

ST-12

Wyoming Report - October 1, 2008

The Wyoming Library Association Annual Meeting is October 1-3, 2008 in Casper. The theme of this year's conference is *Wyoming Resolve: Fostering Accomplishment and Possibility in WLA*. Keynote speaker is Dr. Michael Johnson who will be speaking on "Empowering People to Make the World a Better Place" and there are many interesting sessions on offer. A full program is available at <http://conference.wyla.org/schedule.html>. Plans are already underway for WLA 2009, which will be held at the new University of Wyoming Conference Center.

At the University of Wyoming construction continues on the new addition and the concurrent renovation of Coe Library. Students and staff seem to be coping with the confusion but everyone will be glad when the project is over in September 2010. The Access Services staff moved just about 500,000 older bound journals from the main collection to the Library Annex, a very interesting task which resulted in the demolition of several book trucks. The next big move will take place in early November but, lucky for UW's student workers, this time the movers are doing the work! The main Reading Room of American Heritage Center, which houses the university archives and special collections, was remodeled this summer and is a much nicer place for researchers.

Laramie County Library System continues to be recognized for their good work. In addition to being Library Journal Library of the Year for 2008, they were it was also listed as a Top

Ten Destination Library by Nancy Pearl in USA Today. Their most recent notice was in the *Economist* in an article on "Why Cowboys Read." This article is available online at http://www.economist.com/world/unitedstates/displaystory.cfm?story_id=12208693

The Wyoming State Library, Wyoming Library Association, and the WYLD Training Committee conducted an extensive survey of library workers in Wyoming. The results are available at <http://will.state.wy.us/statistics/workforce/workforce.html> and while the survey only covers Wyoming some of the data might be applicable to the region.

Teton County voters have approved a \$1.5 million expansion to their library.

Public library systems across the state continue to raise money to meet the qualifications for the challenge grants from the state legislature. Activities have ranged from book sales to luncheons to yard sales.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah McCarthy