

Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

December 2012-January 2013

www.mpla.us

Volume 57 #2

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NLA-NEMA- MPLA in Nebraska

JaNae Kinikin takes over as President, receiving gavels from outgoing President Dana Braccia. Dana has drumsticks.

Board members gather for a photo. Baker and Taylor provided bandanas for all MPLA members attending. See more conference photos inside.



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

President's Message

As I look out my window this morning, it is snowing. Just two days ago, it was in the 70s and I was enjoying the breathtaking colors of fall, golden yellow leaves, orange oak on the mountains, and the green sage of Rus-



Storytime - JaNae and Lacey

sian Olive trees as I walked along the river not far from my house. Time passes so quickly as most of us probably discovered when we found ourselves back at our own desks at our own libraries on the Monday morning following the conference. Conference this year flew by as I was trying to sort out what my new responsibilities will be as I serve as your MPLA President for the coming year.

I'm hoping that this year will be a year of positive change for the association as we strive to increase membership and provide leadership and service opportunities for both continuing and new members in our association. I've appointed a task force to review the idea of bringing interest groups back into MPLA and the MPLA Board is in the process of reviewing activities to move our association forward.

If you have ideas on how MPLA can better benefit you, I would love to hear them. Give me a call or send me an email. The members of MPLA are what makes our association GREAT!

--JaNae Kinikin

Time to Renew Your Membership!



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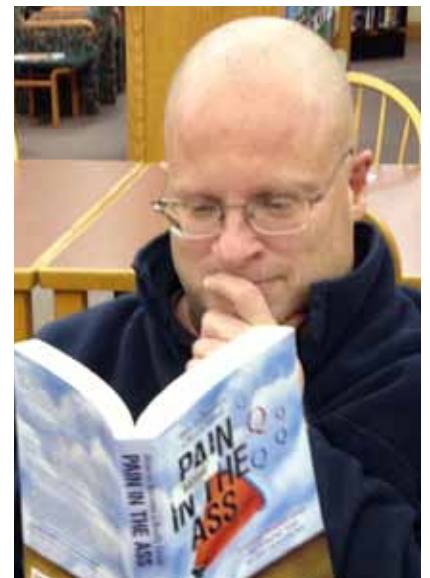
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2012 NLA-NEMA-MPLA Conference Fun



MPLA Awards

The Mountain Plains Library Association announced its 2012 award winners at the annual conference awards banquet in October at LaVista, Nebraska. Mary Ann Thompson, Awards Committee member, made the presentations.

This year's winners are:

Christopher Rippel for the Distinguished Service Award. Christopher is a Continuing Education Consultant for the Central Kansas Library System. Christopher's devoted service to libraries and users in a seventeen-county rural Kansas area are truly commendable. His long time passion and devotion to the profession has led him to serve as a reference librarian, creator, editor, trainer, presenter, department head and Kansas Library Association former committee chair while making numerous and valuable contributions. He is a recipient of the 2000 Outstanding Friend of the Libraries, Great Bend Public Library.



Jean Lukesh for the Literary Contribution Award. As an author, series editor, consultant, historian, speaker, and media specialist, Jean has worked tirelessly to connect children with books through her writings and book talking skills. Her award winning 2004 textbook on the history of Nebraska, *The Nebraska Adventure* is currently used by 85% of elementary schools across the state. Other writing endeavors have included: the *Peoples of Nebraska Children's Biography Series* for grades 4-6 to supplement state standards in Nebraska studies, and a history book of Hall County, Nebraska, which won a Moonshell Literary Award in 2008.



Sharon Osenga with Jean Lukesh

Jason Walker for the Beginning Professional Award. Jason is the Library Supervisor at the Rapid City Library in Rapid City, South Dakota. As a dedicated supervisor, Jason demonstrates a strong commitment to his staff by implementing plans for professional development and empowerment that have positively impacted their quality and skill. He has distinguished himself in the community with his library programs and partnership with area schools. His technological expertise has brought new and progressive services to the Rapid City Library.



MPLA Award Winners, continued

Arlene Caruso for the Innovator Award. Arlene was recently an Assistant Manager of the Paseo Verde Library in Henderson, Nevada and now works at the Westminster Public Library, Maryland. Arlene proved to be a dedicated and valuable asset to the library district and State in numerous ways. Under her leadership, the Paseo Verde Library was able to continue needed services in spite of being under staffed. She transformed a languishing monthly foreign film series into a popular program with regular attendance and promoted local authors by establishing a local author series. She assumed numerous roles in the Nevada Library Association and recently participated in 2012 Mountain Plains Leadership Institute.

Rebecca Lubas for the Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award. Rebecca is an Assistant Professor and Director of Cataloging and Discovery Services at the University of New Mexico Library. Rebecca has a strong commitment to strengthening cataloging in the area and also internationally. Since arriving in New Mexico, she has offered area summer cataloging and metadata training workshops that were attended by public, special and school librarians. She revived the New Mexico University's library participation in the prestigious Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) which gives the library's bibliographic and name authority record contributions to be considered on the same national level recognition as the Library of Congress. Her book, *Practical Strategies for Cataloging Departments* was published in 2011.

Lisa Mecklenberg-Jackson for the Unsung Hero Award. Lisa is at the Missoula Public Library in Missoula, Montana. For years Lisa has worked "behind the scenes" to help with the Montana Library Association's promotion of several worthy projects such as the new Montana license plate promoting Montana libraries that continues to generate revenue for the association. For its members, Lisa helped with fund raising activities for continuing education scholarships and ensured that other deserving librarians received recognition for their efforts.

Correction

In the previous issue of the Newsletter, nominee Brenda Marshall was mistakenly left out. Nominated for the Literary Contribution Award, her nominator said: "When you hear someone say 'Montana,' you probably think of majestic mountains. The same is likely true with 'Colorado.' 'South Dakota' might make you think of Mount Rushmore and Deadwood, while 'Arizona' evokes the desert and red sandstone. Names of places conjure up images and ideas in our minds; sometimes they're accurate, sometimes not, and sometimes they're somewhere in-between. When you hear 'North Dakota,' what comes to mind? Perhaps images from the movie *Fargo* or words like cold, flat, treeless, or remote. While there is some truth in those words and those images, they only tell part of the story of North Dakota. There is so much more. One writer who has a gift for telling North Dakota's story and helping others to understand and appreciate this place is Brenda K. Marshall. She is a worthy nominee for the MPLA Literary Contribution Award. Through her writing, Marshall has successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region, particularly, North Dakota. Marshall says, "No matter where I am living or what I am doing, I think of myself as a North Dakotan." Marshall writes what she knows and conveys it to others beautifully in a voice that is strong and clear. She has ably written about the northern Great Plains and its people in her books, *Mavis* (1996) and *Dakota, Or What's a Heaven For* (2010)."

MPLA Professional Forum at Conference



Presenters at the Professional Forum l-r: Danielle De Jager-Loftus , Abby Moore, Charlene Wells, Lynn M. Klundt, Lia Vella. Winner was Lia Vella who received the \$300 prize.

