

ST-4
Montana Report
Norma Glock, State Representative
July, 2011

Montana Library Association held a Strategic Planning Committee during its annual Leadership Retreat in Great Falls the end of June. A report of the meeting was submitted to the MPLA newsletter.

On Tuesday, July 26th, the Montana Memory Project will hold a Webinar Series - Project Client and Compound Objects with Tina Kirkham, Tech Support Specialist. The Montana Memory Project is a statewide digitization project that provides training and support for many different type of projects for libraries, museums, schools and other public projects around the state.

Breaking News from Helena:

(HELENA) --- The Montana State Library (MSL) is pleased to announce that it has received \$45,000 in grant funds from two separate Montana foundations. The First Interstate BancSystem Foundation, based in Billings, awarded the State Library \$35,000, and the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, based in Missoula, awarded the State Library \$10,000. The money will be used to expand the Montana State Library's statewide early literacy initiative, Ready 2 Read.

The weekend of October 7, 8, and 9th, 2011, 30 or so librarians will gather in Bozeman to become early learning aficionados. This Ready 2 Read Rendezvous is part of the Montana initiative to promote early literacy by providing bins of books to permanent collections of public libraries that have attended trainings on early childhood development.

This expense paid training by experts and national trainers will teach more about early literacy and learning, Every Child Ready to Read, becoming a more family-friendly library, play in libraries, Mind in the Making, Growing Up Wild, advocacy, and more.

Montana has purchased a new suite of statewide databases beginning in August that will be available to all Montana libraries enrolled in the Montana Library Directory. The new database suite will include these EBSCO databases: the Elite Mainfile package, the professional nursing database CINAHL with Full Text, the Auto Repair Reference Center and the Small Engine Repair Reference Center. The new suite will also include the Tutor.com Learning Suite which includes the K-12 and College Center and Adult Education and Career Center. The state is dropping the Infotrac databases we have had in the past.

I have been out of the state since the end of June. The report is gleaned from tidbits from the Montana Library Association's list serv.

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