



# MPLA Newsletter

August-September 2014 - Volume 59 Number 1



## AzLA/MPLA Joint Conference—November 12-14, 2014!

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Annie Epperson, MPLA President-elect, reports that “the 2014 joint conference with Arizona Library Association is shaping up to be both fun and professionally rewarding. Held at the Scottsdale Radisson Fort McDowell Resort (soon to be named the WeKoPa Resort & Conference Center) on 12-14 November (Wed-Fri), the theme of the conference is “Libraries: Best of the West!”

The program is being finalized, so watch for those details in our special conference issue of the MPLA Newsletter! Confirmed invited speakers include Arizona Storyteller and Editor of *True West Magazine*, Bob Boze Bell; Director of the Pew Research Center’s Internet & American Life Project, Lee Rainie; One Conference - One Book Author Kevin Fedarko, author of *The Emerald Mile*; Hugo and Nebula award winning author, Connie Willis; and MPLA Member, Dean of Libraries, University of Wyoming, Maggie Farrell. Of course, we’ll have the MPLA Hot Tub Round Table! The resort has extended conference room rates for three days on either side of the conference, so consider adding a vacation day or two; don’t forget, Tuesday is Veterans Day!

The conference promises to be a great time!!”

# MPLA 2014-2015 Officer Candidates

The election for new officers will be held online from September 22–October 3. Results will be announced October 6. New officers' terms will begin at the joint AzLA/MPLA conference November 12-14, 2014.

## For Vice-President/President-Elect



### Jake Rundle

Collections Librarian, Hastings  
Public Library, NE

#### Education

- BA in English from Midland Lutheran College
- MLS from University of Missouri

#### Professional activities—Jake Rundle

- Member of Nebraska Library Association since 2009
- MPLA rep since 2013
- Hospitality Chair for MPLA/NLA conference
- MPLA member since 2012

#### Candidate Statement—Jake Rundle

Tech Savvy, creative, dedicated. I want to investigate the possibility of getting board meetings set up in some kind of webinar format instead of a conference call. I also want to see what other great technology MPLA can help to provide for the member states as part of the services we offer.



### Eric Stroshane

Library Development Manager,  
North Dakota State Library (NDSL)

#### Previous positions

Field Services Librarian, NDSL  
Director of Public Services, NDSL  
State Document and Reference  
Services, NDSL

#### Education

- B.A. in English, Pennsylvania State University
- M.A. in English, SUNY Buffalo
- M.L.S., Indiana University Bloomington

#### Professional Engagement—Eric Stroshane

- MPLA member since 2009
- ALA IFC Subcommittee on Privacy, 2014-
- MPLA's North Dakota State Rep., 2010-2013
- MPLA's Professional Forum judge, 2013
- MPLA Administration Committee, 2011-2012
- NDLA's Website Committee, 2013-
- NDLA's MPLA Rep., 2010-2013
- NDLA's Good Stuff Editorial Committee, 2012-
- NDLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, 2007-8
- NDLA's New Member's Roundtable Chair, 2006-7
- Minitex Electronic Information Resources Task Force, 2008-
- NDSL Database Review Committee, 2013-
- Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) OPAC Work Group, 2005-
- ODIN OPAC Work Group Chair, 2007-

#### Speaking and Facilitation—Eric Stroshane

- Featured Speaker for ALA Choose Privacy Week 2014
- Presented at the LibTech, MPLA, and NDLA Conferences, and at NDSL's Spring Workshops
- Taught during NDSL's Summer Course for school & library media specialists, 2006-2007
- Organized NDSL's Summer Summit events, 2012-

#### Writing—Eric Stroshane

- NDLA Good Stuff columnist (Nerd Up), 2012-
- NDSL Field Notes blogger, 2013-
- NDSL Flickertale contributor, 2008-
- MPLA Newsletter contributor, 2010-2013
- NDLA Good Stuff contributor, 2010-2013

#### Candidate Statement—Eric Stroshane

I possess excellent speaking, writing, and facilitation skills; am passionate about intellectual freedom and technology; have broad experience engaging with the needs of public, academic, school, and special libraries; and have spent time in ten of MPLA's twelve constituent states.