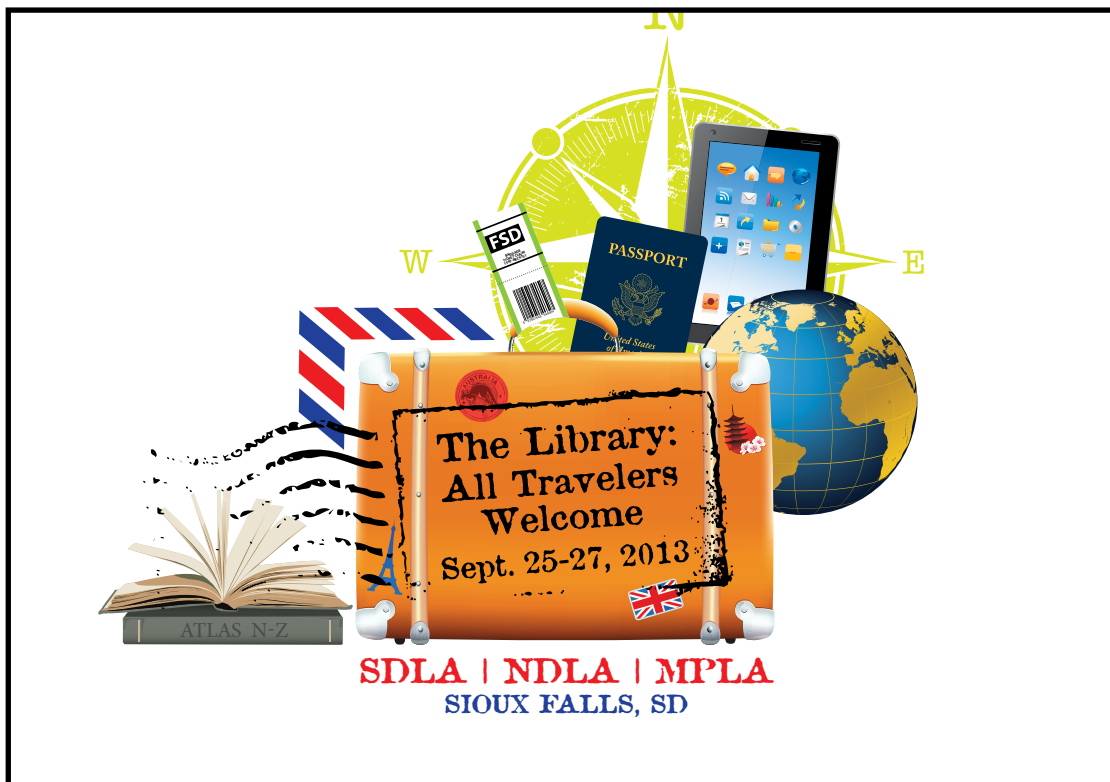
MPLA Professional Development Committee



Members of the 2012 Professional Development Committee met at the Nebraska conference.
l-r: Holly Rick, Anna Vaillencourt, Lori Phillips, Beth Avery, Cindy Osborne

Plan now for the 2013 SDLA-NDLA-MPLA Tri-Conference in Sioux Falls, SD

Program Proposals Now Being Accepted



Program proposals are now being accepted for the Tri-conference. Find the online form at <http://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/displayemailforms.cfm?emailformnbr=185588>.

Information about vendors and exhibits, hotel reservations, and local attractions is at <http://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=31>.

MPLA member Ronelle Thompson is Chair of the Local Arrangements committee. MPLA member Jan Brue Enright is President of the South Dakota Library Association. MPLA member Al Peterson is President of the North Dakota Library Association. MPLA Vice-President Wendy Wendt represents MPLA on the planning committee.

MPLA members will be eligible to receive discounted registration fees.



MPLA Leadership Institute Coordinator Position to Open in Spring, 2013

from Adriane Juarez, Chair, MPLA Leadership Institute Committee

Many thanks to Judy Zelenski for serving as the MPLA Leadership Institute Coordinator for the last four years. Judy has decided to exclusively focus on serving as MPLA Executive Secretary. Don't worry. She's not going away. While she will be letting go of extra duties like the Leadership Institute and the MPLA Newsletter, she will still manage the many behind-the-scenes tasks that keep our organization running smoothly in her position as Executive Secretary.

As Leadership Institute Coordinator in 2010 and 2012, she spent many dedicated hours ensuring the success of the Institute. She did everything from processing applications, to making arrangements for participant accommodations, to preparing learning notebooks, assisting mentors, and making sure there were enough jackets, water, and snacks to make sure no one got cold, thirsty or hungry as they developed as library leaders. Anyone who has been involved in the institute knows of Judy's constant efforts, dedication, and commitment to the cause. For the 2010 Institute she donated her time without compensation.

In spring 2013, the MPLA Leadership Institute Committee will be posting the position of Leadership Institute Coordinator, as recently approved by the MPLA Executive Board. Information will be forthcoming on the MPLA Website.

The successful applicant will serve during the projected contract period of June 2013 – May 2014... and will have very big shoes to fill.

Thanks again, Judy!

*Adriane Herrick Juarez
MPLA Leadership Institute Co-Chair*

New Mexico State University | Doña Ana Community College

LIBRARY SCIENCE PROGRAM

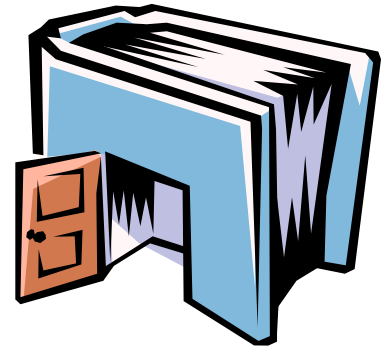
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email: spinkert@nmsu.edu

Welcome New MPLA Members



ARIZONA

Laurie Boone
Librarian, Yuma County Library District, Yuma, AZ

Margaret Diaz
Student, Wayne State University, Detroit; Mesa, AZ

Shannon Flores
Library Information Specialist, Arizona State University Polytechnic Library, Mesa, AZ

Robin Green
Adult Services Librarian, Pima County Public Library, Green Valley, AZ

Sterling Kent
Acquisitions clerk, Arizona State Library, Phoenix, AZ

Alicia Ingle
Information Services librarian, Yuma County Library District, Yuma, AZ

Christine Larson
Library/Museum Supervisor, Buckeye Public Library, Buckeye, AZ

Lisa Martin
Librarian, Coyote Trail Elementary, Tucson, AZ

Lindsay O'Neill
Information Specialist, Arizona State University Government Documents, Tempe, AZ

Marian Reisman
Electronic Resources Librarian, Scottsdale Public Library, Scottsdale, AZ

COLORADO

Terri Brungardt
District Media Specialist, Widefield School District #3; Colorado Springs, CO

Holly Carroll
Executive Director, Poudre River Public Library District; Fort Collins, CO

Robin Gard
Trustee, Poudre River Public Library, Fort Collins, CO

Leslie Good
Branch Manager, Douglas County Libraries Philip S. Miller Branch; Castle Rock, CO

Amy Hall
Reference Librarian, Douglas County Libraries Parker Branch, Parker, CO

Maria Hugger
Acquisitions/ERM Librarian
Colorado State University -Pueblo CO

Jody Hungenberg
Parks, Library and Recreation Director, City of Sterling Public Library; Sterling, CO

Julie Klauss
Head Librarian, Westwood College, North Campus DNN Learning Commons, Boulder, CO

Karen Lemke
Director of Publicity and Programming, Pine River Library District
Lavenia McCoy Public Library
Bayfield, CO

Kristine MacNeill
Youth Services, Ruby Sisson Memorial Library; Pagosa Springs, CO

KANSAS

Lisa Sharbaugh
Technology Consultant, South Central Kansas Library System
South Hutchinson, KS

NEBRASKA

Angela Kroeger
Library Associate, University of Nebraska at Omaha Dr. C. C. and Mabel L. Criss Library
Omaha, NE

Kent LaCombe
Assistant Professor of Libraries, University of Nebraska Love Library
Lincoln, NE

Ted Naylor
Special Projects, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Love Library
Lincoln, NE

NORTH DAKOTA

Mary Catherine Anderson
Library Media Specialist, Williston Middle School
Williston, ND

Matt Hovland
Reference Assistant, North Dakota State Library
Bismarck, ND

Krista Kurtz
Interlibrary Loan Technician, North Dakota State Library
Bismarck, ND

Andrea Lorenz
Assistant Library Director, Mayville State University Byrnes-Quanbeck Library; Mayville, ND

