fax: (575) 528-7280

New Mexico State University
NM STATE DACC
Doña Ana Community College

Colorado Library wins National Medal for Museum and Library Services

First Lady Michelle Obama presented the 2010 National Medal for Museum and Library Service to Colorado's **Rangeview Library District and Anythink Libraries** along with five museums and four other libraries at a White House ceremony. The National Medal is the highest honor the nation confers on institutions for their outstanding contribution to America's communities. awards are made annually by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to museums and libraries that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to public service through innovative programs and community partnerships. Each of the ten directors accepted the award along with a community member who had been personally affected by the museum or library. The winners will also receive a \$10,000 award to continue the good work they are doing in their communities, and a 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.

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 library, "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."



l-r: Donna Kelly, Community Member; Pam Sandlian Smith, Director; and Mrs. Obama.

Call for Nominations: 2011 National Medal for Museum and Library Service Nomination Deadline: February 15, 2011

Supporters of outstanding museums and libraries are encouraged to nominate these institutions for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for exemplary museum and library community service. The National Medal honors museums and libraries that make extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions. Medal winners receive a \$10,000 award.

For more information and to access the nomination form, go to: www.imls.gov/about/medals. Nominations must be postmarked by February 15, 2011 to this address (no faxes or emails will be

Welcome New MPLA Members



ARIZONA

Janice Nez
Student, University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

Lindsey Donovan
Library Supervisor, Scottsdale Public
Library Appaloosa Library
Phoenix, AZ

Robert Forman
Collection Management Librarian,
Thunderbird School of Global
Management International Business
Center; Glendale, AZ

Lindsey Powers
Assistant Librarian, Phoenix Art
Museum Library
Phoenix, AZ

COLORADO

Rick Kerns
Library Technician III, University of
Northern Colorado James A.
Michener Library
Greeley, CO

NEBRASKA

Lindsey Bray
Library Specialists, Omaha Public
Library, NE

Sarah Dockray
Area Coordinator of Learning
Resources, Mid-Plains Community
College; North Platte, NE

Martha Grenzeback
Librarian, Omaha Public Library
NE

James Aitken
Owner, Aitken Educational
Specialties; Lincoln, NE

Sara Mostek
Student, University Nebraska
Omaha; Roseland, NE

Kathleen Ryan
Eastern Oklahoma Library
District; Muskogee, OK

NORTH DAKOTA

Stephen Banister
Library Director, Minot State
University Library
Minot, ND

Diane Lindseth
Grand Forks Public Library
Grand Forks, ND

OKLAHOMA

Lynn Weissinger
Accountant, Panhandle Telephone
Cooperative, Inc
Guymon, OK

SOUTH DAKOTA

Debbie Mailloux
Library Technician, VA Black Hills
Health Care System Medical Library
Fort Meade, SD

Craig Johnson
University of Sioux Falls Mears
Library
Sioux Falls, SD

Kathleen Slocum
Continuing Education Coordinator,
South Dakota State Library
Pierre, SD

Juanita Grewing
Director, North Sioux City
Community Library
North Sioux City, SD

UTAH

Eagle Mountain Public Library
Michele Graves, Director, Eagle
Mountain Public Library
Eagle Mountain, UT

Lisa Nelson
Utah State Library
Salt Lake City, UT

Allene Dotson
Salt Lake City Public Library
Salt Lake City, UT

Sean Tibbitts
Librarian, Salt Lake City Public
Library
Salt Lake City, UT

WYOMING

Megan Herold
Asst Childrens & Technology/
Website Librarian, Johnson
County Library
Buffalo, WY

Marci Mock
Circulation Services Manager,
Sheridan County Fulmer Public
Library; Sheridan, WY

Samuel Robinson
Reference/Interlibrary Loan Special-
ist, Laramie County Library
Cheyenne, WY

Around the Region

Arizona



MPLA @ AZLA: **The Arizona Library Association** conference *Click it Forward* was held at the Radisson Fort McDowell, November 15-17. Elvita Landau, MPLA President attended and was part of the presentation *Forward Fast: It's Who You Know AND What You Know – How MPLA Can Help Build Your Leadership Skills & Expand Your Professional Network*. The panel discussion moderated by MPLA President-elect **Dana Braccia** informed the audience of all the benefits of joining. The participants spoke of networking, committee and leadership opportunities as a result of membership.



After the conference there was a well attended MPLA Happy Hour at Euro Pizza Kitchen in Fountain Hills overlooking city's world famous water feature. The 2011 AZLA Annual Conference

Imagine the Future will be held Nov 28-30, 2011 @ The Westin La Paloma - Tucson, AZ.

The AZLA Executive Board announces the association's 2011 officers: President-elect, MPLA member **Nancy Deegan**, Central Arizona College ; Secretary, **Margaret Espinoza**, Prescott Public Library; Northern Regional Representative , **Heidi Holland**, Flagstaff/Coconino County Library; Southern Regional Representative **Angie Creel-Erb**, Arizona Western College

In response to the challenges of an uncertain economy, the **Arizona State Library** has introduced *Tools for Tough Times* which offers helpful links and contact information to assist residents with a range of issues. Employment, financial planning, health, and parenting questions are just a few of the areas covered.

Dr. Donald Dickinson, founding Director of the University of Arizona Graduate Library School, received the Lawrence Clark Powell Lifetime Achievement Award at the tenth annual Powell Memorial Lecture December 2, 2010 MPLA member and Pima County Public Library Director **Nancy Ledeboer** hosted the event.

Julie Huelsbeck begins a term as Arizona's Representative to MPLA. She has a Bachelors degree in Spanish and Library Science from the University of Wisconsin—Oshkosh and a Masters of Library Science from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. A native of Wisconsin, Julie has been in the Southwest for nearly 30 years, 19 of them with Mohave County Library. She has held a number of positions with the District, starting as Branch Manager of the Bullhead City Library. For the last three years she has been the Assistant Library Director. When not at work, Julie enjoys traveling, scrapbooking, paper crafting and counted cross stitch.



COLORADO

Brenda Bailey-Hainer, formerly president and CEO at BCR in Colorado, was recently named Executive Director of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA).