I would like to help MPLA better engage its members throughout the year by facilitating continuing education and networking opportunities beyond the conference and leadership institute.

# For Recording Secretary



## Valerie Nye

Library Director at the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM

Previous positions: Library Director at Santa Fe University of Art and Design; Head of Public Services at the College of Santa Fe; Public Library Consultant New Mexico State Library

### Education

- MLIS, University of Wisconsin - Madison
- BA English, Cornell College

### Professional activities—Valerie Nye

- New Mexico Representative to the MPLA Board 2003–2005
- MPLA Leadership Institute Mentor 2012
- MPLA Leadership Institute Attendee 2003
- Secretary, IAIA Faculty Council 2013-Present
- Secretary, NM Consortium of Academic Libraries 2012-2014
- Secretary, NM Library Foundation 2010-2012
- MPLA member since 2003

### Candidate Statement –Valerie Nye

I have served in the position of Secretary on multiple boards in the last several years. I am a skilled taker of minutes and I work well with projects and deadlines. I have been a member of MPLA for over 10 years. As an organization, MPLA has given me so many opportunities through the Leadership Institute and through the many joint conferences I have attended. I would like to have the opportunity to serve on the MPLA board and give back to an organization that has given me so many professional strengths.



## Sky Seery

Library Tech II, Mid-Plains Community College Learning Resource Center, North Platte, NE

Previous positions: Circulation Clerk, Library Paraeducator

### Education

- Associate of General Studies, Mid-Plains Community College
- Library and Information Services Certificate, Central Community College

### Professional activities—Sky Seery

- Republican Valley Library Systems Board Member Secretary
- North Platte Community College Working on Wellness Team
- North Platte Community College Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Advisor
- North Platte Community College Go-To Gang Mentor
- Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Summer 2013
- Leadership Lincoln County Graduate, 2013
- North Platte Public Library Foundation Board Member
- North Platte Public Library Advisory Board Member
- Nebraska Library Association Scholarship Committee 2014
- MPLA member since 2012

### Candidate Statement –Sky Seery

I truly enjoy working with groups. I strive to present accurate meeting minutes in a timely manner as Secretary of the RVLS Board. I would not only benefit professionally but have the opportunity to share what I've learned with my fellow co-workers. Recording Secretary would help me grow within the library profession as I would have the opportunity to meet others in a variety of states. While I work in an academic library, I value all libraries and would find it a great honor to be a part of this group.

Voting will take place online from September 22-October 3.  
Current MPLA members will receive notification by e-mail with instructions for voting.

## Arizona



Dale Savage is the new Arizona Representative to MPLA, appointed to fill out Dan Stanton's term of office. Dan resigned as MPLA

Representative because he will be assuming the role of President of AzLA at the joint AzLA/MPLA Conference in Fountain Hills, AZ in November.

The Maricopa County Library District received a \$150,000 grant from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records—Library Services and Technology Act, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and \$100,000 through its own summer reading allocation to build a full-featured, user-friendly, open source software system. The Great Reading Adventure (GRA) app allows users to sign up for summer reading, incentivize themselves for reaching their reading goals, and keep track of their progress online. It also has virtual game boards, literacy activities, collection and reporting of data, creation of badge incentives, and electronic delivery of coupon prizes

The University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) received a grant for \$498,736 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as part of its Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. The project will

educate 24 culturally competent master's degree students to serve Latino and Native American communities in the digital world.

## Colorado

*Unite for Literacy* is working to bring an end to the "book desert" in Colorado. The organization is looking to unite local businesses and organizations in bringing more books to children by creating a free digital library for kids narrated in 17 different languages. The initiative is called the Picture Book Abundance CGI Commitment to Action. Access the library at [www.uniteforliteracy.com](http://www.uniteforliteracy.com).

