

ST-4: Montana
January 2010

The Montana Library Association's PR and Marketing committee announced the MLA license plates are now available at county motor vehicle offices. A call for designs was announced in 2007, with voting taking place at the conference that year. The winning design shows an eye-catching blue and white mountain scene, the MLA "open book" logo with the slogan "READ! Support Montana's Libraries" along the bottom. The initial cost is \$40, with a \$25 renewal fee each year. Proceeds go to MLA to support their many projects.

A new fundraiser from the PR/Marketing committee is a cookbook, *A Literary Feast*. Recipes are being submitted, with plans to have the cookbook available at the April conference. Libraries are also invited to submit photos illustrating the theme in their libraries, to be used as section dividers.

The University of North Texas is offering their online MLIS program to the northwest, including Montana, with coursework beginning in September 2010. SWIM (South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana) scholarships are also available for students interested in this program.

The state library's updated certification program has been announced. Requirements are now 60 CE credits over a 4-year period, with an online continuing education tracking form being used, replacing the old paper forms people had signed at every event. Supervisors will play a larger role in approving training credit. There is an added track for trustees, and certification is voluntary for all but public library directors.

The 2010 MLA conference will be April 7-10 in Bozeman. Dr. Loriene Roy, Dr. Jack Horner, and author Christopher Paolini are all featured speakers.