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MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

December 2001

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INSIDE

- 3 MPLA Award Winners
- 6 Web Paper Wins "Best"
- 7 Great Conference Programs
- 7 MPLA Election Results
- 9 Phoenix Public "New" Again
- 10 ... Friend of Humanities
- 10 ... Business Sense
- 12 ... LOEX of the West
- 12 ... Recognized in Nebraska
- 13 ... Welcome to New Members
- 14 ... MPLA has \$\$\$\$ to Give Away
- 14 ... Around the MPLA Region
- 22 ... Leadership Institute Job
- 23 ... Job Opening

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President's Letter

Debbie Iverson MPLA President



**Madame President
Debbie Iverson**

This is my first newsletter communication with the general membership of MPLA and I am glad to have this chance to start the dialogue which will span the ten months until the next association conference.

First, let me give you the answer to the question many of you might ask, "Why would anyone run for such an office?" The answer for me lies in my own strong allegiance to the Mountain Plains Library Association which has been integral to my development as a professional; sometimes you have to pay more than the annual monetary dues we request from each member each year; sometimes

(Continued on Page 3)



MPLA Award Winners at conference: See inside for details!

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Ara Anderson

(Continued from page 1)

you need to give back in service what has been offered so freely and openly to you. So, that's my answer, these are my years to 'give back' to MPLA what has been given to me time and time again in conference sessions, in MPLA Section and Board meetings, in friendships made, and in the occasional phone call to a valued colleague in the region who was able to help me get to the right answer in a short amount of time.

I want also to let those of you who were unable to attend the conference in Phoenix that it was wonderful; we all owe a huge THANK YOU to the many who helped plan and conduct this event. The programming was rich; at each session time slot there were difficult choices to make about which speaker to hear. In the exhibits hall there were lots of great vendors (many were new to me) who had super products and services to show. Many thanks especially to the Arizona Library Association Conference Committee who demonstrated that southern hospitality is alive and well in the southwest.

And, to your next question, "Why would anyone attend an MPLA Conference?" The answer is that you have the chance to learn new things formally in the many offered programs, but you learn even more informally in the exchanges with colleagues in the exhibits hall, in conference banquets and certainly in after-hours times of fun. Those of us who were able to travel to Phoenix realize the value of gathering with colleagues in this much changed post-September 11th world; some part of our interaction with family and friends and colleagues needs to happen face-to-face. So, mark your calendar, check your driving or flying options, and plan to travel to Fargo, North Dakota in early October 2002 for a great tri-conference hosted by the North Dakota Library Association, the South Dakota Library Association and of course, MPLA!

My energies as President this year will be to continue implementation of the Long Range Plan which focuses our time and talent as an association on the goals central to the membership of this association.

The plan was adopted in Omaha in October 2000; we have made much progress this last year. Your MPLA Board (officers, state representatives, section and committees) have worked hard. For a detailed update on what has transpired, see the MPLA Website at www.usd.edu/mpla/documents/longrangeplan.html

Let me close by sharing some thoughts I had at the joint AzLA/MPLA Awards banquet in Phoenix. I am proud to be an MPLA member, I am proud to be an MPLA officer, and I am especially proud to see the display of MPLA talent at the annual awards banquet. What a group we are!!

A great 2002 to each of you!!!

Debbie

MPLA Award Winners At Arizona Conference

The following individuals and groups were selected as the 2001 awards recipients for MPLA. They were honored at the joint MPLA/AzLA awards banquet held Thursday, Dec. 6, 2001 at the Phoenix Civic Center.

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD

Barbara Staggs



Barbara Staggs

Barbara Staggs holds education degrees from Northeastern University and the University of Tulsa. She is a retired teacher and administrator. Barbara began serving as a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 1995 and today serves with distinction on several important house committees in addition to chairing the Career and