Colorado State University has reinstated its bike library after several years without. The bicycle library consists of 20 townie or cruiser-style bikes that are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Collaborative Summer Library Program has announced the winners of the 2014 Teen Video Challenge, "Spark a Reaction." The Challenge is a national competition for young adults to get involved with their public library's summer reading program. Twenty-five Colorado teens submitted videos. Bethany Hagerott, through the Longmont

## Urban Libraries Council Recognizes Several Libraries in Region as Top Innovators

Civic and Community Engagement Category: Top Innovator—Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library (KS) for "Librarians Facilitate Community Change"; Honorable Mention—Wichita Public Library (KS) for "Activate Wichita"

Collections Category: Honorable Mention -Pikes Peak Library District (CO) for "Waldo Canyon Fire Digital Collection"

Customer Experience Category: Top Innovator- Denver Public Library (CO) for "DPL Connect: A Pedal-Powered Bookmobile"

Health, Wellness, and Public Safety Category: Honorable Mention- Pima County Public Library (AZ) for "Santa Rosa Snacks"

Operations Category: Top Innovator- Aurora Public Library (CO) for "Library in a Big Box"

Sustainability Category: Top Innovator- Salt Lake County Library Services (UT) for "Sustainability Initiative"

In addition, ULC honored the Pioneer Library System (OK) for "Virtual Response: May 2013 Oklahoma Tornadoes" for its leadership in helping the community respond to crises

For more information see [www.urbanlibraries.org](http://www.urbanlibraries.org).

Public Library, won with her video, *Inspire*. View all of the videos at [www.csllpreads.org](http://www.csllpreads.org).

“Library 21c, the new 21st Century Library,” in the Pikes Peak Library District is open. Library 21c offers a creative computer commons, including audio suites; a 400 seat theater; a self-checkout for book and game rentals. It also has a business center with video chat with a café, coming-soon job training programs and 3D printers.



## Kansas

Meagan Zampieri is the new Continuing Education and Library Services Consultant at the Northwest Kansas Library System. A recent graduate from Emporia State University’s School of Library and Information Science, she came from the Emporia Public Library where she worked as a reference librarian and technology instructor.



*Meagan with her 7 year old son Brian.*

The Wichita Public Library recently received the LibraryAware Community Award. It was presented to Mayor Carl Brewer and Director of Libraries Cynthia Berner-Harris by officials from the

*Library Journal* during a Wichita City Council meeting. The Library Aware Community Award is underwritten by LibraryAware, a product of the NoveList division of EBSCO Information Services.

## Montana

Eileen Wright, past-president of Mountain Plains Library Association, has been appointed by the Montana Library Association Board to be the new Montana representative. She follows Norma Glock whose 3-year term ended at the MPLA board meeting in Las Vegas.

Debbie Kramer, Montana Library Association Executive Director, and her husband will take the place of retired conference planners and will plan next year’s MLA conference in Bozeman, Montana.

The Montana Library Association’s Legislative Committee is working with the Montana State Librarian to ensure that library concerns are heard during the next Legislative session that convenes in January 2014. Budget support for an Early Literacy position at the Montana State Library is on the agenda. Also on the agenda is support for school librarian/teachers accreditation as more control surrounding local school board will be an issue again next session.

## Nebraska

Compared to other town buildings, the Pilger Library received little physical damage from June’s twin tornadoes. Any interested libraries may send money rather than books to the relief effort.

## Haakon County Public Library 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*By Annie Brunskill*

The Haakon County Public Library in Philip, SD celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary during the community’s annual Scotty Philip Days in June with a front porch display in the lobby of the county courthouse. The library was started in 1914 by the Philip Women’s Club. Each of the thirteen members purchased one book to go into a collection placed on the front porch of one of the members. Gradually people in town began borrowing and donating books until, in 1924, the collection had to move to a house with a bigger porch. In 1932 the county commissioners gave permission to use a room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the courthouse. An open house was held May 6, 1932 with 282 volumes. In 1943 it moved to its current location on the first floor.



A front porch display was a way to celebrate and bring attention to the library’s 100 years of existence. An open house with cake and ice cream was held in conjunction with the annual book sale on Saturday of the celebration.