Jana Maher
Children's Program Director, Bismarck Public Library
Bismarck, ND

Mary Markland
SE Clinical Campus Librarian, University of North Dakota Library of the Health Sciences; Fargo, ND

BreAnne Meier
State Documents Librarian, North Dakota State Library
Bismarck, ND

Travis Schulz
Library Director, Sanford Health Sciences Library; Bismarck
Bismarck, ND

Virginia Tupa
Director of Instructional Services, Grand Forks Public Schools
Grand Forks, ND

NEVADA

Lauren Campbell
Children's Librarian, Las Vegas
Clark County Library District, West
Charleston, Las Vegas, NV

Jo Davis
Director, Nellis AFB Library
Las Vegas, NV

Jeanette Hammons
Director, Elko-Lander-Eureka Li-
brary System Elko County Library
Elko, NV

Rona Johnson
Adult Services Librarian, Las Vegas
Clark County Library District
Las Vegas, NV

Yunn-Hwa Lil
School Library Media Specialist,
CCSD Harney Middle School
Las Vegas, NV

Tiffany London
Reference Librarian, Henderson
District Public Libraries
Henderson, NV

Valerie O'Dell-Flannery
Manage Assistant, White Pine
County Library; Ely, NV

Stephen Platt
Library Manager, Henderson District
Public Library Green Valley Library
Henderson, NV

Stacie Schwartz
ILL Associate, Las Vegas Clark
County Library District-ILL
Las Vegas, NV

Leona Vittum-Jones
Youth Services Librarian, Henderson
District Public Library; Henderson,
NV

SOUTH DAKOTA

Jane Abernathy
Director, Piedmont Valley Library
Piedmont, SD

Caroline Anderberg
CSA Reference Librarian, University
of South Dakota; Vermillion, SD

Diane Frigge
Government Documents/Reference
Librarian, University of South Da-
kota I.D. Weeks Library
Vermillion, SD

Gwendolyn Kitzan
Librarian, Newell School District 9-2
Newell School Library ; Newell, SD

Kim Koblank
Library Associate, Siouxland Librar-
ies ; Sioux Falls, SD

Shayna Monnens
Children's/Reference Librarian,
Grace Balloch Memorial Library
Spearfish, SD

Crystal Nelson
Resource Library Coordinator, Good
Samaritan Society
Sioux Falls, SD
Tonya Olson
Library Assistant, Yankton Commu-
nity Library; Yankton, SD

Mary Richey
Director, Lower Brule Community
College Library
Lower Brule, SD

Erica Rorvik
County Librarian, Moody County
Resource Center; Flandreau, SD

Robin Schrupp
Director, Grant County Library
Milbank, SD

Sandy Urbaniak
Interlibrary Loan Manager, Presenta-
tion College; Aberdeen, SD

Lower Brulle Community College
Library; Mary Richey, Director,

WYOMING

Abigail Beaver
Library Specialist, Sheridan Com-
munity College Griffith Memorial
Library ; Sheridan, WY

Katie Bray
Public Support Services Manager,
Carbon County Library System
Rawlins, WY

Elena Gleason
Reference Librarian, Sweetwater
County Library System White
Mountain Library
Rock Springs, WY

Mary Hipol
Reference/Tech Services/Everything,
Uinta County Library
Evanston, WY

Julia Kelso
Director, Big Horn County Library
Basin, WY

Kim Murphy
Library Media Assistant, Campbell
County School District Rawhide
Elementary; Gillette, WY

Sarah Reese
Albany County Public Library Foun-
dation Dir., Albany County Public
Library; Laramie, WY,

Steve Rzasa
Technical Services, Johnson County
Library; Buffalo, WY

Bonnie Stahla
Youth Services Librarian, Crook
County Library; Sundance, WY

Anna Veinbergs
Senior Circ Clerk/Assistant Manager,
Sheridan County Library System
Tongue River Branch; Ranchester,
WY

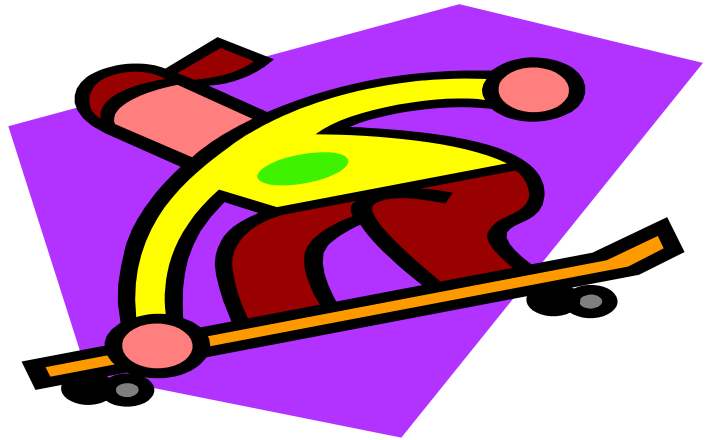
ITALY

Catherine Nishimuta
Reference Librarian, US Air Force
Aviano AFB, Italy Aviano Base
Library

Auraria Library Wins Out-of-the-Box Marketing Contest

Gale, part of Cengage Learning announced that the **Auraria Library** in Denver is the winner of the Out-of-the-Box Marketing Contest, launched in September at R-Squared – The Risk and Reward Conference. Auraria Library will receive \$5,000 from Gale to make its marketing idea a reality. In line with the immersive spirit of the R-Squared Conference, where librarians learned how to reinvent themselves and strengthen their role as vital parts of their communities, Gale asked conference attendees to develop out-of-the-box marketing ideas for their library. Submissions were evaluated on their originality, whether they were exciting, different and risky, as well as the actionability of the idea. Auraria Library's campaign "**Books and Boards**" was selected as the winner.

Auraria Library, a library serving three separate institutions of higher education in downtown Denver, wanted to create a campaign that would resonate with their active urban students. The "Books and Boards" campaign does that by leveraging Colorado's action sports culture, specifically skateboarding - it's one of the top three states for skateboard parks per capita and the sport has exploded on the Auraria campus. Using the money from Gale, the library will purchase 200-300 professionally-built skateboards. The skate-



board graphic will be determined through a graphic design contest, which will create a buzz about the project well before the boards arrive on campus. The boards will be given away to high school students, incoming freshman and at other campus events.

"We are so excited that Gale has recognized our innovative campaign – to use skateboarding as an opportunity to rebrand and reconnect with our active students," said Joseph Sanchez, instructional designer who wrote, directed and skateboarded in "Books and Boards." "We wanted to promote a radically different image of the library and with this contest money we're going to be able to do that." See a video at <http://vimeo.com/50635831>.

MPLA
Professional Development
Grant
Application
Deadline 2012
December 5
[http://www.mpla.us/committees/
profdev/grantslinks.html](http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html)

Washoe County Library System Insists on Finding the Silver Lining of Budget Cuts

by Jennifer Oliver, Washoe County Library System

In response to budget cuts over the past five years, the Washoe County Library System, along with Washoe County Technology Services, has developed a Self Service Kiosk (SSK).

With the ongoing maintenance of existing self check machines outpacing available resources paired with the demand of self service options; it was evident that out-of-the-box thinking was required to come up with a solution. After a year and a half of research and development, the result is a user friendly, kiosk where patrons can check-out their items. With the adaptability of these kiosks there is the potential to add library services and collaborate with other departments to optimize other forms of service delivery to Washoe County residents.

With a cost savings equaling 90% under the alternative self-check, it enables the library to provide more units throughout the system—a total of 22 are now available throughout eight library branches. Facing a reality that the library is operating 12 facilities with fewer staff, WCLS pursues self service options like these kiosks. By doing so, staff is available to provide personal service when needed. Currently over 20% of all items checked out are done so using a self-check station.