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AWARD

Jim Heckel



Jim Heckel

*During his long library career, Jim Heckel, Director of the Great Falls Montana Public Library, has been a tireless advocate for first amendment freedoms for all types of libraries. Jim served on the board of the Montana ACLU, teaches programs on defending intellectual freedom at the conferences of numerous library and educational organizations, created the Intellectual Freedom newsletter for distribution in Montana, served on the Montana Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee for many years, and has testified numerous times before the Montana state legislature on censorship/ First Amendment issues. As co-chair of the MPLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, Jim provides a stream of information on issues surrounding intellectual freedom to the MPLA distribution list. He has attended several MPLA Board Meetings to give reports and requested MPLA draft a resolution against the Child Protection Internet Act, which was approved. He continues to expand First Amendment rights knowledge through his articulate programs, discussions, and advocacy. He's a fighter. Jim Heckel has converted hundreds to the cause with his interaction and visibility on difficult issues. He gets hate mail. He's viciously attacked. Over the years Jim's probably given up half his weekends to support freedom of expression. He does it because he believes in it and he wants to advance intellectual freedom in schools and libraries in a way that demonstrates exactly the values he's committed to: tolerance, openness, fairness, equality, and consistency.



It is appropriate that the first MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award go to Jim Heckel for his significant contributions to the enhancement of First Amendment rights.

***This was read by MPLA Awards Chair, Ken Kempke, at the MPLA/AzLA Awards ceremony in Phoenix on Dec. 6, 2001.**

The following was prepared by Jim Heckel upon winning the 2001 MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award

"You know, I'm often asked just what is "Intellectual Freedom?" Is it freedom for intellectuals or from intellectuals?

I don't know the answer to that question, but thank you for this award and thank you for allowing me to consider myself as one of you. The job that you—we—do is absolutely vital. Information is everything to a democracy. But without access, information by itself is useless.

What we do—gathering and setting up access to information, to ideas, to thoughts, to dreams, to visions, all provided, without prejudice—is such a powerful concept, such a dynamic necessity, that I believe that literally this experiment we call American democracy could not exist if there were no freely accessible libraries.

Franklin Roosevelt said that libraries are "the great symbols of the freedom of the mind." We have seen, in the horrible events of recent times, that a sharp delineation exists between our concepts of how and why a free democracy operates and the version offered by authoritarian and fundamentalist regimes.

Democratic societies can and will be messy at times. The process of giving each and every citizen an opportunity to pursue unique visions of life unrestrained by a predetermined, proscribed authority is not efficient, but if we are to evolve as a human race, we must be allowed to nose around in every conceivable corner of the house of knowledge. We can't afford to tell someone not to look into that corner or this crevice, because that corner or that crevice may contain the very answer we need. We just don't know beforehand.

The great Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz wrote that "the purpose of poetry is to remind us how difficult it is to remain just one person." And maybe that's also a fitting definition of what we do as librarians. We afford people the opportunity to discover for his or her self how difficult it is to remain just one person.

Everyone must discover, for his or her self, this basic truth and we librarians must provide the tools and the opportunity for that person to accomplish this noble, essential task. Our job is "merely" to ensure that this democracy not only survives, but thrives, and we do this by connecting people with intellectual thought and pleasure. And that is, really, all we do."

Technology Education Committee. Her nominators write: "Barbara Staggs is a legislator with a record of volunteer service extending to at least a dozen community boards within her district. She is a strong supporter of excellence in education and a champion of quality libraries."

LITERARY CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Mark Spragg



Mark Spragg is the author of the highly acclaimed book *Where Rivers Change Direction* in which he writes about his youth working and living at the Crossed Sabers Ranch in Wyoming. He has received Wyoming writing fellow-ships and was a PEN finalist for the screenplay, *Everything That Rises*, which was produced by Turner Network Television in 1998. His work appears in various anthologies, including a collection which he edited, *Thunder of the Mustangs*. He has written a screenplay of *Where Rivers Change Direction* that will be produced by TNT and aired in the summer of 2003. He has also written a novel, *The Fruit of Stone*, that will also be published in the summer or fall of 2003.

NEWS MEDIA SUPPORT AWARD

The Arizona Republic

The Arizona Republic has published a daily newspaper in Phoenix for more than 110 years. The Arizona Republic believes that a newspaper should

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

From Jim Heckel: "Internet Filters: A Public Policy Report" is available from www.ncac.org/issues/interenetfilters.html. This study provides hard statistical data on over- and under-blocking by the various commercial Internet filters. This type of data is useful in presenting policy reviews for library boards to for legislators, for example.

not only report on issues, but help address them. It has a long, successful history of community leadership and involvement. Its nominators write: "For the past ten years, The Arizona Republic has been a tremendous advocate for reading, libraries and literacy. The year 2001 was a hallmark year for the Republic's partnerships with libraries, as the newspaper immediately brought its support behind the first-ever countywide summer reading program in Arizona. As a result of the support of the The Arizona Republic, tens of thousands of children and adults throughout Maricopa County have participated in programs which enriched their lives and helped to sustain their reading skills while engendering a life-long habit of reading."