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Registration for the NLA/NSLA conference in South Sioux City is open. South Sioux City sits on the Iowa/South Dakota/Nebraska “corner” and any librarian from MPLA is welcome to attend. This year’s theme is “Motivate. Innovate. Integrate.” Early bird Full conference for a nonmember is \$165 prior to August 1st and is \$180 before September 20th. Student price for early bird registration is \$70 before August 1st and \$80 before September 20th.

## Nevada

The Nevada Library Association is migrating to *Wild Apricot*, a new content and membership management system.

The Nevada Library Association Executive Board decided to not retain a lobbyist for the 2015 state legislative session.

Winners of the Nevada Young Readers’ Award are:

- Picture Book - *Silly Doggy!* by Adam Stower
- Young Readers - *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger
- Intermediate - *Smile* by Raina Telgemeier, with color by Stephanie Yue
- Young Adult - *Legend* by Marie Lu

The new Poetry Center at the Sierra Nevada College is located within the Prim Library. The Poetry Center was made possible through a grant awarded by the Nevada State Library and Archives and the Institute for Museum and Library Services. In addition to more than 500 volumes of poetry supplied by the grant, the college also received a large donation of approximately 3,000 volumes, making the collec-

tion one of the largest of contemporary poetry in Nevada and the surrounding region.

The Downtown Reno Library won the Gale/Cengage *Most Beautiful Library Award* in the “Coolest Interior Space” category.

MPLA member Angela Thornton is the new Director of the Henderson Libraries. She was previously manager of the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library in Oklahoma City.

## New Mexico

The New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference will be Oct. 22-24 at Ruidoso, New Mexico. The Library Legislative Committee is preparing for GO Bond election in the Fall.

Newly elected officers of the New Mexico Library Association are: President, Janice Kowemy; Vice-President, Sharon Jenkins; Secretary, Melanie Chavez; Treasurer, Paulita Aguilar; Members-at-large, Stephanie Wilson, Lynnette Schurdevin, and Steven Thomas; ALA/APA Councilor, Val Nye.

## North Dakota

On May 30th, the North Dakota State Library, the North Dakota Heritage Center, and the Capitol were filled with children gathered together to celebrate reading, as the Bismarck and Mandan public libraries kicked off their summer reading programs. It was a full day of fun and activities for children in the Bismarck/Mandan and surrounding communities. Over 3,800 people attended the event and children had the opportunity to sign up to participate in the programs at the Bismarck and Mandan Public Libraries.

## Haakon 100th Anniversary— continued

The porch itself was constructed by library supporter, Sheila Olson, and the backdrop was painted by Library Board President, Jennifer Henrie. Many other board members, Friends of the Library, and library supporters contributed to the effort to bring the idea to life. Moses Building Center donated the lumber and materials and Ingram’s Hardware donated the paint. It’s hoped that the porch can be moved into the community room of the courthouse and find a permanent home against the wall near the library door.

## JOIN MPLA!

Become a part of our diverse membership in 12 states, consisting of School, Academic, Public and Special Librarians.

Open to anyone: New to the field; A seasoned professional; Teacher; Library vendor; Retiree; Library Support Staff; Library Trustee

We offer a friendly welcoming association thanks to our perfect size.

We’re bigger than a state association but smaller than a national organization.

Join online at <http://www.mpla.us/membership/index.html>

The Minot Public Library kicked off summer reading on June 9<sup>th</sup> with a special performance by Jazmine



Wolf and the Dewey Decimal band. Children were entertained by the special musical written just for the event.

The New York Times bestselling book *Dakota: a Spiritual Geography* by Kathleen Norris will serve as the joint One Book for both North and South Dakota. Norris, a resident of Lemmon, South Dakota, will conduct a sixteen-city tour across North and South Dakota over the coming months.

State Librarian Mary J. Soucie recently spend time with members of Congress to discuss library issues during the American Library Association's National Library Legislative Day. While there she was shadowed by a writer from the *American Libraries Magazine*.

