

REPORT FROM MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

02/23/2002

MEMBERSHIP

Directors-at-Large John York from western Montana and Anitz Scheetz from eastern Montana are waging a major campaign via mail and e-mail to reinstate lapsed MLA members and recruit new ones. The results have been notable – many contacts and renewals. They have also developed a new membership brochure which has its emphasis on the rewards of “Working Smart” by joining MLA.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

The Public Library Division of MLA is working on providing a resource directory of contacts from among the membership to help with everything from mentoring to specific information on Internet sources, program possibilities, collection development, and methods for everything from crafts to book mending. The directory will eventually be linked to the membership roster at our website and to the State Library directory to Montana libraries.

MLA BOARD MEETING

MLA will hold a conference call Board Meeting on February 20. Subjects include a presentation by the Conference Planning Committee for the annual convention, updates to the new MLA Handbook, plans for member ratification of the newly revised By-Laws, and additions to the new up-and-running MLA website.

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

“The Sky’s the Limit” is the theme of MLA’s annual convention, which will be held in Great Falls, Montana, April 25-27, with pre-conference offerings on April 24. Great Falls is the home of the Lewis & Clark Interpretative Center, and several programs and entertainment sessions will be geared toward the upcoming Lewis & Clark Bicentennial celebration in Montana. Noted historian and Lewis & Clark aficionado Hal Stearns will present a pre-conference workshop.

PNLA CONVENTION

The Pacific Northwest Library Association will hold its annual convention in Missoula, Montana, on August 7-10, 2002. The theme is Undaunted Courage: Librarians in the Mountain West, and the programs look exciting. Several Montana librarians are members of both PNLA and MPLA and enjoy the regional opportunities and programs of both fine organizations.

MPLA MEMBERSHIP EFFORTS AND BOARD CHOICE WINNER

Marylane Pannell, a school librarian from Kalispell, is the Montana Board Choice Winner of membership in MPLA. Along with the announcement of her award, a major effort is being made both over the Wired-Montana listserv and the MLA FOCUS newsletter to recruit new members for MPLA – and of course the effort will continue through the April convention.