

CONFERENCE VISITS

I attended 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.

MPLA/MLA CONFERENCE

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. 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. Now we're down to those little details that can trip you up.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

We now have had inquiries from Nevada, Wyoming, and Colorado regarding the hosting of upcoming conferences. So far, we have not received any formal invitations, although I expect to receive those soon.

MEMBERSHIP

We've had some great discussions about membership recently among the Administration Committee which we will be presenting at the Board meeting.