The **Colorado Library Courier** has expanded its statewide courier service. Starting in January 2011, Blue Sky Express will link Colorado's courier to most Kansas libraries. Blue Sky Express will run 5 days a week at no additional cost to participating libraries except for extra high volume charges.

The **Marmot Library Network** signed an agreement with the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries and Innovative Interfaces that allows Marmot to join the Prospector regional union catalog and interlibrary loan system (<http://www.coalliance.org/prospector>). The current Alliance catalog includes approximately 27 million items (10 million titles), which supports interlibrary lending among 26 public, academic, and special libraries located in the metropolitan "Front Range" of Colorado and Wyoming. Marmot will add records of approximately 3 million items (1.2 million titles) held by 15 public and academic libraries mainly on the rural "Western Slope" of Colorado. The project is substantially funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through a Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) allocation to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado State Library (CSL).

The 2010-2011 CAL Leadership Institute (CAL-LI) began in early October. Seventeen participants gathered for their first workshop on October 6 at the Carbon Valley Library. During the half-day session, they engaged in self-awareness and assessment activities using the Strengths Finder 2.0 model.

With the availability of over 15,000 free public domain titles in epub format through Project Guten-

berg and available from OverDrive, the **Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC)** led a project to clean up the MARC records of the most popular titles, called eDiscover the Classics. The top 500 or so downloads were identified and those marc records were cleaned up and enhanced by catalogers at Douglas County Library and the University of Denver, and were then made available to Colorado libraries.

Congratulations to the Colorado libraries that made the list of America's Star Libraries, 2010: LJ Index of Public Library Service 2010

Pitkin County Library, Aspen
Ridgway Library District
Douglas County Libraries
La Veta Regional Library District
Swink School/Public Library
San Miguel Library District # 1/Telluride
Denver Public Library
Fleming Community Library (School/Public)

Two long-time Colorado Librarians recently retired. **Hank Long**, previous director of the Englewood Public Library, and **Margery Smith**, previous director of the Bemis/Littleton Public Library, both retired in mid-December.



The day before Thanksgiving, Mary Katherine Katzer (CO rep) had the rare opportunity to have story time with all four of her grandchildren. (This is rare because two of them live in Utah and the other two live in Minnesota and it's not often that they are all together.) Here they are, wearing matching shirts with characters from Mo Willems books on them, and enjoying the story "Red Sled" by Patricia Thomas, while a winter storm raged outside.

'Times they are a changin', is the theme of the 2011 **Colorado ILL Conference** April 28- 29, 2011 in Fort Collins, Colorado. See <http://www.coloradovirtuallibrary.org/coloillconf/index.html> for future updates and registration information.

The town of **Vail Public Library**, in collaboration with Art in Public Places, provided a celebration of storytelling, games, hot cocoa and polar bear snow sculptures by local artist, Karl Krueger, on February 16 at the Gore Creek Promenade at the fire pit in Vail Village.



The life-sized snow sculptures are entitled Arctic.

Jay Trask and **Kay Lowell** received \$3,500 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to help fund the “Archival Environmental Monitoring for the James A. Michener Library” project, University of Northern Colorado. The grant will help fund the environmental monitoring of rare books and special collections. The project includes the use of humidity and temperature monitors in storage areas to gauge conditions within the library.

KANSAS

When the **Leawood Pioneer Neighborhood Library** of the Johnson County Library was expanded by 70%, the old building was remodeled as well, utilizing sustainable features and materials. Twelve months following its reopening in October 2009, the facility is costing 25% less in utilities to operate while serving three times the number of patrons.

Rob Banks, MPLA member and Deputy Director of Operations Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, was recently elected as chair of the Topeka Landmarks Commission. Rob is also a past-president of MPLA.

Johnson County Library staff sported heart-shaped “tattoos” to express their love for the new, interactive Web catalog, launched on December 1.



Dubbed “Bibliocommons” (after its vendor), the new catalog replaces the previous iBistro online catalog. It is a catalog interface supplied by Bibliocommons, a hosted service that overlays the library’s integrated library system (ILS), which is SirsiDynix’s Symphony. Patrons wanted a “Web experience” in their library catalog, to feel like a user experience in an online bookstore. New features: Users can create and explore recommendations, reviews, and ratings, build their own personalized reading lists, and have lists of “new books” acquired by the library.

Fourteen Kansas area public libraries recently began using a new Polaris automation system as part of the **South Central Kansas Automation Network (SCKAN)**. The SCKAN database currently encompasses nearly 255,000 items from the collections of participating public libraries. SCKAN is administered by the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS) in South Hutchinson. According to MPLA member **Larry Papenfuss**, SCKLS Director of Information Technology, “The SCKAN Consortium has provided participating member libraries and their users’ access to one of the premier library automation systems in the country. SCKAN offers an automation system to participating member libraries that normally could not afford such high-

end features. SCKAN allows users more control over their accounts so they can place their own reserves, renew items and view their current checkouts from home or anywhere they have access to a computer and the Internet. SCKAN member libraries are a consortium and are better able to negotiate affordable pricing and discounts. By working together as a group, SCKAN member libraries have enhanced user access to their local library collections and increased the sharing of library materials in our region.” Participating SCKAN member public libraries include Arkansas City, Augusta, Burrton, Cheney, Clearwater, Colwich, El Dorado, Haven, Moundridge, Mulvane, Rose Hill, Sterling, Towanda and Whitewater. SCKAN is funded in part by grants from the federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA), SCKLS and participating libraries. SCKLS provides grants, continuing education, consulting and cost-effective support services to 149 member libraries in twelve 12 counties.

