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South Dakota Library Association  
Mountain Plains Library Association Report, July 21, 2007 – Denver, CO  
Submitted by Colleen Smith, SDLA Representative to MPLA

#### 2007 SDLA Conference

The 2007 SDLA Conference will be held in Watertown, SD Oct. 17, 18, 19. The pre-conference programs offer information from “Library 2.0” to “Some Kids are my Specialty,” to Medical Librarianship.”

The keynote speaker will be Steven Kinsella, “900 miles from nowhere.”

#### New/Remodeled Libraries in South Dakota

The Watertown Public Library is in the process of moving into their new library. For the past year, the library has been housed in an empty downtown building while their previous library building was nearly demolished and rebuilt. They incorporated some of the previous steel beams and built a larger new library around the ‘bones’ of the old library. Open house and dedication activities are planned for August 7 – 11.

The Sturgis Public Library held their grand opening May 4, 2007 for their expanded and newly remodeled library. The actual building project combined the old city firehall and the old city hall offices into a new 2-story structure for the Library. Donations were received from the Lushbough family to furnish the “Lushbough Room” with a fireplace and reading area for the South Dakota Collection. The building plan also incorporated an outdoor patio/balcony where the library can host receptions, picnics, concerts, etc.

On June 17, 2007, the Hot Springs Public Library, located in the Black Hills of South Dakota, held an Open House for their new facility. The Friends of the Library hosted the party with a barbeque, speakers, and an ice cream social. The new library building is a log structure with an all glass front, providing a beautiful view of the valley below. The new building area also provides an outdoor patio and new parking lot, which both provide wireless Internet access. The library is located in a City Park located on the top of a bluff overlooking a beautiful valley. The previous Carnegie building was condemned several years ago. The library moved into an old church building until other quarters were available. Ground was broken for the new building in 2005 – hence the new address – 2005 Library Drive. The Friends of the Library raised \$1 million dollars from donations, book sales, and special fundraising projects. The Friends purchased most of the furnishings for the new building.

#### 2007 Ghost Ranch Candidates selected for the Leadership Institute

Three SDLA members made application to the MPLA Leadership Institute. One was disqualified. The remaining two applicants will be attending Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute in Fall 2007.