YOUTH SERVICES AWARD

Salina Kansas Public Library

The competition for the Youth Services Award was extremely competitive and therefore the Salina Kansas Public Library's Children's Department should be especially proud for winning this year's award. One nominator wrote: "I asked my 3 year old daughter why she likes the library: . . . 'because of the puzzles, the crafts, and the books' she replied. I continued, 'Do you like the ladies in the library?' Her response, 'I love em!' I have never had to fight my children to go to the library. In fact they yell "YEAH!" every time I tell them it's library day. The programming, the resources and staff at the Salina library are superior to any I have seen. We always take out of town guests to the library because we know the children will love it.



Salina Kansas Public Library staff.

When a staff member asked me to write this letter, I eagerly accepted because I have always wanted to find a way to say 'thank you' to the library staff for all they have given to my children."

BEGINNING PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Brenda Mathenia

Brenda Mathenia is a reference librarian and coordinator of instruction at Montana State University – Bozeman. Brenda holds a B.S. in Geography and a Masters in Urban Planning from Michigan State University. Brenda received her Masters of Science in Information in 1999 from the University of Michigan where she focused her work on library and information services. These words are from her nominators: "Since she began her position in August



Brenda Mathenia

of 1999, Brenda has developed into a highly effective and creative member of the Montana State University faculty and a valued member of the MSU Libraries' Reference Team. Brenda is an absolute joy to have as a colleague. In addition to her outstanding instruction contributions, Brenda also excels in the area of research and creative activity. She has recently given three presentations to Montana librarians related to assessment, an area in which libraries everywhere are struggling to achieve competency. Brenda has also established a strong record of outreach and service activities in her short time at MSU-Bozeman. She is a member of several professional library associations and she has been actively involved with the Montana Library Association. In April 2001 she was elected to serve as the Montana Library Association's representative to ACRL. She has also gotten involved at the national level, recently taking over as moderator of the Small Map Collections Discussion Group, Map and Geography Roundtable (MAGERT) of the American Library Association. Brenda is active

both within the library and outside of the library, serving constituents' needs on campus and beyond."

Web Accessibility Paper Wins "Best" at Conference

Michelle Armstrong is the winner of the "Best Paper Award" from the Professional Forum sponsored jointly by the MPLA Academic Section and the College & University Library Division of AzLA at the annual conference in Phoenix. Her paper was entitled, "Policies for Improving Accessible Web Development Techniques and Management."

Armstrong, director of the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) Information Services Division in Laramie WY, is responsible for managing and developing Institute information dissemination projects, including the WIND Resource Library. She directs all Webpage, electronic and print product development, coordinates the Connect Wyoming Project, and supervises the WIND Web Services team. Armstrong received a master's in library science from the University of North Texas.

The Forum, which is peer-reviewed, awarded Armstrong a \$300 cash prize. The proceedings of the Forum will be published and available on the MPLA Website.



MPLA leaders largely responsible for a super conference in Phoenix are (l-r) Linda Rea, President, Joe Edelen, Executive Secretary, and Debbie Iverson, President-Elect.

Great Programs at MPLA Conference

Editor's Note: BJ Vinson, a Cataloging/Reference Librarian at Rose State College in Midwest City, OK was kind enough to send me this article for the newsletter. I've noticed that, along with a conference recap, there are several presentations from the MPLA Annual Conference available on the Arizona Library Association Website at www.azla.org/2001/index.html.

There were so many good workshops to choose from at this conference, that it was hard to decide which to attend. So I attended a variety.

“Nothing but ‘Net” was presented by Northern Arizona University Cline Library's Beth Schuck explaining how they support online courses through an organized program of interaction with campus units and faculty. She stressed that librarians need to be included in the planning process of Web-based courses from the beginning-they will be less effective if they come into the process after the major planning is in place. Cline Library purchases two copies of videos so that they may ship one to



distance education sites. Additional information may be accessed at www.nau.edu/library/courses/ctel/azla.html.

