

ST-6
Nevada - State Report
Mountain Plains Library Association
July 2011



The Nevada Library Association Conference is scheduled for October 6 - 8th, 2011, in Carson City, Nevada, the state capital. The theme is "To Boldly Go Where No One has Gone Before." Barbara Mathews, Director of the Churchill County Library and NLA President, will preside. See

<http://www.nevadalibraries.org/conference11/2011conference.html> for more information.

News flash! The 2014 American Library Association Conference will take place in Las Vegas, Nevada, on June 26 - July 2, 2014. Come prepared for hot weather!

The economic situation in Nevada continues to be challenging, as unemployment levels are still among the highest in the nation. As is true in many other states, library budgets have been cut significantly. At last report, the Department of Cultural Affairs was to be dissolved, and the Nevada State Library and Archives, the Department of Personnel, the Department of Information Technology, and the State Public Works Board were to be merged into the Department of Administration. Additionally, the State Mail Services program will become part of the Nevada State Library and Archives. New budget cuts are projected to be 10% for the coming year, with a 62% reduction in statewide collection development funding and a 34% reduction in Bookmobile funding. The NSLA will also lose office space in the Nevada State Library and Archives Building to other agencies. (Daphne DeLeon, Division Administrator, Nevada State Library and Archives). Several positions, left vacant by retirement or resignation, have been left unfilled.

School libraries in Nevada also face personnel and budget cuts, particularly in Washoe and Clark Counties. Many library assistant positions have been cut, and in some cases, even high school libraries are being run by classified employees without formal library training.

In spite of the challenges, Nevada libraries continue to serve their patrons and to provide both print and internet access, with programs to help with job searches. The Elko-Lander-Eureka County library provides bookmobile service to nineteen outlying communities, such as Carlin, Dunphy, the TS Ranch, Owyhee, Mountain City, and others, visiting once every two weeks. Books-by-mail serves isolated or homebound residents.

Other library activities around the state include:

- Washoe County Library - "The Magic of Merlinski," a magic show with a real rabbit named Hare E. Potter - a show with music, comedy, and magic tricks, designed to prove that "reading is magic."
- Douglas County Library - The end of the summer reading program will be celebrated with a "Party Around the World" on July 30. The Lake Tahoe Branch will celebrate by making ice-cream-in-a-can.
- Las Vegas - Clark County Library branches are collecting stories from staff and patrons about how they use libraries (part of a nation-wide effort).

The Nevada Library Association also has a presence on Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, and YouTube. A Google Group has been established to replace the NLA Listserv.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Fockler
Nevada Representative