These kiosks are made possible through the support of a Library Services and Technology Act grant through the Nevada State Library and Archives, an allocation from the Friends of Washoe County Library, a grant from the John Ben Snow Memorial Trust and the support of Washoe County Technology Services.

Washoe County Library Staff was able to demonstrate the SSK in Las Vegas for the Nevada Library Association Conference.

The Washoe County Library System has 12 library branches in the Reno/Sparks area, Incline Village, and Gerlach. There is also an internet branch online at www.washoecountylibrary.us.



Prototype



Four of the six SSKs installed at the Sierra View Library



Around the Region

Please send news items and photographs of regional interest to editor@mpla.us

ARIZONA

The **Arizona Library Association** Conference was held November 8-10 at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix. The Association tried a new approach this year in not having exhibits.

Arizona Library Association Vice-President/President-Elect and MPLA member **Tom Wilding**,

has held a series of meetings across the state and on-line to get an idea of what AzLA members want out of the Association. Some of the top issues include professional development, marketing, and bylaws revisions.



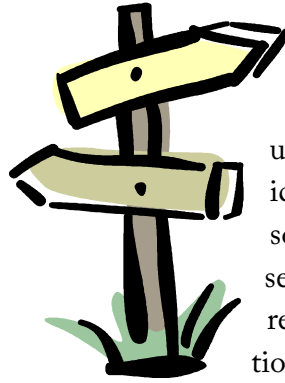
Tom Wilding and Dana Braccia at MPLA reception in Nebraska

COLORADO

The **Colorado Association of Libraries** has a new logo.



The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announced that the **Naturita Community Library**, a branch of the Montrose Regional Library District, is one of ten recipients of this year's National



Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries. Medals are awarded to museums and libraries that make extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions to the communities they serve. Recipients are selected by the IMLS director and board following an open nomination process and receive \$5,000 and a visit from StoryCorps, an oral history project archived at the Library of Congress. Naturita Community Library serves the 546 citizens of Naturita, Colorado, an isolated uranium mining community which has experienced significant economic booms and busts. The library—a hub for the town—offers programs that focus on early literacy and parenting; continuing education; computer skills; and workforce development. It is the nation's largest strawbale library, and utility savings from the eco-friendly construction are used to promote lifelong learning and access to the world beyond.



Colorado's Governor Hickenlooper signed a proclamation declaring October 2012 as **Colorado Literacy Month**, because "understanding the written word is critical for successful communication." Literacy Month seeks to "encourage citizens, employers, government agencies, and institutions to share the importance of a fully literate community for economic

prosperity, social cohesion, educational opportunity, and an enhanced quality of life.” This year, the Colorado Department of Education developed a Comprehensive Literacy Plan and the Lt. Governor’s Office established the Colorado Reads early literacy plan.

Colorado Association of Libraries 2012 Award Winners

- Colorado Librarian of the Year – Beatrice Gerrish, Library Media Specialist, Monarch High School
- Colorado Librarian of the Year – Mary Stansbury, Associate Professor and Chair, Library and Information Science Program, University of Denver
- Library Advocate Award – CO Lieutenant Governor, Joe Garcia
- Library Project of the Year – Public Computing Centers Project / Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP), Colorado State Library
- Library Project of the Year – Red Hawk Elementary Bookstore Model Library Project, St. Vrain Valley School District
- Colorado Library of the Year – Silver Creek High School Library
- Career Achievement Award – Maria Deherrera, Director, Conejos County Library District
- Career Achievement Award – MPLA member Valerie Horton, Executive Director, Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC)
- Lucy Schweers Award for Excellence in Paralibrarianship – Karol Sacca, Garfield County Public Library District
- Julie J. Boucher Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom

- Estes Valley Library
- Manitou Springs Public Library
- Pikes Peak Library District
- Poudre River Public Library District
- Red Feather Lakes Community Library

The **High Plains Library District** in northern Colorado is powering its facilities with solar and looking to add an electric vehicle fleet. The Centennial Park and Farr Regional libraries in Greeley both installed solar this year. The Centennial Park Library gets about 15 percent of its power from new solar panels, while the Farr building gets almost 20 percent of its power. The library district is also looking to install solar at its district support services offices that would supply about 41 percent of the building’s energy needs. See <http://www.cleanenergyauthority.com/solar-energy-news/northern-colorado-libraries-go-solar-101012>.

MPLA member **Stephen Sweeney**, Director of the St. John Vianney Seminary Cardinal Stafford Library in Denver recently began his term as President of the Colorado Association of Libraries.



I live for libraries. To me, they are the very essence of my life,” James A. Michener said in his dedication speech for the new **Michener Library** on the University of Northern Colorado campus, in Greeley 40 years ago this year. In honor of the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Michener Library, a celebration was held at which speakers addressed both the history of the library and the life of the writer.

Cindy Eubank, formerly with the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library in Broomfield, has moved to Boise Idaho where she will be working part-time at the Boise Public Library in Circulation and trying out “semi-retirement.”

Northern Colorado Common Read (NCCR), a consortium of seven Northern Colorado library systems, participated in a community-wide reading initiative designed to read, discuss and celebrate a single book. The 2012 selection was *Unbroken. A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand. Participants included: **Aims Community College; Berthoud Community Library District; Boulder Public Library; Clearview Library District; High Plains Library District; Sterling Public Library and Westminster Public Library.** READ posters were created by **Sue Safarik** from the **Lincoln Park library.** Staff posed for the pictures depicting the era.



KANSAS

The **Kansas State Library** has launched a social-media campaign against what it says are unfair practices to keep bestselling electronic books out of the hands of libraries and their patrons.

Patti Poe is now CE Coordinator for the **North-east Kansas Library System.** She has returned from a time in New Mexico.

The **Johnson County Overland Park Library** drew a crowd of more than 100 people with a hog butchering event. The Kansas City *Star* says experts from a meat company called The Local Pig put on the two-hour Books & Butchers presentation. They also talked about the local food movement and humanely raised meats. Library officials say the event was part of an effort to remain relevant in the age of the Internet. Ideas for future classes include home-brewing and organic gardening.

Sharon Ailsleiger, Reference Librarian at McConnell AFB Library in Wichita recently began her term as MPLA Membership Committee Chair and serves on the MPLA Board.



The **Johnson County Library** hosted a watch party for the final presidential debate, with three librarians on hand to fact check for the crowd. More than 60 people came out to the Oak Park Library in Overland Park to watch the debate. The three librarians, **Louisa Whitfield-Smith, Melody Kinnaman** and **Marty Johanson**, used bipartisan resources to fact check statements. The crowd filled out cards with their questions over what they heard in the debate and the librarians went to work on them. Some questions came in right at the end of the debate so the trio promised to email or call in the next day with their answers.

Christie Pearson Brandau, adjunct professor at the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University was recently appointed to the National Museum and Library Services Board by President Obama. The board is the advisory body for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Members of the board are selected to serve based on their expertise and commitment to libraries or museums.

MONTANA

The **Montana State University Billings Library** staff at their annual Spooktacular event on campus, a stiff competition between departments for prizes. MPLA member **Eileen Wright** reports that it was “really a fun event – and we even re-enacted several scenes from the movie *Hunger Games* – which can be seen on our Facebook page.”



Library staff as characters from the Hunger Games

NEBRASKA

The 2013 **One Book One Nebraska** Finalists were recently announced. They are: *O Pioneers!* by Willa Cather; *Once Upon a Town: The Miracle of the North Platte Canteen* by Bob Greene; *While the Patient Slept* by Mignon Eberhart; and *The Tie That Binds* by Kent Haruf.