“Taming the Dragon:” Presenters Carol Hansen of Weber State University, Utah and Nancy Lombardo of University of Utah discussed Internet Navigator, an online library and Internet skills course. It is freely available at www.navigator.utah.edu. It is mirrored on two separate servers in case of crashes.

“D’onde est’an los libros en espa~nol?” was a discussion of which vendors were the better ones to deal with in the acquisition of Spanish-language books from various Spanish-speaking countries. Kathleen Sullivan of the Phoenix Public Library and Rosemary Sambora of the Peoria Public Library each presented a list of the vendors with whom they had worked successfully. Also presented was information about the Guadalajara FIL (Feria Internacional de Libro = International Book Fair).

“Rising to New Heights in Technical Services:” Tina Shrader of Arizona State University, Merry

MPLA 2001 Election Results

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Recording Secretary
SHARON OSENGA

Academic Section*
C. JEFFREY BELLISTON

Technical Services Section*
CARLENE ARO

State Agencies, Cooperatives, and Systems Section*
JUDY ZELENSKI

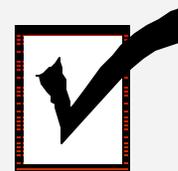
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CHERYL J. HESER

New Members Roundtable*
SCOTT C. GOLDY

Children's and School Section*
DONNA NORVELL

Preservation Section*
MARY ANN THOMPSON

Government Documents Section*
SUSAN DINGLE



* Denotes vice-charir/chair-elect

Bower, Char Simser and Angela Jones of Kansas State University discussed collaborative projects which have led to enhanced access of electronic resources and digital content at their universities. One of the projects, the Arizona Jewish Historical Society Oral History Project, may be accessed at www.asu.edu/lib/archives/shema/shema.htm.

“Feeding the Hand that Bites You” focused primarily on how to deal with certain groups such as Fundamentalists. Michael Wessells of Timberland Regional Library restated that every library should contain some material which offends at least one person, and conversely should contain material which will appease at least one person. He also discussed the social benefits of the censorship controversy. He may be reached at mwessell@timberland.lib.wa.us.

“The ‘Other MARC’: Creating MARC Authority Records” was presented by Follett’s

Warren Wood wwood@fsc.follett.com. He demonstrated how to access, create, and alter cataloging authority records on Follett software.

“MPLA/AzLA Professional Forum Papers:”

The three presenters were Gwen Alexander of Wichita State Libraries (gwen.alexander@wichita.edu), Michelle Armstrong of University of Wyoming WIND Resource Library (armstron@uwyo.edu), and C. Jeffrey Belliston of Brigham Young University (jeffrey_belliston@byu.edu). Ms. Alexander’s paper was “Opportunity Structure: The Role of Public Libraries in the Economic Development of Small and Very Small Communities.” Her study revealed that small libraries are the ones which do need business resources. Small communities need successful businesses in order for the community to thrive, and most small businesses are the ones which cannot afford much legal advice, thereby needing access to free information from/through

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the library. Ms. Armstrong's paper "Policies for Improving Accessible Web Development Techniques and Management" outlined the development of Connect Wyoming which created access to human services information resources and to other citizens with similar needs. Their checklist of checkpoints for Web content accessibility may be accessed at www.w3.org/TR/WAI-WEBCONTENT. Mr. Belliston's paper was "Building a 21st Century Date Collection Mousetrap." His mousetrap concerned the gathering, compiling, and analyzing of gathered data in electronic format.

Congratulations and thank you to AzLA/MPLA for putting together an informative and entertaining conference. Also thanks to all the presenters for your time and work.



Thank you for sharing your beautiful city, and civic center, with MPLA!

Phoenix Public Library to become New Department

The Phoenix City Council recently approved a recommendation to create a new Library Department.

The City's Budget and Research Department conducted an organizational study and recommended the move, which responds to the growing demand and further diversity of services provided by the current Parks, Recreation and Library Department. The creation of a separate Library Department will

The following ten persons won **MPLA 2002 free memberships** as a result of the drawing at the joint AzLA/MPLA Conference.

