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MPLA President  
May 2007 Board Report  
Wayne Hanway

Highlights of the weeks since the joint conference in Albuquerque have been representing MPLA at two state association conferences and working on appointments to MPLA committees.

Kansas Tri-conference – I represented MPLA at the Tri-conference of the Kansas Library Association, Kansas Association of School Librarians, and the Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology, April 11 – 13, in Topeka. I was ably hosted by KLA's MPLA representative, Susan Moyer and past MPLA president Jean Hatfield. On April 12, I went with MPLA Vice President/President-Elect Rob Banks to his office at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, where we participated in a conference call meeting with Utah Library Association leaders about plans for the 2008 joint conference. I also presented a program on library funding elections.

Montana Conference - two weeks after the Kansas conference, I arrived in Helena to represent MPLA at the Montana Library Association's conference. Former MPLA Newsletter Editor Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson was conference co-chair and picked me up at the airport. Montana's past MPLA representative, Bridget Johnson, did a great job of filling in for Eileen Wright, who was unable to attend the conference. I was glad to help by leading a discussion of rural advocacy when the scheduled presenter cancelled.

New Mexico Conference outcome - attendance at the Albuquerque conference was better than projected, 717 total, with 184 MPLA members and 246 attendees who were not a member of either association. However, MPLA's net income of \$17,249.88 proved to be a disappointment, with excessive AV and Internet charges being the biggest problem. Some other expenses were also too high or unanticipated, including gifts to presenters, box lunches for vendors, a shuttle from the second hotel, and higher costs when two luncheons had to be relocated to the convention center. Evaluations were generally very positive. Overall, this conference demonstrated again that a joint conference with MPLA provides a substantial added appeal over the usual annual state conference, with more programs and high-quality presenters.

Appointments - while I have most committee appointments made, there are still at least half a dozen open slots, scattered across the committees. I am still looking at appointing at least one ad hoc committee. I have left most electronic community moderator positions unfilled, pending the recommendations of the task force.

Audit - thanks and appreciation are owed to Louise Treff-Gangler and Annie Epperson for the time they spent and the excellent audit report they submitted. They confirmed that Judy Zelenski is doing a first-rate job as Executive Secretary and they made some very helpful recommendations that the Administration Committee and the Executive Board will need to carefully consider.