Lincoln City Libraries' new bookmobile will run on compressed natural gas (CNG) and includes other environmentally friendly features. Although the new vehicle cost \$50,000.00 more than the traditional diesel version, it will be cheaper to operate. The library's initial contract with Black Hills Energy sets their fuel price at \$1.49 per gallon for the next year. Other green features include interior and exterior LED lighting, carpet made from recycled materials, and three skylights for natural light. Funding sources included \$50,000.00 from a federal energy grant, \$100,000.00 from the Lied Foundation, \$150,000 from City Keno funds, and \$20,000.00 from Lancaster County. The *Lied Bookmobile* is dedicated to Ernst F. Lied, an Omaha businessman, and his parents, Ernst M. and Ida K. Lied. Since 1972, the Lied Foundation has supported projects that benefit all Nebraskans.



The **Eastern Library System** and **Southeast Library System** Fall Colloquium features Kathy Dempsey presenting *Building Community Partnerships: 25 Ideas in 45 Minutes*. She was formerly Editor-in-Chief of *Computers in Libraries* magazine and has edited the *Marketing Library Services* newsletter for the past 18 years. Kathy wrote *The Accidental Library Marketer* (published in 2009) and currently blogs at *The M Word*.

Mary A. (Molly) Fisher of Lincoln was recently appointed to a three-year term on the Nebraska Library Commission by Governor Dave Heineman. Until her retirement in 2000, Molly was Deputy Director of the Nebraska Humanities Council. She was a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book and currently serves as an ex-officio board member. Molly also serves on the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association and Friends of Beta Alpha Boards. She is the recipient of the Mildred Bennett Award (1995), the Schwartz Prize, the Lincoln Arts

Council Award for Literary Contributions (2000), and a Nebraska Arts Council Award. Molly and her husband volunteer at state parks, especially those with lighthouses, across the U.S. She also volunteers with the Lincoln City Libraries.

Destiny of the Republic by Candice Millard was the voters' overwhelming choice for this year's **One Book One Lincoln** selection. The look at President James A. Garfield's assassination also explores madness and medicine. Special programs include exploring medical practices of the era; the historical, social, and psychological aspects of madness; the exhibit *Campaigns & Cartoons: The Role of Caricature in Political Persuasion*; and dramatic readings from the book. More details are available at <http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/obol/obol2012/programs.htm>.



Terri Johnson is the Nebraska Library Association Paraprofessional of the Year. Terri started as a Library Clerk I at the North Platte Public Library in 1999. As the current Technology Assistant, she teaches 4 or 5 computer classes a month in the library's Technology Learning Center and maintains the library's blog. Terri is also Secretary/Treasurer of the Nebraska Library Association's Paraprofessional Section. She received a one-year paid membership to NLA and a



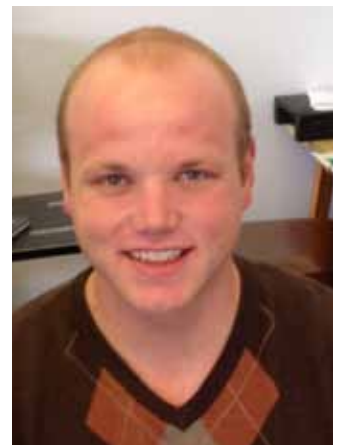
cash gift for this honor. She was recognized at the MPLA/NLA/NEMA Paraprofessional Section luncheon on October 19 in LaVista, Nebraska.

Jarda and Jitka, two giant puppets from Minnesota, marched in the annual Yorkfest Grand Parade on September 8. They then stood in front of the **Kilgore Memorial Library** for a festive afternoon. After lunch, 150 participants had a mini Czech language lesson; learned about the history of Czech puppetry; participated in a puppet building workshop, and saw a performance of *A Czech Little Red Riding Hood* (Červená Karkulka) by the Junior Friends. Accordion music and traditional costumes were also a big part of the day. The Nebraska Czechs of York and the Czech Embassy contributed to the successful day.



Jitka and Jarda in front of the Kilgore Memorial Library, York, NE

Jake Rundle, Collections Librarian at Hastings Public Library, is the new Nebraska representative to MPLA. Jake was born and raised in Hastings, Nebraska. **Theresa Jehlik**, outgoing representative reports that "he left at the ripe old age of 18 to attend school in the "big city" (Midland Lutheran College, Fremont, NE). Since coming home, Jake has discovered there is life in Hastings. He likes training for 5K races, swimming, and knitting scarves."



NEVADA

At the **Nevada Library Association** conference in Las Vegas, October 3-5 **Sara Jones**, Director of the Carson City Library, was recognized as Nevada's Librarian of the Year. During her years as Director, Sara has made significant changes in library services in Carson City, and is working to establish another branch library at a downtown location in Carson City. She has been instrumental in creating a computer center for children and young adults and a robotic library on the premises of the local Boys and Girls Club and participated in the consolidation of the City's regulatory function with a library business center, known as BRIC – the Business Resource Innovation Center.



Clark County residents voted to deny the **Clark County School District** the authority to levy additional property taxes. The authorization would have given the district the ability to raise up to \$120 million annually for capital projects, including constructing and equipping school improvements and replacements and acquiring school sites.

The **Elko-Lander-Eureka Library** honors veterans, POW/ MIA, and active members of the Armed Forces with a White Table at the Elko County

Library, set up with the help of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



The **Washoe County Library** system hosts "Eyes for Tomorrow Guide Dog Puppy Raising Club" on a regular basis. Participants learn how to raise and care for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The **Las Vegas Clark County Library System** hosted the Vegas Valley Comic Book Festival in November. Last year, the Comic Book Festival brought 2,200 patrons through the library doors. A number of related events included Artist Alley, where participants and talk with comic book artists including Gene Ha and Tommy Kovac; portfolio reviews for would-be comic artists; films; merchandise from local comic shops; and quick-draw workshops.



Las Vegas Clark County library branches will host Derrick Suwaima Davis, Champion hoop dancer (Hopi/Choctaw). As he creates intricate patterns by maneuvering five rattan hoops around his body, he conveys the Hopi story of creation in time to the singing and drumming of the musicians accompanying him. His presentations at several branches celebrate Native American Heritage month.



From November 5-26, patrons will bring cans or boxes of food to the **Washoe County Library** in lieu of fines to help feed the hungry. Food barrels will be placed at library locations throughout Washoe County and the food will be delivered to area food banks.

NEW MEXICO

The New Mexico Library Association held a successful Mini-Conference in Carlsbad on Oct. 25-26. The theme was “Going to Bat for Libraries.” New Mexico State University Carlsbad Allied Health Center hosted a reception on Thursday evening. New Mexico State Librarian Devon Skeeel was the keynote speaker on Friday. MPLA member LeAnn Weller presented “Cool Tools and the Library Instruction ‘One Shot.’”



A new exhibit **100 Years: Celebrating New Mexico's Health** opened in October at the **University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center**. It celebrates the New Mexico Centennial and Hispanic Heritage Month. The exhibit highlights the impact of health professionals on the well-being of New Mexicans. In addition, each week a short biography of an important individual in the health and medical field from New Mexico will be featured.



For more info see <http://hsc.unm.edu/library/resources/spc/100yrs.html>.

The **New Mexico State Library**, Comcast and the **Albuquerque Bernalillo County Library, South Broadway branch** have formed a partnership to provide information and training for digital literacy. Qualifying families will receive through Comcast’s “Internet Essentials” program affordable Internet service for just \$9.95 per month. Twenty families also won netbook computers as part of the kick-off celebration. For the past two years, in partnership with Davis Innovations and Fast Forward New Mexico, the State Library has provided training in libraries throughout the state to show people how to use the Internet for their own use. The trainings have covered topics such as e-mail, Facebook, and building a small business. In October the State Library offered free digital literacy training sessions at the South Broad-



way branch library.

Open Access Week 2012 was Oct 22-28 at **New Mexico State University**. The **Library** held four programs to celebrate new models of scholarly communication and to provide faculty an opportunity for the to learn more about Open Access (OA) and its potential benefits. The programs included a web-cast Perspectives on Open Access: Practice, Progress and Pitfalls and 3 forums: Library U Presents Scholarly Communications 101, Introduction to University Scholarly Communication Programs, and Faculty Forum on Editing and/or Publishing.