Kay Christensen
Mikkelsen Library
2001 South Summit Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Jane Dotterer
S.L.C. Public Library
1595 W. 4800 S.
5959 W. Brown Street
Taylorville, UT 84123

Melanie Edens
Glendale Public Library
Glendale, AZ 85304

Ellen Fallon
Pinal County Library District
18 E. Madrid
Tucson, AZ 85704

Patricia B. Gould
Congress Public Library
PO Box 231
Congress, AZ 85332

Patricia M. Gurule
Wilson Elementary School
2929 E. Fillmore Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008

Meloday Kuehn
Minot High School Central Campus
1600 SW 13th Street
Minot, ND 58701

Carol Leatherwood
Mohave Community College
3400 Hwy 95
Bullhead City, AZ 86442

Mary McLemore
Mary E. Parker Memorial Library
900 W. Tahlequah
Sulphur, OK 73086

Kathleen Sullivan
Phoenix Public Library
727 W. Maryland #7
Phoenix, AZ 85013

enable the Parks and Recreation Director and the Library Director to serve the unique interests of their customers and manage the specialized programs their departments offer to the community.

The Phoenix Public Library was merged with the City's Parks and Recreation Department in 1977 as a cost savings measure. Since that time, the Parks and Recreation and Library Divisions have both grown significantly. Between 1980 and 2000, the Library's circulation increased from 3.7 million to 8.3 million. During the same period, the number of municipal parks increased from 137 to 198, and the number of annual park visitors increased from 16.5 million to 26.6 million.

The Phoenix Public Library currently has a total of 597 full- and part-time employees and an annual operating budget of \$27.9 million.

Arizona State Library is Friend of the Humanities

The Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records is the recipient of the 2001 "Friends of the Humanities Award" presented by the Arizona Humanities Council. The fourth annual award was presented at the Lorraine W. Frank Lecture in the Humanities at the Heard Museum in Phoenix, AZ on Oct. 16, 2001. The award acknowledges the State Library's cooperation with the Humanities Council in bringing the humanities to the people of Arizona.

Last year the Library invited the Humanities Council to join it in creating Arizona Reads, which includes the Motherhead Literacy project, library book discussions, and the Arizona Reading program, a statewide activity that provides opportunities for children to read during non-school times. It is also a major partner with AHC in "History on the Mall: Celebrating Arizona's Statehood," an event at the Capitol that

demonstrates to legislators the economic and quality of life benefits that historical institutions bring to their communities.

The Humanities Council award stated that "much of the State Library's success is due to its inexhaustible and creative director, GladysAnn Wells." Appointed in 1997, she focused the agency's vision to ensure that the Arizona Legislature and Arizonans have access to the information they need today and to the history of Arizona tomorrow. Since then the Library has become an effective resource for the state, acknowledged by increases in state appropriations and federal and private grants.

The Humanities Council also cited the State Library for promoting collaboration among libraries, museums, archives and others to provide their services throughout the state.



Business Sense

Jean Anderson
Business Librarian
Fort Collins Public Library, CO

Online Corporate Training

Online corporate training is big business. International Data Corp. (IDC) estimates that the online training market will reach \$11.5 billion in 2003 – up from \$1.1 billion in 1999. It's called corporate e-learning or online training. The training is offered via the Internet and is available anytime, anywhere. Employees can learn at their own speed and managers can often track the employee's progress and results. The training ranges from viewing streaming videos to watching live online classes taught by instructors. Or, you can work with e-learning companies to build your own customized training program. Have a look at the following Websites for e-learning opportunities and more information about training via the Internet.

Click2Learn

www.click2learn.com

Click2Learn offers a complete end-to-end platform, letting you distribute and manage Internet-based training via your server or the site's. Authoring tools let you create your own courseware; tracking capabilities tell you who has completed a required class and which employees are proficient (or deficient) at certain skills. For cases where off-the-shelf training will suffice, Click2Learn offers thousands of canned courses – in areas ranging from Microsoft Excel and IT certification courses to classes on understanding intellectual property law – which anyone can purchase.

DigitalThink

www.digitalthink.com

DigitalThink's course catalog covers a full range of IT courses plus contemporary topics, including e-skills, information technology, sales/soft skills, financial services, healthcare, and more. Learners can also receive certification or college credits for some courses. A few courses are offered in other languages. DigitalThink can create customized e-learning solutions for your employees with tracking and measurement capabilities. This site has won the CIO Web Business 50/50 award and the Forbes "Best of the Web" award, fall 2000.

