

MPLA Representative Report

2010

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A Utah librarian, Connie Lamb, was presented the Distinguished Service Award from the Mountain Plains Library Association at the annual conference. Connie has been involved in ULA and a member of MPLA for 30 years where she has served on the publicity, bylaws, nominations, and professional development grants committees, and served as secretary of the Academic Section, 1997-98. Connie has been a member of the MPLA Board. Currently she is a senior librarian in the Social Sciences Department at the Brigham Young University Library. In addition to her MLS, Connie has Master's degrees in biology, international relations, and anthropology.

The Utah Library Association participated in the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute in Colorado by helping sponsor attendees. The three Utah librarians attended were Christy Donaldson, Media Librarian, Utah Valley University; John Eye, Interim Dean of Library Services, Southern Utah University Sherratt Library; and Tiffany Hebron, Assistant Manager, Salt Lake City Public Library. ULA officer Jeffrey Belliston of Brigham Young University, a former attendee of the Institute, served as a mentor at the Institute.

The ULA 2010 Conference was held May 12-14, 2010 at the Dixie Center in St. George, Utah. The theme was "Come together... for Utah Libraries". The keynote speaker was ALA president, Camila Alire, who also presented a pre-conference workshop about bilingual services. The film "Hollywood Librarian" was shown as part of the Presidents' Reception. Mystery author Rosemary Harris spoke at one of the luncheons.

MPLA President Elvita Landau attended the conference and addressed the ULA membership during the Business Meeting.

MPLA President Elvita Landau, Jeffrey Belliston and Betty Dance assisted me at the MPLA booth. They did an excellent job, because we had more people fill out applications for the free membership than in recent years.

The Utah Library Association hired Anna Neatrou to serve as ULA Executive Director.

Ruby Cheesman completed her term as ULA President at the end of the Annual Conference. Andy Spackman began to serve as President of the Utah Library Association. The new ULA Boards held training meetings in June.

Newly elected Utah Library Association officers are:

Vice President/President Elect: Linda Tillson, Director of the Park City Library

Members-at-Large: Michael Freeman and Suzanne Julian

Public Library Section Chair: Xiaolian Deng

School Library Section Chair: Barbara Hopkins

Vice Chair: Elaine Sherbourne

A Fall Conference was held in Fillmore last fall.

ULA President Ruby Cheesman encouraged Utah libraries to participate in SNAPSHOT Day in April.

Ruby spoke at the Utah State Capitol in support of the Utah State Library, which is currently headed by former MPLA President Donna Jones Morris. Ruby encouraged legislators to continue to support libraries throughout the State of Utah, by funding programs administered by the State Library.