Staff Changes at the New Mexico State University Library:

- **Norice Lee** has been appointed Associate Dean of the New Mexico State University Library. At NMSU Lee has worked in Interlibrary Loan, Cataloging and Serials and as the department head of the Access Services Department.
- **Tiffany Schirmer** has been hired as a Library Assistant at Branson Library in the Technical Services Department. She was previously employed at the El Paso Public Library as a Library Assistant.
- **Cassie McClure** has been hired as a Senior Library Specialist in the Cataloging Unit of the Technical Services Department. She returns to the library from NMSU's  Center for Animal Health, Food Safety and Bio-Security's PREDICT Open Source Intelligence Laboratory.
- **Teddie Payne-Riehl** has joined the Library's Archives & Special Collections Department as a Library Specialist. She started in 1996 as a co-op student at Zuhl Library and continues as a Library Technician for 14 years. In 2009 she became the director of the Española Public Library.

- **Erica Aguirre-Bautista** is the Library's new Administrative Assistant in Library Administration  Department. Erica has an associate's degree in graphic design and arts and a certificate in digital graphics. Before coming to NMSU she worked at the Doña Ana County Detention Center as a Document Technician.

- **Felipe Castillo** has joined Reference & Research Services as the new Business Librarian. His bachelor's degree is in business administration at Azusa Pacific University and he is a recent library and information science graduate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library School. 

- **Josefine Smith**, the Library's new Government Documents and Maps Librarian in the Reference & Research Services Department, received her master's degree in library and information science and her bachelor's in literature and history from the University of Pittsburgh. 

- **Jonathan Butz** joined the Reference & Research Services team as a Library Specialist after working as a student in the same 

department. He has a B.A. in journalism & mass communications from NMSU and an A.A.S in creative media technology from Doña Ana Community College. He has been a DJ for KRUX 91.5 FM and has written for several publications including the *Valencia County News-Bulletin*, the *Albuquerque Journal* and the *Las Cruces Bulletin*.

- **Matt Friedberg** joins the Library as a Library Specialist for the Political Papers Unit of Archives & Special Collections. He will process papers in the Domenici collection and supervise the department's student employees. He is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and continues to work toward his B.A. degree in history.



Twelve local artists provided a diverse group of works interpreting Ana Castillo's "So Far From God" for the **University of New Mexico Valencia Campus Library's** exhibit that open Oct. 1 and runs until December. The opening party was held on October 5.

Albuquerque Public Schools Dolores Gonzales and **Griegos Elementary** schools have libraries with a "makeover" courtesy of a \$35,000 Public Service Co. of New Mexico donation and \$15,000 in cash and in-kind donations from the Albuquerque Public Schools Education Foundation, New Mexico School Products, Contract Associates of New Mexico and Technology Integration Group. New books, flat-screen television, whiteboards, ipads, re-configured space was only a part of the sight students and staff found in the renovated spaces.



NORTH DAKOTA

Christine Kujawa of the **Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library** received this year's Librarian of the Year Award. In addition to being the Head of Circulation Services at the Bismarck Public Library, Christine is also the Assistant Systems Administrator for the Central Dakota Library Network, the Intellectual Freedom Committee



Chair of the North Dakota Library Association, and an adjunct lecturer at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Christine received the award in recognition of her support of the Bismarck community and for her numerous contributions to North Dakota libraries and the library profession.

MPLA member **Laurie McHenry** of the **University of North Dakota Thormodsgard Law Library** received the President's Recognition Award for her years of dedication to the NDLA Executive Board.

Major Benefactor Awards went to **Dr. Wayne Sanstead** and the Clio Club of Enderlin. Dr. Sanstead has served as the State's Director of Public Instruction since 1989 and has supported libraries and the North Dakota



State Library throughout his career. The Clio Club has served as a generous ongoing supporter of the Enderlin Municipal Library throughout the years.

MPLA's North Dakota Representative **Eric Stroshane reports:** We held our annual conference September 19-22 in lovely Fargo. The following is a brief survey of noteworthy events therefrom:

Here are some of my conference programming highlights:

- North Dakota Supreme Court Justice Daniel Crothers leading a significant discussion on "Federal Cybersecurity Responses: CISA, PIPA, SOPA and More." Much of the conversation focused on concerns over proposed and enacted federal legislation.
- Gene Ambaum and Bill Barnes (the *Unshelved* guys!) gave the hilarious keynote "Surviving the Public: Customer Service the *Unshelved* Way."
- MPLA President-Elect Wendy Wendt's presentation "From Carnegie to Carnegie," offering a practical and motivational synergy of the visions of Dale Carnegie and Andrew Carnegie
- "Finding Your Leadership Voice" was a joint presentation by recent MPLA Leadership Institute alums, Amber Emery, Tina Grenier, and Carrie Scarr. They spoke about their experiences at YMCA of the Rockies, what they gained from it, what they learned about themselves, and how it's changing the way they serve as library leaders in their communities.
- "Ignite NDLA" was a joint session where six NDLA members each gave an Ignite-



formatted presentation on something they were personally or professionally passionate about. If you aren't familiar with it, an Ignite session is rigidly structured so that each 5 minute presentation consists of 20 slides which automatically advance every 15 seconds. This session was a rollicking good time for the audience and presenters alike. Ignite proved a great way to learn and get excited about a wide variety of topics in a short period of time.

- NDLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee made an excellent video for the 50 State Salute to Banned Books Week. It debuted shortly before the conference and saw some play during it. It's well worth seeing and you can do so here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxMWYe5S8YI>

Handouts from select sessions are available here: <http://www.ndlaonline.org/Conference/12conf.htm>."

The **North Dakota Library Association** Executive Board, 2012-2013 is:

Alfred Peterson, President (North Dakota State Library - MPLA member)

Victor Lieberman, President-Elect (UND Chester Fritz Library)

Aubrey Madler, Past President (UND Center for Rural Health - MPLA member)

Beth Sorenson, Secretary (UND Chester Fritz Library)

Michael Safratowich, Treasurer (UND Library of Health Sciences)

Shelby Harken, ALA Councilor (UND Chester Fritz Librar - MPLA member)

Eric Stroshane, MPLA Representative (North Dakota State Library - MPLA member)

Will Martin, Academic & Special Libraries Section (North Dakota State Library- MPLA member)

Rosemary Pleva Flynn, Archives/Records Management Roundtable (UND EERC Library - MPLA member)

Lisa Martin, Government Documents Roundtable (UND Chester Fritz Library - MPLA member)

Holly Gabriel, Health Science Information Section (UND Rural Assistance Center)

Jenilee Kanenwisher, New Members Roundtable (Fargo Public Library)

Tim Dirks, Public Library Section (Fargo Public Library)

Lesley Gunderson, School Library & Youth Services Section (Bismarck Public Schools)

Elizabeth Madson, Technical Services Roundtable (Fargo Public Library)

Virginia Bjorness, Constitution, Bylaws & Policies (State Historical Society of North Dakota)

Bree Schmidt, Continuing Education (Fargo Public Library)

Bonnie Krenz, Finance (Griggs County Public Library)

Christine Kujawa, Intellectual Freedom (Bismarck Public Library)

Kelly Steckler, Legislative (Morton Mandan Public Library)

Susie Sharp, Nomination, Elections & Voting (Eddy-New Rockford Library)

Kathryn Thomas, Membership (NDSU Libraries - MPLA member)

Lori West, Professional Development (Fargo Public Library)

Cathy Langemo, Public Relations & Executive Secretary

Marlene Anderson, *Good Stuff* Editorial (Bismarck State College Library - MPLA member)

Carrie Scarr, Archivist/Historian (West Fargo Public Library - MPLA member)

Hulen Bivins, State Librarian (North Dakota State Library - MPLA member)

Theresa Norton, Web Editor (UND Library of the Health Sciences)

Ghouls and chills took over the **Grand Forks Public Library** on October 19 and it was reported to be a ghostly success. The Library's *Haunted Stacks* found 150 patrons lined up for a tour of the haunted library including a 'dead' librarian shelving books and creepy crawly surprises. Games went from Pumpkin Bowling to "Guess the candy corn in the jar".