Small Business Administration Classroom

www.sba.gov/classroom

Free online courses are offered at this SBA site. The information is designed for the new business owner and cover the basics of business plans, how to start a business, financing, and procurement. SBA has also partnered with major companies,

such as Cisco Systems, to create several free e-commerce classes.

UNext.com

www.unext.com

Executive level learning opportunities are available at this site that offers top-notch continuing education. Unext.com has partnered with the university business schools at Columbia, Stanford, and the London School of Economics. Classes cover subjects like e-commerce, finance, marketing, management, and business communications.

Cyber U

www.cyberu.com

Individual courses and full degree programs can be found at Cyber U, which acts as a clearinghouse for several course providers. Here you can find classes in the arts, humanities, business, family and leisure, science and medicine, and technology. Course providers range from established universities, like Drexel University, to cyber-trainers such as DigitalThink (see above.) You can buy your books online and the site is easy to search.

eMind

www.emind.com

eMind offers courses focusing on accounting, banking, information technology, insurance, personal development, and securities. Tracking and reporting capabilities are available for management to follow the progress of employees through the curriculum. Customized solutions are offered to corporations who wish unique training programs.

TrainSeek and Thing

www.trainseek.com and www.thing.com

Both of these "training supermarket" sites aggregate thousands of courses for corporate training opportunities. Unique to these sites is their RFP program, where you can submit a request for a training need and vendors will send you competitive bids. These sites also sell traditional training tools such as videos, CD-ROM products, and books.



Many Websites will partner with corporate trainers to provide software and management tools for customized training modules. Look at these sites:

Saba (www.saba.com)

Centra (www.centra.com)

Vcampus (www.vcampus.com)

Eduprise (www.eduprise.com)

EduPoint (www.edupoint.com)

There are many Websites that offer research and general information about corporate training. Check out these sites for more information.

American Society for Training and Development (www.astd.org)

Eduventures.com (www.eduventures.com)

E-Learning (www.elearningmag.com)

The Masie Center (www.masie.com)

OnlineLearning Magazine (www.ittrain.com)

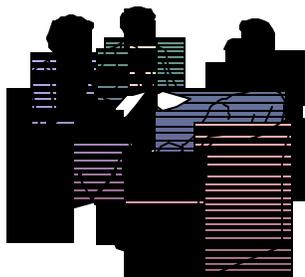
Training Super Site (www.trainingsupersite.com)

These sites were recommended by *PC Magazine* (Jan 2, 2001) and *Entrepreneur* (June 2001).

LOEX of the West 2002 Conference in Eugene

Entitled "Expanded Conversations: Collaborating for Student Learning," LOEX of the West 2002 will be held at the University of Oregon in Eugene, June 26-29, 2002. Participate in a lively set of dialogues about the promotion, delivery and assessment of teaching and learning in today's higher education environment. Share your experiences (the good, the bad and the ugly) so that others may learn from you!

We encourage participation by non-library faculty!



The Program Committee is currently seeking proposals for one or more pre-conference workshops that reflect the conference theme, "Expanded Conversations:"

Collaborating for Student Learning."

The deadline for proposals is Jan. 15, 2002. Regular program proposal submission begins Jan. 8 and closes Feb 15, 2002. General registration begins April 15, 2002 and will be limited to 150 participants.

Please see the LOEX of the West: 2002 Website for additional information: libweb.uoregon.edu/loexwest/.

Recognized in Nebraska

The Meritorious Service Award and the Mari Sandoz Award were presented at the annual conference of the Nebraska Library Association in Kearney, NE in October 2001.

The Nebraska Library Association has awarded the Meritorious Service Award since 1961. It is given annually to a person, corporation, or organization, which has contributed to the improvement of library services in a local community; or a county, region or state agency; or in library legislation. This year the award went to Willard Hunzeker, Wahoo, NE, for his help to the library community, not only in his hometown, but all of Saunders County.