The North Dakota State Library is preparing for the Summer Summit during which library administrators and board members can discuss issues that matter most to them. Some of the topics for discussion include marketing, social media, emerging technology, programing and library standards. The meetings will take place in six locations across the state in August.

Elizabeth Jacobs has accepted the position of Assistant Director at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. She had been at the State Library for the past ten years.

Victor Lieberman, NDLA President, received a grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation for funding a series of meetings across the state to talk with librarians about the nature and extent of the library funding crisis.

The North Dakota Library Association's Health Sciences Information Section will host the Medical Library Association Midwest Chapter conference in Bismarck Oct. 10-14.

## Oklahoma

Longtime Ada Public Library Director Jennifer Greenstreet retired July 31. Greenstreet served briefly as children's librarian before advancing to director in 1986. She has served longer than any previous library director in Ada.



The Oklahoma Library Association welcomed new president Shari Clifton, Professor and Head Reference & Instructional Services at the Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Shari began the new year by hosting a Leadership Retreat in Midwest City. Planning is now underway for the 2015 OLA Conference which will be held in Midwest City in late spring.

OLA and Rose State College joined forces in July once again to present Information Matrix Camp, a week-long camp for middle school students. Matrix Camp is designed to expose students to many kinds of librarianship and is a week filled with tours, exhibitions, hands-on

## Library Director Walks on Water

Mike Mullin, Director, reports that "Lots of fun was had with science this summer at the Watertown Regional Library in Watertown, South Dakota. Children of all ages started the summer in the teen area "walking on water" with the help of 75 pounds of corn starch that turned the water into a non-Newtonian fluid. The teens started the day learning by experience that non-Newtonian fluids act like water when treated with gentle forces, but act more like solids when strong forces are applied. The people pictured learned that if they walked quickly on the "water" they did not sink, but if they stopped they would sink. To see more pictures and movies checkout the library's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/watertownregionallibrary>. Younger children who had been making "slime" with water and corn starch came over to the teen area and joined in the fun."



experiences and learning. See the blog at <http://bit.ly/1mYordX>.



Plans are underway for OLA's Festival of Books for Young People. The event is scheduled for October 30, 2014, and attendees will meet notable bestseller Megan McCafferty, selected New Voice author Mike Mullin and artist, illustrator Ard Hoyt.

## South Dakota

Recent torrential rains in eastern South Dakota have caused flooding at libraries in Canton, Harrisburg, and South Dakota State University. Wessington Springs experienced an EF-2 tornado in late June. There was no reported damage to the library, which is one of the few Carnegie libraries still operating in South Dakota.

Mary Jo Parker is the new librarian in Lake Andes.

Long time staff person Jody Carlson is the new library director at the Grant County Library in Milbank.

South Dakota Library Association is sponsoring Branch Out 2014, a one day conference for support staff at Dakota Wesleyan University in on August 7. Keynote speaker is "That Writer Guy" Jason Glaser.

Lakota artist Donald Montileaux recently penned "Tasunka: a Lakota horse legend" using his talent for creating unique-looking horses through ledger art, a Native art form which originated in about 1870. Agnes Gay, an assistant ar-

chivist at Oglala Lakota College Library, translated the story into Lakota.

Jean Peterson of the South Dakota State Library has retired after 37 years of service to librarians across the state.

The New North Sioux City Library opened on June 9 with 7000 square feet, a staff bathroom, and lots of windows and light.



The Warner School and Community Library received a \$1,100 grant from the Libra Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides small, rural libraries with books for children. With matching funds of \$350, the library received 75 new children's books.

South Dakota attendees Mary Francis, Melissa Clark, and Brenda Hemmelman enjoy the group hike at the 2014 MPLA Library Leadership Institute.



Annie Brunskill's last day as Director of the Haakon Library was June 30. She is leaving the library to start her own business selling quilts online.