MPLA member **Rita Severt** reports that “the Wichita Area Technical College Library participated in the “Snapshot: A Day in the Life of a Library”



sponsored by the State Library of Kansas. We sent in statistics for patron count, reference questions, and presentations. It just happened that I had two classes com-

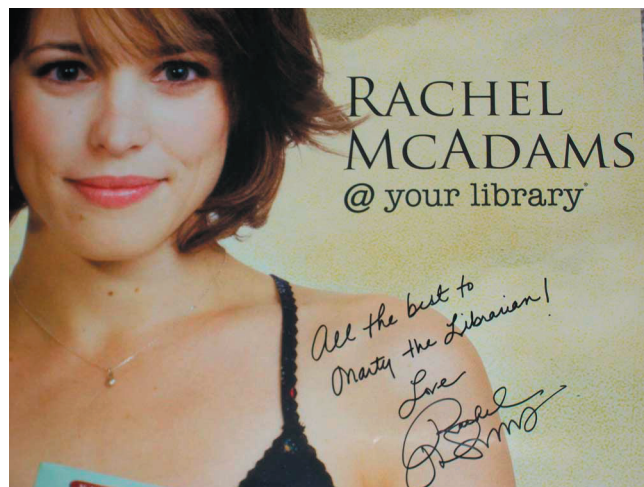


ing to the Library, so that was a good number for our library. I also sent out an email to have everyone have their picture taken with the Librarian and I wore my “Librarian” shirt I bought at the MPLA conference last year (another reason to join MPLA). We also asked for comments and received lots of nice notes (no bad ones!) and we had treats out to thank our students.” Rita is Director of the Library.

MPLA member **Marty Evensvold**, Director of Coffeyville Community College Graham Library, reports that “50 weeks out of the year I’m a Library Director. The other 2 weeks, I work in the motion picture business.” A photo from his latest project:



Marty on the set of the new Ben Affleck movie being shot in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Marty was the Assistant Location Manager for one day.



Marty also has an ALA Read poster autographed by Rachel McAdams.

The **Pittsburg Public Library** is offering weekly Wii Wednesdays. Participants play a variety of Wii games, including Wii Sports Resort, performing realistic sports moves in activities that include sword play, power cruising, table tennis and more. Library staff will help those who have never Wii-ed before. The Wii gaming system was purchased with a grant from the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas.

Mary Ann Thompson, Kansas Room Librarian at the Hays Public Library, recently created a Kansas Room page on Facebook. See “Hays Public Library Kansas Room.” Currently featured are aspects of the upcoming Centennial celebration.

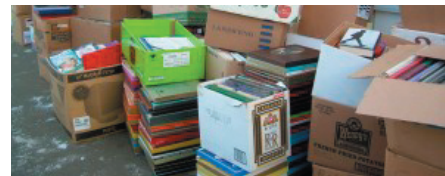
Mary Ann shown with Brutus, her 7 year old basset bound.



The **Johnson County Library** has launched a new version of The Digital Cemetery, a Web project that provides burial information from local Johnson County cemeteries. The creator of the site, **Linda Lewis**, Overland Park, KS, has developed it into a popular and well-regarded tool for local historians and genealogists since it went online in 2005 on her private domain. The Library applied for and received grant funding from the Johnson County Heritage Trust Fund to complete the transcriptions and move the site into its technical environment. The work has been completed and The Digital Cemetery is now available at <http://cemetery.jocohistory.org>. The site allows users to locate graves of loved ones or ancestors by searching through the surname or cemetery indexes which can be searched or browsed alphabetically. Each individual record includes information gleaned from the headstone and photographs of the stone itself. Lewis and a group of volunteers assembled the information by visiting each cemetery in person and manually transcribing the data. As a result, The Digital Cemetery is more complete, detailed and accurate than national websites that provide grave data for Johnson County.

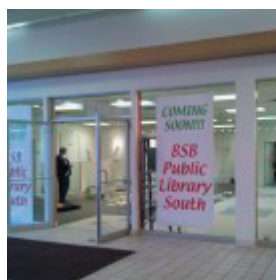
Montana

The **Butte-Silver Bow Public Library** suffered a flooding disaster when a fire suppression water main burst late in November, resulting in damage to the first and second floors and the closure of the library. Free damaged books were offered for the taking outside the building while staff began the cleanup process.



Damaged books available for the taking Butte-Silver Bow South Branch

LYRASIS sent hygrometers so staff could monitor humidity levels and offered round-the-clock assistance. Luckily a generous offer of space came from



the Butte Plaza Mall and the library now has a new South Branch location! Six months of free rent, and a donation from Wal-Mart of paint, shelving and labor, allowed the library to be up and running quickly. Complete library services are available at the

mall location, including computers and internet access, classes and children’s programming. The online catalog made it possible for users to reserve items for pick-up at all locations, including the new branch.

Missoula Public Library has opened a fourth branch, located at Big Sky High School. This location was chosen to provide better access to library materials for residents in southwest Missoula. The Big Sky Branch joins branches at Frenchtown High School, Seeley Lake High School, and the Community Center in Condon. “The previous school sites have been a big success because it gives the public more for their money,” Missoula Public Library Director Honore Bray said. “They’re already paying public dollars for their schools and they’re paying public dollars for the library. So by combining them together and using the school for longer hours, it makes more sense than paying rent in a building or trying to build a new building,” she added.

MPLA member **Alice Meister**, director of the **Bozeman Public Library** for 13 years, retired December 31, 2010. She is looking forward to travel and reading in her newly found spare time!

Staff gift of an iPad



Staff gift of photo memento book

Vaun Stevens, librarian at **Missoula Public Library** for 40 years, retired at the end of the year.



Pam Henley, MPLA Representative, in her 50's poodle skirt (that has cats, not poodles). Taken at Halloween.

Lauren McMullen, Training Specialist for the **Montana State Library**, has taken a new position as Statewide Consulting Librarian, focusing on the northern part of the state.

Circulation Manager **Gail Wilson**, is retiring after 30 years at Lewis & Clark Library, 29 of those as the Circulation Manager.

NEBRASKA

John Seyfarth, "Technical Guru," retired from the Sump Memorial Library in Papillion in November. He was the library's Information Systems Manager from August 1997 through November 2010. Before coming to the library, John worked as an Internet and Networking Specialist for the Omaha Public Schools. John's retirement plans include volunteer work; visiting granddaughters in California and Minnesota; enjoying his workshop; and home remodeling. During his library career, John served

on boards and received awards. His board service and awards include: Nebraska Library Association Information Technology and Access Round Table (Chair); Nebraska Library Association Public Library and Trustee Section (Chair); Nebraska Library Commission State Advisory Council for 6 years (1 year as President); Eastern Library System Governing Board (Treasurer, Immediate Past President); Bellevue Public Library Board (Vice-President); City of Papillion Employee of the Year (2001); Eastern Library System "Going the Extra Mile" Award (2002); Nebraska Library Association Excalibur Award (2010).