Willard is in his second term as President of the Wahoo Library Board and has chaired the Saunders County Library Cooperative since its inception in 1997. He is currently serving as a member of the City Facilities Task Force. This task force has recommended the building of a new library facility. In county concerns, he is working with a firm to network all of the libraries in Saunders County. Prior to his involvement with the county libraries and the Wahoo Public Library, he served as a school administrator in Nebraska schools.

Kathy Tooker, President of the Nebraska Library Association, added, "Willard has been and is the guiding force as president of this group (Saunders County Library Cooperative). To form representatives from six communities, all with a

Welcome to MPLA

New Members



ARI ZONA
Kristina Mengeling
Arizona State University

CALIFORNIA
Sandra Whitehead
Paradise Geneology Library

COLORADO
Diana Dwyer
USDA National Wildlife Research Center

Pat Kittelson
University of Colorado

Sharon Quay
Rampart Library District

KANSAS
Deborah Bryan
Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library

Mary Bogan
Emporia State University

Greta Fry
Hays Public Library

Roxanne King
Johnson County Library

Jenne Laytham
Basehor Community Library

MONTANA
Candice Morris
Lewis & Clark Library

Suzanne Schwichtenberg
Lewis & Clark Library

NEBRASKA
Kira Barnes
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Holly Paxson
Lincoln City Libraries

NEVADA
Sharon Campbell
Washoe County Library System

NEW MEXICO
Claire Odenheim, retired school librarian

Michele Wood
Enmu Golden Library

Sherry York, retired school librarian

OKLAHOMA
Iva Ramsey
Chickasaw Regional Library System

William Young
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries

UTAH
Joseph Everett
Family History Library

Jan Richards
Southern Utah University

Susan Wigginton
Family History Library

different needs and concerns into a cohesive and committed group has taken a special person and that person is Willard. He has accomplished all of this with grace and humor.”

The Nebraska Library Association has awarded the Mari Sandoz Award each year since 1971 to an individual with a significant, enduring contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film production, or a related activity. This year the award went to Jym Kruse, of Fremont, Nebraska for his captivating storytelling that spellbinds audiences from preschoolers to Elderhostelers alike. Jym has contributed to the Nebraska book world with his books: *Well Traveled Seeds...Planted in New Places*, *Stories and Songs of Simple Living*, and *Telling the Truth*.

Jym began using his stories in the classroom over twenty years ago. Working first with college and high school students, then with Elderhostels and other adult programs, he soon added stories for younger audiences as well. Now his storytelling takes him on the road full time as he travels around the country providing programs and workshops for all ages. He is a frequent speaker at libraries and library conferences, and most of Jym’s programs to children encourage them to use the resources of their school and public libraries to read the stories for themselves.



MPLA has \$\$\$\$ to give away!

MPLA sponsors a professional development grants program to improve library services in the Mountain Plains region by supporting continuing education and research experiences for individuals employed in the library or related professions.

Grants are awarded to support the following (not listed in priority order):

- * Formal coursework leading to an advanced degree in library science or a related discipline.

- * Formal coursework not leading to an advanced degree but directly related to an individual’s library position.

- * Attendance as a participant or a presenter at a library or scholarly workshop, seminar, or conference, including the MPLA annual conference.

- * Visits to another library to receive or provide significant advanced training in library services or procedures.

- * Library related research projects.

Grant Categories

MPLA sponsors two categories of grants:

Mini-grant — Funding for projects requiring minimal financial support.

Regular grant — Funding for projects requiring substantial financial support, and for occasional funding of professional development opportunities requiring travel outside the United States. The maximum amount awarded in each of the grant categories is \$150 (mini grant) and \$600 (regular grant). For an application, go to www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/profdev/application.pdf

Around the MPLA Region

ARIZONA



AzLA election results for 2001-2002 -- President-elect: Brenda Brown; Member-at-large: John Doherty; Treasurer: Carol Damaso

AzLA reorganization -- AZLA members voted on a major reorganization plan at the 2001 Conference. The primary goal was to streamline the organization and make it more effective while providing a structure that would facilitate and encourage interaction between members, regardless of the type of library in which one works.