The **North Dakota State Library** has contracted with Credo Reference to make Literati Public available for all schools and public libraries in the state and to make Credo General Reference available for all of the colleges and universities.

The award-winning reference suite features a wide assortment of current full-text reference books (both general and subject/discipline-specific) and also acts as a research portal to all of a library's electronic resources.



The **Minot Public Library** recently hosted the Souris Valley Watercolor Society's Fall Art Show. The Library also recently held a cake decorating contest for teenagers, presided over by **Pam Carswell**, their new Teen Services librarian.

The **Kindred Public Library** celebrated its 10th anniversary on November 2.

The **Lake Region Public Library** (Devils Lake) received generous donations from the Devils Lake Kiwanis Club and the Devils Lake Rotary Club in support of their joining our state's OverDrive consortium, NDLibrary2Go.

The **Leach Public Library** (Wahpeton) hired **Rachel Kercher** as their new children's librarian.

The **North Dakota College at Bottineau** hired **Hattie Albertson** as their new library director.

The **Fargo Public Library** held a series of job search programs throughout September and October, covering tech skills for job hunters, resume help, job search strategies, and interview advice.

The **Mayville Public Library** has been hosting Dakota Discussions in partnership with the North Dakota Humanities Council. The discussions so far have been centered around the books *Westhope* by Dean Hulse and *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair, and touch on agricultural issues, rural depopulation, and other key topics for North Dakota.

The **Fargo Public Library**, **West Fargo Public Library**, and **Lake Agassiz Regional Library** (Moorhead, MN) sponsored a One Book, One Community project around Lois Lowry's *The Giver* this October. It was the first community-wide project spanning the Fargo-Moorhead metropolitan area.

Mary Fischer, Director of the Valley City Barnes County public Library passed away on September 20, 2012. She had been in the library's employ since 1979. She was seventy-seven years old and a native of Buffalo, North Dakota.

The **Grand Forks Public Library** announced the acquisition of the Early Literacy Station™ (ELS). This special computer offers exciting educational software for all kids ages 2-8. The keyboard is colorful, and the setup is just right for small hands. It offers software for seven areas including reading, math and science. The ELS was made possible through a generous technology-centered donation from a family of local longstanding library supporters. Along with the ELS, the Grand Forks Public Library offers educational toys, several Tag Readers (a LeapFrog reading system that works with a wand and specialized books), and an array of educational books, DVD's and games. **Aaron Stefanich**, Children's Librarian, strives to provide entertaining learning experiences and has provided such programs as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Programs, Lego Robotics, mapping programs, and a Geo Dome visit. GFPL also offers traditional story time twice a week.

OKLAHOMA

"Honk and Holler Opening Soon" was the final book featured at the **Healdton Community Library's** "Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma" series in October.

In cooperation with the Office of State Finance, the **Oklahoma Department of Libraries** has launched two services that provide Oklahoma citizens

with online access to state agency publications and forms: DOCUMENTS.OK.GOV and FORMS.OK.GOV. Both services are part of ODL's growing Oklahoma Digital Prairie services.

The Stillwater Writers hosted award winning young adult author Anna Myers at the **Stillwater Public Library** on November 17. Myers, the winner of four Oklahoma Book Awards, discussed her writing with fans and fellow writers and introduced new young readers to her nearly twenty book collection.

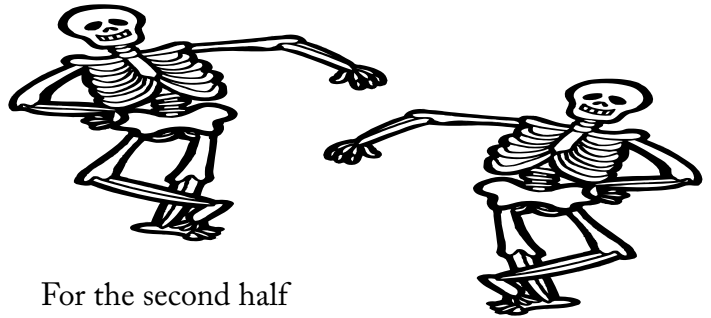
The **Oklahoma Library Association**, partnering with Freedom of Information Oklahoma, sponsored the 14th First Amendment Congress on October 31. The program is designed to help high school students understand the first amendment.

The Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People was held October 25 featuring YA author Alex Flinn and children's authors Betsy and Ted Lewin. The biennial event is presented by the **Oklahoma Library Association**.



Oklahoma participated in ALA's Banned Books Week Virtual Read-Out. **Oklahoma Library Association's** Intellectual Freedom Committee chair **Julia McConnell** read an excerpt of John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*, a book that was once banned in Oklahoma.

SOUTH DAKOTA



For the second half of October, a pair of skeletons was on display in the **University of South Dakota's I.D. Weeks Library**, but they didn't have anything to do with Halloween. Instead, they were part of an altar placed there by the campus Spanish Club in honor of the Day of the Dead — or el Día de los Muertos. The club has traditionally built an altar to memorialize a person each year, but previously kept it within the Spanish Department's building. Moving the altar to the library expanded the club's audience.

Dan Siebersma, South Dakota State Librarian, left his position on October 5. MPLA member **Daria Bossman**, Assistant State Librarian for Development Services, has been named Interim State Librarian.

Visually impaired South Dakotans will have access to an expanded selection of local and regional titles in talking book format, thanks to a new partnership between the **South Dakota State Library** and the **Siouxland Libraries** in Sioux Falls. The two organizations recently opened a recording studio at the Siouxland Libraries Main Branch. The recording studio will be used by volunteers of the State Library's Braille and Talking Book Program to produce books in digital format. The books are made available to South Dakota citizens who are unable to read standard print.

UTAH

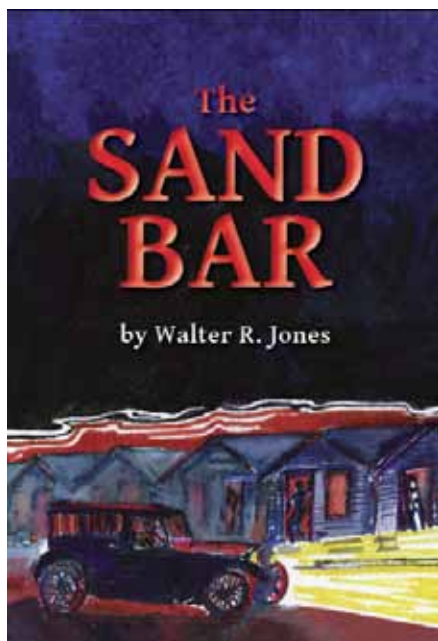
The American Civil Liberties Union of Utah filed a lawsuit Tuesday against **Davis School District**, challenging a policy that limits student access to a library book about a lesbian couple raising children.

The **San Juan High School Library** in Blanding was totally destroyed by an arson-caused fire on November 19. Kiara Pugh, a senior at San Juan High School, contacted MPLA about the disaster. San Juan School District Superintendent Douglas Wright says the library and its contents, including books, computers and furniture, are a total loss. Four classrooms sustained major smoke damage. Those wishing to help may contact Superintendent Wright.

Ruby Cheesman has been appointed Utah representative to MPLA to fill out the term of Christopher Lake who recently resigned.