MPLA Member **Diana Keith** retired this year from the C. T. Ryan Library, University of Nebraska at Kearney, after a 32-year career as government documents librarian. Diana reports that the photo below "is the major reason I decided to retire. I bought a new 2009 Corvette convertible (red; license plates - "Go Baby") last year and finally decided driving it was a whole lot "more fun" than working! I told the salesman when I ordered it that I was trying to change the



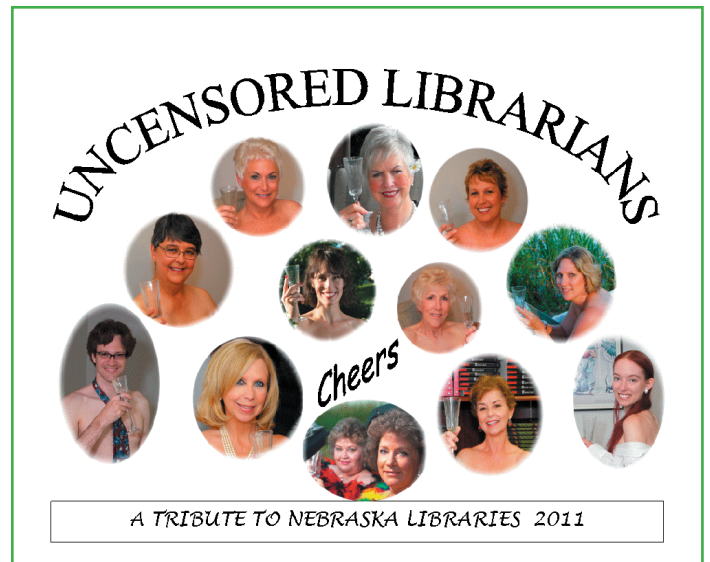
image of librarianship. He said "This may do it!".

Diana Says, "Our local newspaper interviewed me and printed an article with the headline 'Librarian retires for Corvette quality time'. The first paragraph said "Conventional wisdom would suggest that 'librarian' and 'Corvette' are two words rarely seen in the same sentence." I didn't expect to have my Vette emphasized quite so much!

Several Nebraska libraries received stars from *Library Journal* in October. Stars were based on the *LJ Index* which bases scores on library visits, circulation, program attendance, and public Internet computer use per capita. Congratulations go to

- Atkinson Public Library – 5 stars
- Central City Public Library – 5 stars
- Falls City Public Library & Art Center – 5 stars
- Hartington Public Library – 5 stars
- Neligh Public Library – 4 stars
- Wymore Public Library – 4 stars
- Bloomfield Public Library – 3 stars
- Lied Battle Creek Public Library – 3 stars
- Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library – 3 stars

The **Eastern Library System** is offering an "Uncensored Librarians" calendar as a 2011 fundraiser. Each month features a different librarian from a seven-county area surrounding Omaha. As Kathy Tooker says, "It is a work of art and sure to be a collector's gem." Each calendar is \$20.00. Order by phone (402-330-7884) or e-mail (nmeyer@windstream.net).



Five Nebraska libraries called the **Pioneer Consortium** successfully concluded a Library Improvement Grant received from the Nebraska Library Commission. The Consortium determined the feasibility of

utilizing open source integrated library system (ILS) software for its members' circulation, cataloging, etc. needs. This alternative would replace their existing ILS systems and could eventually be an option for libraries across the state. The Consortium chose the Koha open source product and the second path of operation. They reached an agreement with LibLime, a division of Progressive Technology Federal System Inc. (PTFS), headquartered in Bethesda, MD. Koha will provide ILS services to Grand Island Public Library, Gretna Public Library, Holdrege Public Library, Lincoln City Libraries, and St. Paul Public Library. Steve Fosselman (Grand Island Public Library) is the President of the Pioneer Consortium. Contact him by phone (308-385-5333) or e-mail (sf@gi.lib.ne.us).

New library directors in Nebraska include **Cherie Anderson**, Hooper Public Library; **Amy Kucera**, Howells Public Library, and **Krissy Nelson**, Gretna Public Library.

Marjorie Harrison, Panhandle Library System Coordinator, resigned in October. During her three-year tenure, Marjorie traveled extensively throughout the Panhandle; started rotating DVD collections; initiated the Shared-Automation Project; and served as Nebraska Library Association Treasurer. Marjorie is now Library Director at the San Juan Public Library in Friday Harbor, Washington.

Omaha Public Library has announced its 2011 Big Read titles. Adults will be discussing *Wait Till Next Year* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Children will be introduced to Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic, *The Secret Garden*. Special programming will take place in February as part of OPL's annual Winter Reading Club.



NEVADA

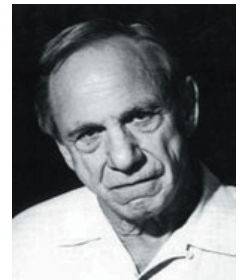
The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District decided to make January "Mob Month," with special events featuring ex-mobsters from around the country and authors who have researched organized crime and its effects on our society. Programs include:

The Law vs. the Mob: Two former law enforcers (Dennis Arnoldy and Dennis Griffin) and two ex-mobsters (Andrew DiDonato and Salvatore "Fat Sal" Mangiavillano) discuss working for and against the Mob.



New York and Chicago Invade Las Vegas and Hollywood: Former mob men Henry Hill, Frank

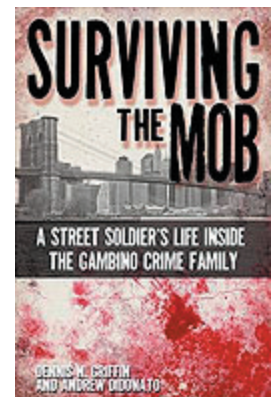
Cullotta and Andrew DiDonato, actor/producer Craig Vincent, author Dennis Griffin and Mob Museum curator Kathleen Hickey Barrie talk about real and make believe mob business.