## Buy Groceries Help MPLA!

The King Soopers (Kroger) Neighborhood Reward Program offers fundraising for non-profit organizations. Purchase grocery cards from MPLA, use and reload them, and MPLA receives a 5% rebate. There is no extra cost. For instance, a \$25 gift card is redeemable for \$25 in merchandise. A card can be reloaded for any amount up to \$500 and can be used indefinitely. (A card linked to MPLA cannot be purchased at stores - it is only available through MPLA).

If you shop at any of the following Kroger-affiliated stores please consider using a MPLA designated card.

- \*Kroger
- \*Fred Meyer
- \*Ralph's
- \*Fry's
- \*Fry's Marketplace
- \*King Soopers
- \*Dillons
- \*Smith's Food & Drug
- \*City Market
- \*QFC
- \*Food 4 Less
- \*Owen's Foodsco
- \*Hilander
- \*Pay-Less
- \*Cala-Bell
- \*Bakers
- \*JayC
- \*Loaf and Jug

See more information at <http://www.mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html>.

An order form is available at <http://www.mpla.us/forms/grocerycard.html>. Your card will be mailed from MPLA within 5 days of your payment.

The Grace Balloch Memorial Library was honored by the IRS for its ten years of dedication as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site.

The Dell Rapids Carnegie library is embarking on a renovation and expansion project

## Utah

Pam Martin, Reference Librarian at the Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library, is the new Utah Library Association President

Author Cory Doctorow, presented a program at the Salt Lake City Public Library, *Freedom is not Free*. It was cosponsored by the ULA Intellectual Freedom Committee, Salt Lake City Library & Salt Lake County Library.

Robert Maxwell's book *Maxwell's Handbook for RDA: explaining and illustrating RDA: resource description and access using MARC21* won the 2014 ABC-CLIO Award for the Best Book in Library Literature. Author-Robert L. Maxwell is a senior librarian at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

## Wyoming

The University of Wyoming Libraries recently transitioned from Innovative Interfaces Incorporated's Millennium library application to their new, next generation, Sierra library application. The catalog organizes the holdings of the UW Libraries, the UW Law Library and the American Heritage Center. <http://uwcatalog.uwyo.edu>.

The 2014 Wyoming Library Association Annual Conference will be held on September 24th - September 26 at the Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Casper WY.

To acknowledge the 125th anniversary of the University of Wyoming, Tamsen

Hert and Rick Ewig worked together to develop pictorial book documenting the history of the state's only four-year public institution of higher education. Containing more than 200 vintage images, *The University of Wyoming* is part of Arcadia Publishing's "Campus History Series." The book received honorable mention by the Wyoming State Historical Society in 2013. Hert heads the Emmett D. Chisum Special Collections at the UW Libraries and Ewig is associate director of the American Heritage Center. In addition to this book, Hert has written several articles about the cultural history of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and has a chapter on Yellowstone's Roosevelt Lodge in a forthcoming book. Hert is also currently working on a history of all the Yellowstone's hotels, lodges and camps with Lee H. Whittlesey

Wyoming author Craig Johnson will in Campbell County in August to help wrap up *One Book Wyoming: Campbell County*. He will speak and sign books at Wright Branch Library Campbell County Public Library. Pokey's BBQ & Smokehouse and Boot Hill will provide refreshments. The Wyoming State Library launched the first One Book Wyoming program in February featuring Craig Johnson's novella *Spirit of Steamboat*. Johnson came to CCPL in February to launch Campbell County's promotion and help library staffs pass out 125 "read and pass along" copies of *Spirit* for sharing throughout Gillette and Wright. In June, Craig was back in Gillette to lead a *Spirit* book discussion at Prairie Fire Brewing.

# MPLA Seeks Newsletter Editor

MPLA is seeking a newsletter editor to compile, write, and edit our bi-monthly newsletter. This is a terrific opportunity for someone who loves libraries and who has excellent writing skills and a creative spirit.

The mission of the MPLA newsletter is to support the Association in promoting the development of librarians and libraries in the MPLA region.

