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MPLA Vice President/President-Elect  
February 2006 Board Report  
Wayne Hanway

I have been exchanging e-mails with Valerie Nye and the members of the NMLA Conference Planning Task Force since November and I am looking forward to visiting them later on.

The Task Force met January 27th, and they are brainstorming exciting ideas that should guarantee us a wonderful first-time joint conference in New Mexico. Work on a conference web site has begun. The conference will be at the Albuquerque Convention Center, and the conference hotel will be the DoubleTree, just across the street, offering very good rates. The contracts cannot be signed until March, but the anticipated dates are March 14 – 16. Task Force members are investigating the possibility of having the Wednesday night opening reception at the International Balloon Museum, with transportation provided. Reflecting New Mexico's history, the conference will have a trails theme. A variety of special events, including both tours and family events, are being explored.

In other activities, I have been working with the other Administration Committee members on the big job of getting the Manual of Procedures updated to include all the changes that will be taking place. The goal is for the Manual to continue to be the tremendously helpful resource and guide that it has been in the past, so that the workings of MPLA are an open book to our members and everyone can know what is expected and how things should be done.

The changes are also having a major impact on MPLA's Long Range Plan, so I have been reviewing it and preparing a draft revision that will realign the responsibilities and take out some things already accomplished.

A major concern in coming months will be looking ahead to committee and other appointments for next year. I expect to be visiting with many people about this, and I will value your suggestions highly.