Who Killed Bugsy Siegel? Author Warren Hull and TV investigative reporter Jonathan Humbert crack the unsolved Bugsy murder case wide open. Program includes video clips of the new

Las Vegas Mob Experience at the Tropicana.

Surviving the Mob: Ex-mobster Andrew DiDonato lived it, lawyer-turned-mayor



Oscar Goodman prosecuted and/or defended it, and author Dennis Griffin wrote about it. Stories from the three men, video clips from DiDonato's confession-style documentary film and a sneak a peek at the Mob Museum, opening in 2011.

Bonus Program: Do You Have A Mobster In Your Family? Representatives from Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society will be on hand to demonstrate how to find information on nefarious ancestors and criminal activity in your own family tree.

NEW MEXICO

The 2010 **New Mexico Book Awards** were announced in November. On January 22, 2011, winners were featured at the Main Branch, Albuquerque Public Library at a free event. List of winners is available at <http://nmbookcoop.com/>

The **New Mexico State Library** presented Centennial Poet, Author, Children's Author, Storyteller and Distinguished Writer Awards at a December reception in Santa Fe. Winners were: **Author: Don Bullis.** Bullis is the author of both fiction and non-fiction books, including the *Old West Trivia Book*, *Bloodville*, and *New Mexico: A Biographical Dictionary, Volumes I and II.* **Children's Author: Vaunda Micheaux Nelson** (MPLA Member). She is the author of several children's books including *Almost to Freedom*, *Juneteenth*, *Who Will I Be, Lord?*, and *Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal*, which earned the 2010 Coretta Scott King Award. Currently Nelson is a youth services librarian at the Rio Rancho Public Library. **Poet: Levi Romero.** Author of *A Poetry of Remembrance: New and Rejected Works*, *In the Gathering of Silence*, and other publications, Romero is from the Embudo Valley, a bilingual poet whose language is immersed in the regional 'manito dialect of northern New Mexico.. **Storyteller: Joe Hayes.** Joe Hayes is a nationally recognized teller of tales from the Hispanic, Native

American and Anglo cultures. **Distinguished Writer: N. Scott Momaday.** N. Scott Momaday was born in Lawton, OK, and grew up on the Navajo Reservation. He is recognized as one of the most successful contemporary Native American literary figures. His books of poetry include *In the Bear's House*, *In the Presence of the Sun: Stories and Poems, 1961-1991*, and *The Gourd Dancer*. His first novel, *House Made of Dawn*, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.



Standing from left to right, Susan Oberlander, State Librarian; Vaunda Micheaux Nelson; Joe Hayes; Levi Romero; Don Bullis; Jodi Delaney, Director of Statewide Initiatives, Department of Cultural Affairs; and (seated) N. Scott Momaday).

Joe Sabatini, Co-chair of the **New Mexico Library Association's Legislative Committee**, provided this update on the successful statewide library bond issues in the 2010 New Mexico General Election. "State General Obligation Bond B, providing \$7 million for public, academic, public school and tribal libraries, passed by an unofficial margin of 23,640 votes. Bond B showed the third-highest level of support among the four state bond issues; the \$5 million public school facilities bond (C) received a 60.7% favorable margin, followed by the \$7 million senior citizen facilities bond (A) with 53.8%, with library bond (B) at 52.3%. Bond D, providing \$155 million for higher education facilities, lost by 2,471 votes, with 49.8% of the yes vote. Meanwhile in Bernalillo County, library bonds providing \$1.5 million to the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Library System passed by a 70.1% margin. In Sandoval County, voters passed a \$3,250,000 bond question to purchase library books,

databases, media, other materials and technology upgrades for the fourteen public libraries in the county.

Judy Marquez retired at the end of December from the UNM Valencia Campus Library where she worked for 26 years. Her retirement open house was held December 8, 2010.

Judy Marquez



A LSTA grant of \$11,205 has been awarded to **Corrales Community Library, Placitas Public Library and Jemez Springs Public Library** for their project "*Sandoval County Digital Library Consortium.*" The libraries will be working with OverDrive to bring e-audio and e-books to their collective patron base. All three libraries currently have heavy circulation of audio books. The effort will expand the collections without taking up shelf space and will provide convenient access to homebound and rural patrons who find it difficult to visit the library. The Village of Corrales will serve as the fiscal agent for the project.

The *Mountain View Telegraph* recently reported that while reading isn't high on some teenagers' to-do lists, Moriarty High School freshman **Desiree Garcia** is the exception to the rule. She's the only teenager currently serving on the **Moriarty Community Library Board**.

Kids Cook @ the Library! A new storytime program for children ages 4 - 6 began in January at the **Loma Colorado Main Library** in Rio Rancho. The library is also starting a new science program aimed at children ages 6 - 8. Storybook Science will be a look at simple science through stories, non-fiction, and hands-on experiments.

Farmington Public Library held a Winter Solstice Celebration with a slide talk on recent fieldwork and discoveries regarding solstice markers at Salmon Ruins, presented by Larry

Baker, its Executive Director. Shortly before noon, the Ashay Drummers drew observers to the Library's rotunda, for the moment when the sun hangs at the southernmost point of its annual voyage and then turns northward. Sunlight from the rotunda's upper windows entered over the engraved marking on the sandstone floor at noon.

Beth Crist, Library Development Bureau Director at the New Mexico State Library, recently resigned from her position to relocate to Denver, CO where she will assume duties as a Branch Manager for the Denver Public Library System.

Robert Upton retired from the New Mexico State Library in October. He arrived at the State Library in 1985 and began work in Interlibrary Loan. Then in 1989, he joined the Development Bureau as the editor of the *Hitchhiker*.

Robert Upton



Paula White, Bookmobile Manager since 1994 for the State Library's Rural Bookmobile East office in Tucumcari, retired on December 1.

Carol Glover, Director of **Tatum Community Library**, retired December 15. She started the library in 1975 and oversaw the new building.

Julia Clarke, Director of the **Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System**, announced her retirement effective December 31, 2010.

MPLA member **Tammy Brawn**, who has been the library director at **Hobbs Public Library** for the past two years, announced that November 15 was her last day at the Hobbs Public Library. She and her family are relocating to Montana. **Bob Hamilton** will be taking over as interim director until a new director is hired.