The MPLA Newsletter Editor writes and edits the *MPLA Newsletter* which is distributed on a bimonthly basis (6 times per year) via the MPLA web site and through an e-mail distribution list. The newsletter contains items of interest to MPLA members and sponsors. The MPLA Newsletter is assisted by a support team, including the MPLA Communications Committee which serves in an advisory capacity, a news "wrangler" who will help gather news from member states and a proofreader. The newsletter editor works closely with the Executive Secretary, members of Executive Board, state association staff, advertisers, and joint conference planning committees in preparing each issue.

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

See full job description at <http://www.mpla.us/jobline/mpla.pdf>.

**To Apply**, please send cover letter, resume, writing sample and newsletter/graphic sample to [library-wendy@gmail.com](mailto:library-wendy@gmail.com).

# “Thanks Library in the Hallway!”: Providing Collection Access (and Insights) During Building Renovation

By Adriane Herrick Juarez

*(“Thanks Library in the Hallway!” entries are used with permission from the Facebook page of Brooke Moss, Park City Human Resources Manager.)*



The staff of the Park City Library had a big question to answer when we realized the library would have to be temporarily closed for renovation for more than a year starting in May 2014. “What were we going to do with all of the materials?” Any library that has undergone construction understands the difficulty of providing continued access to books, movies, music, and magazines when a facility becomes more about dust and demolition than browsing and borrowing. In Park City the situation proved particularly challenging with only one central library, housing over 73,000 items. There were no branches where materials could be moved and simply no buildings in the city big enough to house all of our items. The idea of staying open during the renovation had proven to be impossible given the extent of the work, and the additional cost and time doing so would add to the project.

A historic mining town, now famous for world-class skiing and the Sundance Film Festival, Park City is located on the back of Utah’s Wasatch Mountain Range and landlocked by some of the most picturesque elevations imaginable. Completing Park City’s library renovation project would require a 12-15 month closure of the library

housed in the 30,000 square foot Carl Winters Building, which once served as the town’s high school. “We had tough choices,” said Jonathan Weidenhamer, Park City’s Economic Development Manager overseeing the project. “We had to look for creative solutions, or basically put everything into storage and shut shop.”

Over 8,500 residents and more than 3 million annual visitors to the area come to the library more than 114,000 times per year and borrow over 77,000 items. The community wanted to have access to the resources of our library, even during construction. When I started talking to city colleagues about how to keep books in people’s hands throughout the renovation, I was impressed by how quickly they embraced innovative ideas.

The Park City Council voted to temporarily relocate the library to the old Miners Hospital, a building that served the early medical needs of the community starting in 1904. This required finding new office spaces for some non-profit organizations that were housed in the building. The 400-ton structure had been physically moved from a Park City ski resort to the town’s City



Park in the 1970's and renovated. It contained the library from 1982 to 1993, but the space had been outgrown. "Many people love the old building," commented Bobbie Pyron, member of the Park City Library Board, "We all remember it fondly from its time as a library, and some of our residents were even born there when it was a hospital. However, in thinking about it as a space to move during our renovation, we knew it would hold less than half of the library's current collections."

In city meetings, I began talking about what could be done with the remaining library materials that would not fit into the Miners Hospital building. City Manager, Diane Foster, immediately caught the vision of continuing to provide the greatest possible access to collections by perhaps creating mini-libraries in a number of public buildings around the city. It would not only save on the cost of storage, it would be a way to engage people with books as they came and went from public facilities. A number of proposals were discussed. Foster was pleased that, "City Staff really rallied behind the library with a number of our departments, from the ice rink to the recreation center, expressing a willingness to have books in their locations and make them accessible to the public. It came down to a group of city managers valuing the service the library provides and putting their support behind making books available even when there wasn't a lot of space."

After evaluating the feasibility of storing and circulating materials in variety of city locations, city and library staff determined the walls of City Hall provided the best space for installing bookshelves. In addition, it provided the necessary security, power, and data for a self-checkout machine to be installed that would allow library card holders to independently access fiction, non-fiction, and children's books. "It was insightful," said Mayor Jack Thomas whose mother was a librarian and whose daughter is now a librarian. "As people come and go to apply for permits and use other city services, this is now a place where they can also get books. For me, it is easy to get caught up in the enjoyable experience of looking at all the titles, seeing things I have already read and items I now want to read. Sometimes it takes me a little while to get down the corridor to my office. I'm going to hate to see the books go when the renovation is complete. Everyone who comes in seems to enjoy it."

