Report from Arizona Representative to MPLA Board Meeting - June 13-16, 1999 - Big Sky, Montana

• AzLA REGIONAL FORUM IN YUMA, ARIZONA

AzLA (Arizona Library Association) routinely sponsors a regional forum every year, to provide continuing education programs co-sponsored with county libraries in rural or non-Phoenix areas of the state. Members of the Executive Board participate as presenters or facilitators, and Board meetings are held in conjunction with the Forums in different parts of the state. On April 23, 1999, the regional forum was held in Yuma, Arizona.

AzLA PLANNING FORUM

The Association held its annual planning forum on May 7, 1999, at one of the new library facilities in southeast Maricopa County (Phoenix). An overview of the Association's past and a visioning of the Association's future took place under the direction of the President-elect Chris Cole.

AzLA MENTORING PROGRAM

One of the goals of current AzLA President Caryl Major is to provide a mentor for beginning or experienced librarians. There are about 40 librarians involved both as mentors and mentees at this time. A librarian may have been "in the field" for a while, but not feel secure about a certain aspect of a job, so a mentor is assigned to the librarian. Since this has just begun, no feedback has been received, however, with the enthusiasm generated by talking with some of the participants, a very successful program should emerge.

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MPLA Representative from Arizona