Jay Mann, is the new Library Director at the **Embudo Valley Library and Community Center** in Dixon.

Robert Blankenship has joined the **New Mexico State Library's** Fast Forward New Mexico program as Program Manager. The program is responsible for a coordinated effort of bringing broadband and internet training to New Mexico's libraries across the state.

NORTH DAKOTA

The **North Dakota State Library** and the Collaborative Summer Library Program have partnered to create a Teen Video Contest for the 2011 Teen Summer Reading program. North Dakota teens are invited to create a 30 to 90 second video on the 2011 theme "You are Here," focusing on world cultures and customs. The North Dakota winner will receive \$250 from CSLP and the winner's public library will receive \$100.



North Dakota's 62nd Legislative Session began January 3. Governor Dalrymple presented his budget in December, including full funding for the State Library's current services and an additional \$200,000 for State Aid to Public Libraries.

Hulen Bivins was appointed the State Librarian of North Dakota. Bivins previously served as the Assistant Director of the Alabama Public Library Service, where he coordinated 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 accordance with state regulations.



Hulen Bivins, State Librarian of North Dakota

The **Williston Community Library** has acquired a new bookmobile. The WCL bookmobile travels to Ray, Wildrose, Grenora, Alamo, daycares, senior centers, and rural schools throughout Williams County. The \$175,000 purchase was funded by the Williams County Commission, the Williston Community Library Foundation, and numerous generous donations. Their previous bookmobile was in service since 1983.

The **Bowman County High School's** new library was dedicated to honor Patricia Morland Dyk. The 7,200 square-foot library is part of a \$1.8 million construction project. Dyk served on the Bowman County Board of Education for 12 years and succumbed to cancer in the March of 2008. Dyk was instrumental in making the library possible.

Fargo Public Library has joined ND Library2Go, a group of North Dakota libraries that share digital content purchased through OverDrive. The other participating libraries are: **Dickinson Public Library, Grand Forks Public Library, James River Valley Library System** (Jamestown), **McLean-Mercer Regional Library, Minot Public Library, West Fargo Public Library, and Williston Community Library.**

Helen Kistler, librarian of the **Watts Free Library** in Leonard, turned 82 and continues to love her work. She has managed the library as a volunteer since 1971, and has worked hard to keep her small town's cozy library open.

Ashley Turner was hired to be the new head librarian of the **Edna Ralston Library** in Larimore, succeeding Tracy Hemmington.

The **Grand Forks Public Library** received a \$45,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Fund to support the Speak Up For Your Library project. The project is an effort to gather public input about their proposed new library, including forums, Web questionnaires and telephone surveys.

The **Stanley Public Library** received a grant from the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council to have their holdings added to WorldCat.

The **Sherwood Public Library** received a \$5,000 grant from the North Dakota Community Foundation to be used for library equipment.

Food for Fines events were recently held at both the **Bismarck and Fargo Public Libraries.** The food drives rewarded patrons who donated unexpired non-perishable canned goods with the forgiveness of library fines. Donated items were given to local food banks for distribution.

Dakota Discussions held its first event in Bottineau with a community reading of Aagot Raaen's *Grass of the Earth*, a biography of a Norwegian family that settled in eastern North Dakota in the late 1800s. Dr. Barbara Handy-

Marchello, professor emeritus of history and women studies from the University of North Dakota, led a discussion of the book.

Libraries in Stanton, Hazen, and Beulah hosted Write-ins this past November for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo).

With snow piling up outside, members of the University of North Dakota men's hockey team, with the help of UND's Dr. Laura Munksi, kicked off the winter reading program at the Grand Forks Public Library. It is the first year that the Grand Forks library is participating in the winter reading program in partnership with University of North Dakota.

Oklahoma

The **Metropolitan Library System** and Oklahoma City Orchestra League celebrated Dr. Seuss during January at libraries throughout the metro area. The "Seuss-a-Palooza combined the fun of Dr. Seuss' books with the glory of music," said Donna Morris, executive director of Metropolitan Library System.



Parents and children listen as John Schimek, a professor at Oklahoma City University, plays bass during a Seuss-a-Palooza musical stories performance.

Two **Tulsa City-Country Library** programs will be honored at the 2011 Oklahoma Humanities Awards, to be presented Feb. 24 by the Oklahoma Humanities Council. **Cindy Hulse** and **Laura Raphael** of the Tulsa City-Country Library will re-

ceive the Community Leadership Award for their creation and implementation of “Novel Talk: Smart Conversations for Serious Readers,” a program using literature to explore a variety of current social issues. “Talk” programs have included using Marilynne Robinson’s “Housekeeping” as a springboard to examine ideas about mental health, discussing concepts of politics and personal security in light of Philip Roth’s “The Plot Against America,” and tying Michael Chabon’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel “The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay” into a look at the pervasiveness and transformation of pop culture. In addition the **American Indian Resource Center** of the Tulsa City-County Library will be honored with the Humanities in Education Award for achievements in language preservation through development of its Native Language Supplemental Packet

South Dakota

According to MPLA Representative Mike Mullin, **Paula DeMars**, the newly elected President of SDLA, had a dramatic turn in health issues that she has been dealing with since last spring. As a result, she resigned from office in December. **Annie Brunskill**, the Vice-President/President Elect will fill the position of President.

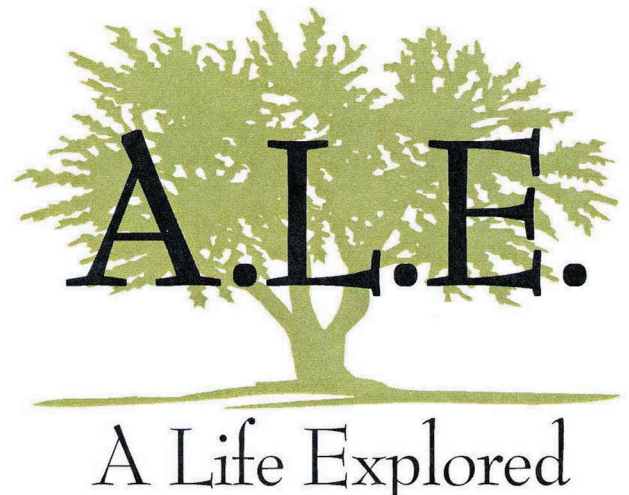
The City of Vermillion has been awarded \$200,000 from the Community Development Block Grant program by Gov. Mike Rounds to expand the **Vermillion Public Library**. “The Vermillion library has increased its community programs and services and outgrown its current space,” the Governor said. “These funds will enable the library to meet the demands of patrons and will make it more accessible. I’m pleased to allocate funds for the project.” The project includes a 6,500 square-foot addition. The basement on the north side of the library will be enlarged, and the children’s area also will be expanded. The library was constructed in 1977 and is currently 11,000 square-feet.