When the library moved, popular items, movies and the largest majority of the library collections went to the Miners Hospital location. Fewer than half of the items fit. With creative solutions, Park City kept library materials in people's hands by utilizing a treasured historic building, creating a library in City Hall, and finally storing the remaining items in the town's old fire station. The items in the fire station are not directly available to the public, but are accessed by the library staff on a daily basis to fill requests, which are picked up by library patrons at the Miners Hospital location. Everything is available to patrons within 24-48 hours. It took extra work to install shelving in various buildings, change materials holdings codes in the database to indicate where items were located, and on a daily basis to pull materials from the various buildings each day for patron requests. But, the payoff has been even better than we could have imagined.

Fondly referred to as "The Library in the Hallway", city employees now can get books when they are at work, the public picks up materials when they visit City Hall for permits and services, and Park City was able to maintain access to its library materials. "People are exploring books in unexpected ways, said Polly Samuels McLean who works in the City Attorney's Office. "I enjoy taking books home to my kids at night and our staff tends to come out of their offices and have interesting conversations about the materials they find." Brooke Moss, Park City Human Resources Manager, has taken a fun and humorous approach to exploring the collections with daily posts to her Facebook page called, "Thanks Library in the Hallway!" Everyone is having fun, reading, engaging with one another, and enjoying the access to materials that outside-of-the-box thinking made possible.

The newly renovated library will open in late 2015 with expanded children's and teen areas, a new entrance and coffee shop, a digital media lab, a hands-on "maker space", open and airy browsing areas, living room type reading nooks, flexible use areas, more community gathering places, expanded collections, increased digital resources, and a fireplace. The community is eager to start using what promises to be a dynamic new library. Everyone will enjoy the resources to be explored in the renovated space, but "The Library in the Hallway" will always be fondly remembered. It pulled our community together, made us smile, and reminded us about the pleasure of being surrounded by books, and other library materials, wherever they may be found.

## WELCOME

### New Members

Vicki Ann Duraine  
Librarian  
Pima County Public Library  
Tucson AZ

Crystal Brandy Hutchinson  
Youth Services Assistant  
Central Kansas Library System  
Great Bend KS

Lauren McMullen  
Statewide Consulting Librarian  
Montana State Library  
Helena MT

Jerusha H. Shipstead  
Montana State University Renne  
Library  
Bozeman MT

Kashawna A. White  
Manager, Circulation and Branch  
Services  
Laramie County Library System  
Cheyenne WY

## CALENDAR

### 2014

North Dakota Library Association conference; September 17-20; Bismarck, ND  
South Dakota Library Association conference; October 1-3; Pierre, SD  
Nebraska Library Association conference; October 8-10; South Sioux City, NE  
Colorado Association of Libraries conference; October 16-18; Loveland, CO  
New Mexico Library Association conference; October 22-24; Ruidoso, NM  
Kansas Library Association conference; October 29-31; Wichita, KS  
Arizona Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association conference,  
November 12-14, Scottsdale/Fountain Valley, AZ

### 2015

American Library Association midwinter conference; January 30-Feb 3; Chicago, IL  
Montana Library Association conference, April 8-11; Bozeman, MT  
Oklahoma Library Association conference; April 29-May 1; Midwest City, OK  
Utah Library Association conference; May 13-15; St. George, UT  
American Library Association annual conference; June 24-30; Chicago, IL  
Wyoming Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association joint conference;  
September 23-24; Cheyenne, WY  
South Dakota Library Association conference; September 23-25; Rapid City, SD  
Kansas Library Association conference; September 30-October 2; Kansas City, MO  
Nebraska Library Association conference; October 14-16; Lincoln, NE  
Nevada Library Association conference; October 13-14; Fallon, NV

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The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities.

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