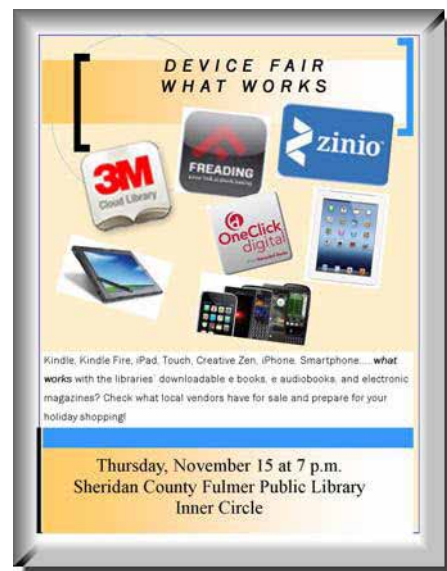
WYOMING

The **Natrona County Public Library** (NCPL) Foundation will release a revised edition of the 1981 local history book *The Sand Bar*, written by Casper native and local historian Walter R. Jones. Proceeds from the sales will benefit the NCPL Foundation, and ultimately library programs and services. *The Sand Bar* is the history of a colorful and wild area of Casper Wyoming from its beginnings as the town's red light district through its conversion by city government into a respectable adjunct to the legitimate business district. The new edition has been revised and edited by the original author, with help from library staff, and provides a valuable update to the original edition, out of print for the past 20 years. This is the third local history collaboration taken on by library staff and published by the NCPL Founda-



tion. Previous books include *A Window to the World: The First 100 Years of the Natrona County Public Library*, also written by Jones, and *Natrona County: The Place We Call Home*, a student and teacher-appropriate resource to meet the third grade local history curriculum requirements of the state of Wyoming. All three books are available to purchase at NCPL and local book stores and museums.

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** held a *Device Fair* for those who wanted to learn more about the audio players, tablet computers, and other equipment which will support the library's collections of electronic books, audio books and magazines (3M, Zinio, OneClick and Freading). Ryan Franklin of the Sheridan Radio Shack was on hand to



show some of the devices that work with the library downloadable collections. Staff members were also available with an assortment of devices which play or read the materials in the electronic collections.

The **University of Wyoming Libraries** have achieved membership in the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA,) a consortium of 32 research libraries located in the central and western United States. GWLA is a project-oriented consortium, nationally recognized as a leader in transforming scholarly communication, and as a facilitator in applying new information technologies. GWLA members develop programs related to scholarly communication, interlibrary loan, shared electronic resources, cooperative collection development, digital libraries, staff development and continuing education. With GWLA membership, UW students and faculty will

have faster access to research collections complementing UW Libraries' own collections. UW will be able to purchase some research databases at a lower cost, saving the university money.



Sweetwater County residents witnessed hordes of the undead groaning and stumbling their way through downtown Green River. The **Sweetwater County Library** hosted the fifth annual Zombie Walk and Zombie Prom food drive on October 6. "We all know that zombies are dying to eat braaaaaaiinnnnssss so that is why we wanted to make the zombie event into a food drive for the local food bank," said **Ellie Davis**, Youth Librarian at the Sweetwater County Library. "One item of nonperishable food gave zombie enthusiasts admittance to the walk and prom. And besides, who could pass up the opportunity to dress up as a zombie and be part of a worthy cause?"



The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** hosted a Grand Re-Opening of its Reference and Internet Computer area on November 13 at the Library. Renovations have been supported by a lead grant from the Griffith Foundation providing \$25,000 over each of the next three years. This year's funding supports the replacement of computer furniture, the acquisition of additional Internet computers, upgraded network equipment, and the addition of fiber optic lines to the library. ACT Inc., a local telecommunications provider, will be installing the new hardware and fiber optic network lines including an upfront in-kind donation for labor and ongoing monthly Internet access at a discounted rate. The fiber optic installation will boost the Internet connection speed for library patrons and staff from 30 MBPS to 100 MBPS. Greg Madison of Electronic Classroom Furniture Systems, L.C., in Story, WY designed and built the new computer workstations that fit into this renovated area; this part of the project was completed with a substantial in-kind donation of materials and labor.

Susan Simpson, Albany County Librarian in Laramie, is retiring. She started at the library in 1981 and became director in April 1989. She is looking forward to reading, travelling, volunteering, and cleaning house. According to Susan, "King Arthur said, "The old order changeth giving way to new,/ And God fulfills himself in many ways,/Lest one good custom should corrupt the world," not that I'm a King Arthur figure, but change is a constant (it's from "The Passing of Arthur" in Tennyson's Idylls of the King)."

**Dates Set for
MPLA 2014
Leadership Institute
May 4-9, 2014
YMCA of the Rockies
Estes Park, Colorado**

MPLA Newsletter Editor Job Posting

Position Summary

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Newsletter Editor writes and edits the MPLA Newsletter. The newsletter is distributed on a bimonthly basis (6 times/year) via the MPLA web site and through an email notification list. The newsletter editor is expected to maintain a positive working relationship with the Executive Secretary, Webmaster, members of the Executive Board, state association Executive Secretaries, advertisers, and joint conference planning committees.

Projected Contract Period

April 2013-April 2014 (will be renewable subject to annual review by Administration Committee)

Duties and Activities

- Edits the MPLA Newsletter on a bimonthly basis.
- Maintains and meets all deadlines for submitting the newsletter for posting and distribution.
- Works with MPLA Webmaster on coordination of photos and news releases between the MPLA web site and the electronic newsletter.
- Communicates with Membership Committee and State Association Representatives, sharing and receiving information and publicity copy.
- Works with the Planning Committee of the joint conference state to produce preliminary publicity and program information for the MPLA Newsletter.
- Provides the MPLA Executive Secretary with a list of national, regional, and other library association publications to receive newsletter notifications.
- Manages all newsletter advertising accounts including soliciting advertising, coordinating donors and sponsor's ads, and handling billing.
- Works with MPLA Executive Board (on advice of the Communications Committee) to set advertising rates for the newsletter based on rates for similar publications.

Qualifications

- Superior organizational skills
- Excellent "people" skills
- Bachelor's degree in writing, communications, journalism, English, or related field
- Ability to work well with individuals and groups
- Ability to communicate tactfully and effectively in written and oral formats
- Portfolio of at least five published news articles
- Experience with and access to a sophisticated publishing/layout program such as InDesign as well as a photo editing program such as Photoshop

Compensation

MPLA will pay a stipend of \$300.00 per issue of the newsletter, which is to be published six times a year. Additionally, the newsletter editor is given a 15% commission on any new advertising that is sold for the newsletter.

To Apply

Please send cover letter, resume, and writing and layout samples to jkinikin@weber.edu

Deadline: 14 December 2012

State & National Conferences

2013

American Library Association Midwinter,
January 25-29, Seattle, Washington

Public Library Association Virtual Spring
Symposium, March 20

Oklahoma Library Association, April 3-5,
Ardmore

Association of College & Research Libraries,
April 10-13, Indianapolis, Indiana

New Mexico Library Association, April 17-19,
Albuquerque

Montana Library Association, April 17 - 20,
Missoula

Utah Library Association, May 1-3, Provo

American Library Association Annual,
June 27 - July 2, Chicago, Illinois

South Dakota, North Dakota and Mountain
Plains Library Association, September
25-27, Sioux Falls

Wyoming Library Association, October 2-5,
Cheyenne

Kansas Library Association, October 9-11,
Topeka

Nebraska Library Association, October 9-11,
Kearney

Nevada Library Association, October, Reno

American Association of School Librarians,
November 14-17, Hartford, Connecticut

Arizona Library Association, TBA

Colorado Library Association, TBA

2014

Arizona Library Association and Mountain
Plains Library Association, Fall, TBA

2015

Wyoming Library Association and Mountain
Plains Library association, Fall, TBA



MPLA Board & Staff

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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
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