The **South Dakota State Library** announced that it has coordinated an agreement with OverDrive to create an affordable self-funded consortium of South Dakota public libraries to provide participating public library patrons the ability to download audiobooks. An unadvertised advantage of the agreement is that the consortium may purchase titles in all formats offered by OverDrive. This will allow participating libraries to provide downloadable ebooks, movies and music if the consortium purchases those formats.



Voting for South Dakota’s **Prairie Bud and Prairie Pasque Book Awards** began on January 3. All South Dakota students in grades K-5 who’ve read or had read to them at least five of the titles on the list appropriate for their grade level are eligible to vote. Voting (online only) concludes March 31; winning titles will be announced during National Library Week in April.

The **Brookings Public Library** announces a new series of programs called A Life Explored (ALE) which examines in depth the life of one individual. The 2011 ALE individual will be novelist, nurse, abolitionist and suffragette Louisa Mae Alcott. Among the programs about her life to be presented from January to April are a tea with a panel presentation, two book discussions, a film biography, and a re-enacted



historic performance.

UTAH

The **Utah Library Association** Conference Committee is finalizing the schedule of programs for the ULA 2011 Conference. It will be held May 11-13, 2011 in Layton. Luncheon speakers include “Gene Ambaum” and Bill Barnes, the authors of the Unshelved e-comic strip and Scott Douglas, co-author of the book *Quiet Please, Dispatches from a Public Librarian*.

The **Orem Public Library** is one of 30 libraries to receive Louisa May Alcott grants for \$2,500 to support five programs based on Louisa May Alcott. The awards are granted by ALA and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The *Daily Herald* published an article about **Nancy Christiansen**, the librarian at **Aspen Elementary School** in Orem, Utah on December 9. The article title was: Nancy Christiansen makes school library warm and welcoming. Nancy described how she deals with students, including learning all of their names, trading book recommendations and allowing students to open “Christmas presents” consisting of wrapped books purchased by the school budget for the library collection. The school principal, Brad Davies, spoke about visitors to the library praising it to him. Principal Davies mentioned that Nancy is involved with the Kids Cause program, which helps low-income children obtain glasses, shoes, coats and medical care.

WYOMING

The **Teton County Library** began a Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussion Series in January. Participants watch a short video before each discussion to get up to speed on the evening’s topic so no preparation is necessary, and drop-ins are welcome. The Foreign Policy Association also provides links to blogs and a PBS television program produced with the discussions. Learn more at www.fpa.org.

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Library** hosts a workshop for those considering self publishing a book. Local author, Cynthia Vannoy-Rhoades has published eight books; four of those were self-published. She will share information about costs, options for various printers, problems with traditional publishing, and reasons why a person might want to consider self-publication.

Wyoming’s 23 county libraries raised a cumulative \$2.3 million in order to meet the incentive of the **Public Library Endowment Challenge**. Upon reaching this goal, each public library received \$100,000 for their foundation. In 2008 the Wyoming State Legislature continued its commitment to Wyoming’s libraries with the Public Library Endowment Challenge Program. The bill provides an endowment of \$9.1 million to the foundations of the state’s public libraries. An additional \$3 million was appropriated by the legislature in 2010.

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** began a “lunch and learn” series designed for those who have little background in money management and will include sessions on The Basics of Money Management; Credit and Debt Management; Home Ownership, Securing a Loan, Refinancing; and Financial Security: Savings and Investments in Turbulent Times;



The **Teton County Library Alta Branch** invites community members to come together this winter to relax and listen to the classics in a unique, new audio book club. The unique book club format begins with the group listening to a classic book-on-CD for an hour, followed by a short discussion. The library offers tea and hot chocolate with simple snacks and desserts provided by the group, potluck style. Participants may work on puzzles, whittle, or do handwork while listening.

333

MacArthur Foundation funds ‘Reference Extract’

to draw on librarians’ expertise and add credibility to Web search experience

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation has awarded \$350,000 to fund researchers and developers from OCLC, the information schools of Syracuse University and the University of Washington and Zepheira LLC to continue work creating a more credible Web search experience based on the unique expertise, services and input from librarians worldwide.

The goal of the Reference Extract project is to make it easy to find credible information in the digital age. Researchers and developers are expected to have initial practical analysis and models of this “credibility engine” to share with the community in early 2011. Details of the work can be found through the Reference Extract home page at <http://www.referenceextract.org/>.

Reference Extract is designed to capture Web site URLs and references that librarians and other experts use in answering questions. This information, including data used to determine the most credible resources, is harvested, processed and then made available through a variety of Web environments. For example, Reference Extract will use a Web-based architecture that allows information to be embedded

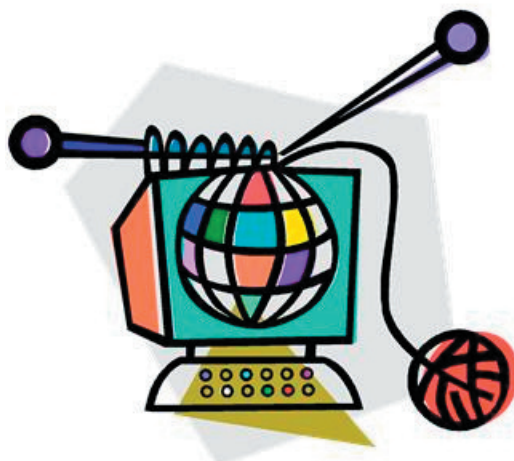
into existing and new Web sites and applications

The Reference Extract system links the questions of users to Web sites referenced by librarians and other experts as well as to the resources used to answer the questions. This approach varies from traditional

Web search engines that represent only a single type of relationship—a Web page that points to another Web page. Reference Extract adds another relationship—linking to resources that librarians and experts point to and use.

