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MPLA President's Report
July 12, 2003
Jean Hatfield

In the past several months I have been privileged to participate (or to cheer from the sidelines) in several events that may bring long-term benefits to the association.

- I wrote a supporting letter on behalf of the association to the Institute of Museum and Library Services endorsing the Western Council of State Librarians continuing education proposal.
- I participated in an online "focus group" concerning the possible closing of the University of Arizona SIRLS
- I watched from the sidelines as the Continuing Education Committee and the Electronic Communications Committees worked through electronic committee meetings. Unfortunately, the firewall at my library didn't allow me to participate in the meetings.
- I worked with members of the REFORMA conference planning committee to iron out details and concerns.
- I visited the conference site in Lake Tahoe (I was in Reno for another meeting) and met Linda Wilson, one of the conference co-chairs. I was very impressed with both the site and the plans that had been made.
- I attended the Chapter Leaders orientation at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia. I learned that many associations are working through the same problems MPLA is working on.
- I invited four committee chairs to attend the July Board meeting and to present information from their committees.
- I participated in several meetings of the Finance Committee to work through changes in the Executive Secretary's job description and other personnel matters.

It is always a pleasure to work with the many people who keep MPLA viable. We have lost a few members of our Board as their terms expired and we are welcoming new members. We hope that those who are no longer sitting on the Board will continue to join us at our conference - in the bar, in the hot tub, at a slot machine - but especially at the MPLA membership meeting!