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Arizona Library Association Report, July 2007
Submitted by Shirley Condit, Arizona Representative

- No Dewey – the Perry Branch of the Maricopa County library located in Gilbert, Arizona opened its doors June 7, 2007. It's a joint use facility with the Chandler Unified School District and the town of Gilbert. The Perry branch is the first public library in the country whose entire collection does not use a library classification system. The library has categorized all of its materials like a bookstore, using the Book Industry Study Group subject headings known as BISAC. http://www.bisg.org/standards/bisac_subject/major_subjects.html

Visit Jeff Scott's blog "Gather No Dust" <http://gathernodust.blogspot.com> for more information. Jeff Scott is the manager of the Casa Grande Public Library in Pinal County, Arizona.

- Arizonans give high marks to Libraries – The Social Research Laboratory at Northern Arizona University recently completed a telephone survey of Arizonans about library services. From their website: "Arizonans hold a very positive view of the quality and importance of the state's public libraries, according to a telephone survey conducted earlier this year on behalf of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records. Sixty-eight percent of Arizonans rate the state's public libraries as "very good" or "good." Seventy-five percent of Arizonans say they visited a public library in 2006. The highest-rated characteristics of Arizona public libraries are librarian knowledge, online access to library catalogs and databases, and library safety. The telephone survey was conducted by the Social Research Laboratory at Northern Arizona University between December 27, 2006 and January 9, 2007 with 1,202 randomly-selected Arizona adults. Survey results are valid at a +/- 2.8 percent margin of error, at a 95 percent confidence level." To download the full report go to:
<http://www.socialresearchlab.com/DocumentDetail.aspx?DocumentID=0b16ea7b-574b-4d01-ba33-bf7ccf441572>

- Government Information in the 21st Century – From the IMLS website: "The University of Colorado at Boulder Library will partner with Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records; New Mexico State Library; Wyoming State Library; and Utah State University Library to create a multi-state, multi-type library training program that will train reference and public service librarians in the use of electronic federal government information resources. This program will increase the confidence of existing government publication librarians, increase the knowledge of more than 500 general librarians, and create an online learning and support environment." The first training session in Arizona will be held in August at the Pinal County Library District.

- Arizona Library Association's Annual Conference – will be November 13-15, 2007 in Mesa, Arizona. The theme this year is "Sharing Common Values."

- Resource Sharing – the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records is working on improving resource sharing within the state. They are conducting a series of focus groups to get

suggestions for an Arizona web-based information portal that will ensure that every Arizona citizen has equitable and seamless access to library services.

- Web Junction online classes – Arizona’s library staff have been actively taking the online classes at Web Junction this year. Arizona is the only state that completed all their subscription classes and exceeded the course limit. Surveys show that library staff is using the information from these classes in their day-to-day work. The classes are improving their skills in many areas such as merchandising, web design, Microsoft Office, technology troubleshooting, time management and library management.