“The best search engines are great for basic search, but sometimes the Web site results lack credibility in terms of trust, accuracy and reliability. So, who can help? Librarians,” said Dr. Mike Eisen-

berg, Dean Emeritus and Professor at the Information School of the University of Washington and a lead on the project. “If a librarian recommends a Web site, you can be pretty sure that it’s credible. Reference Extract will take hundreds of thousands of librarian recommendations and use them to help indicate to end users which site is credible. We’re extremely fortunate to have the MacArthur Foundation’s support bringing together the right team to start to actively develop and showcase this work.”



ALA Initiative “Our Authors, Our Advocates”

Roberta Stevens’ ALA Presidential Initiative “Our Authors, Our Advocates,” launched at the ALA Midwinter meeting. Public service announcements by several authors are available for placement on a library’s website and for sharing with library advocates. The new campaign enlists America’s authors to become articulate and powerful spokespeople for libraries. See www.ourauthorsouradvocates.org.

British Library Launches First Smartphone App



The British Library launched its first smartphone app on January 10, 2011. Created in conjunction with Toura, a technology platform for mobile guides, the 'Treasures' app will present a selection of the items featured in the Library's Sir John Ritblat Treasures *Gallery*.

Treasures will be available across multiple mobile platforms including iPhone, Android and iPad. Some of the "treasures" include the first edition of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, the world's oldest bible Codex Sinaiticus, Nelson's Battle Plan, written before his victory at Trafalgar, Galileo's letters and Leonardo Da Vinci's notebooks.

Expert commentary is provided on many of the items and users can watch, for example, videos of explorer Ben Fogle talking about Scott's Diary and Linguist David Crystal discussing the 1,000 year old poem Beowulf.

Literary highlights include Charles Dickens's handwritten draft of Nicholas Nickleby and Jane Austen's teenage writings, while key historical documents include 2000-year-old Oracle Bones from China and an original Magna Carta of 1215. The section devoted to music includes manuscript scores from some of the best-known classical composers, such as Handel, Purcell, Mozart and Schubert, alongside hand-written lyrics by The Beatles.

333



State & National Conferences 2011

- Oklahoma Library Association Conference
March 30 - April 1; Tulsa, OK
- ACRL Conference
March 30 -2; Philadelphia, PA
- 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
- REFORMA 4th National Conference
September 15-18; Denver, CO
- North Dakota Library Association Conference
September 21-24; Minot, SD
- Wyoming Library Association Conference
September 28 - October 1, Cheyenne
- Nebraska Library Association Conference
October 5-7, Lincoln, NE
- South Dakota Library Association Conference
October 5-7, 2011 - Spearfish, SD
- Nevada Library Association
October 7-8; Carson City, NV
- Colorado Association of Libraries Conference
October 13-15; Loveland, CO
- Arizona Library Association Conference
November 28-30; Tucson, AZ

2012

- ALA Midwinter Meeting
January 2-24; Dallas, TX
- PLA National Conference
March 13-17; Philadelphia, PA



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>

ISSN 0145-6180

Material of regional interest may be submitted to:

Judy Zelenski, Editor
MPLA Newsletter
14293 West Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
editor@mpla.us

Submissions:

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

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

Advertising:

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

MPLA Membership:

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

Judy Zelenski
Executive Secretary
14293 West Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
execsecretary@mpla.us

President

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

Vice-President/President-Elect

Dana Braccia
Scottsdale Public Library System
3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
(480) 312-7949
dbraccia@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Past President & Chair, Administration Committee

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

Recording Secretary

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

Awards Committee

Steven D. Decker
Cedar City Public Library
303 North 100 East
Cedar City, UT 84720
(435) 586-6661 x1001
dsteve@cedarcity.org

Communications Committee

Kathryn Plunkett
Southeastern Oklahoma State
University Henry G. Bennett
Memorial Library
1405 N. 4th Ave PMB 4105
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 745-2302
kplunkett@se.edu

Leadership Institute Committee

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

Membership Committee

Brenda Hemmelman
South Dakota State Library
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-5075
brenda.hemmelman@state.sd.us

Nominating Committee

Michael C. Mullin
Watertown Regional Library
160 6th Street NE
Watertown, SD 57201
(605) 882-6226
mmullin@sdl.net

Professional Development Committee

Lori Phillips
University of Wyoming Libraries
1000 E. University Dept 3334
Laramie, WY 82071
(307) 766-3859
lphil@uwyo.edu

Webmaster

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

Community Portal Administrator

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

Executive Secretary

Judy Zelenski
14293 W. Center Drive
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
(303) 985-7795
execsecretary@mpla.us

www.mpla.us

State Representatives

Arizona

Julie Huelsbeck
Mohave County Library
julie.huelsbeck@co.mohave.az.us

Colorado

Mary Katherine Katzer
Marmot Library Network
mk@marmot.org

Kansas

Mickey Coalwell
NE Kansas Library System
mcoalwell@nekls.org

Montana

Pam Henley
Bozeman Public Library
pphenley@bozeman.net

Nebraska

Theresa Jehlik
Omaha Public Library
tjehlik@omahapubliclibrary.org

Nevada

pending

New Mexico

LeAnn Weller
University of New Mexico
Valencia Campus Library
wellerleann@yahoo.com

North Dakota

Eric Strohane
North Dakota State Library
estrohane@nd.gov

Oklahoma

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

South Dakota

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

Utah

Dorothy Horan
Family History Library
Horandm@familysearch.org

Wyoming

Deborah McCarthy
University of Wyoming
Libraries
mccarthy@uwyo.edu

MPLA MEMBERSHIP

Join Online at

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

or Print and Return form below

Special! 1/2 Price New Member Offer

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

DUES SCHEDULE

(Membership is for calendar year)

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

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

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

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

Name _____ New _____

Position/Title _____ Renewal _____

Institution _____

Address to appear in Directory _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address *if different from above* _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Primary Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

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

___ I am willing to be nominated for an MPLA office

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

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