AzLA 2001 Service Awards -- **Distinguished Service Award:** Margaret Loghry, Tucson Unified School District; **Follett School Librarian of the Year:** Debra LaPlante, Alhambra School District;

Librarian of the Year: Louise Stephens, Glendale Public Library; **Outstanding Decision Maker:** Dr. Carol G. Peck, Alhambra School District; **Outstanding Library Board:** Congress Public Library Board of Trustees; **Rising Moon Outstanding Youth Services:** Phyllis Saunders, Chandler Public Library; **Rosenzweig Award:** Dr. Harlen Johnson; **Sharon G. Womack Library Technician:** Robin Maly, Alpine Public Library

Complete descriptions of the awards and pictures of the winners are at www.azla.org

Knowledge River -- The University of Arizona's Library School has begun the creation of Knowledge River, A Center for the Study of Hispanic and American Indian Library and Information Resources. MPLA member, Kathy Kaya, is on the main advisory committee to represent the interests of the region.

Conference of Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums -- A national conference for tribal libraries, archives and museums is scheduled for May 8 – 10, 2002 in Mesa, AZ. The conference will focus on issues facing tribal cultural programs such as museums, archives, language programs, repatriation, cultural centers, and libraries. Topics will include communication, collaboration, technology, globalization, funding, politics, education, repatriation, etc.



COLORADO

Colorado Library Association holds conference -- The "Final Chapter" conference of the Colorado Library Association was held Oct. 26-29, 2001, in

Colorado Springs. Many of the 960 registrants sported CLA 2001 T-shirts as they attended meetings at the Antlers Adam's Mark Hotel and the adjacent new Pikes Peak Library District Penrose Library. The Colorado Library Association was formally dissolved at the member business meeting with an effective date of March 15, 2002, when it will become integrated with the Colorado

Educational Media Association as the Colorado Association of Libraries. New officers were elected in December 2001 to take office March 15, 2002. The Legislative Committee agenda for 2002 was approved by the membership: continuing support of regional library service systems; the Colorado Resource Center; State Grants for Libraries; ACLIN funding; and state library law revision. The proposed revisions include the establishment of a regional library authority; establishment of a library capital facility area; providing for bond elections for library districts and miscellaneous housekeeping changes. For committee complete reports see the CLA web site at www.cla-web.org. At the business meeting 10 free MPLA memberships were given away as were MPLA 50 year hats to the CLA officers. Highlights of programs included Intellectual Freedom and the First Amendment with attorneys Beall and Zansberg who specialize in First Amendment legal issues; Webpage design for disabled access; confidentiality of library records; UCITA; electronic reserves; and gender speak. Guest speakers included ALA President John W. Berry; Robert Martin, Director of the National Institute of Museum and Library Services; Colorado historian Tom Noel; author Sandra Dallas; and Joyce Meskis, owner of Denver's Tattered Cover bookstore, whose lawsuit concerning divulging records of customer purchases were debated by the Colorado Supreme Court on Dec. 7. The conference concluded on Sunday night with a humorous "CLA Reflections" trivia contest between CLA past presidents and current members followed by a conference dinner with speaker Joyce Meskis.

Statewide Funds Rescission -- A statewide 1% rescission of state funds has affected library systems, the Colorado Resource Center, and the State Library.

Upcoming Events -- **February 21, 2002** - Legislative Day with state legislators, Denver Public Library. **March 18, 2002** - Paralibrarians Spring Workshop, Children's Hospital, Denver.

March 29, 2002 - Technical Services & Automation Division Spring Workshop, Auraria Campus, Denver.

October 16-20, 2002 - Colorado Association of Libraries first annual conference, Keystone Resort.

KANSAS

Second Century Committee evaluates KLA -- The Kansas Library Association (KLA) has appointed a committee to evaluate the current structure of the association. The Second Century Committee, as it is called, will submit recommendations to the KLA Council regarding potential improvements to the organizational and financial structure of KLA with the hope that this will help realize the creation of a paid Executive Director's office.

Kansas Legislature in session -- KLA is also gearing up for the next legislative session which begins in January. The state revenue predictions are not good and the State Library's budget, including state aid to local libraries, will likely face a serious challenge. The other primary legislative issue is financial support for KAN-ED, the backbone network that will provide low-cost Internet service to all communities in Kansas. A proposal that includes funding for information content, infrastructure development and support for a minimum level of

connectivity for libraries, schools, and hospitals is being prepared for review by the Board of Regents. The library lobby day, known as Legislative Day, has been set for Feb. 21.

Users get remote access -- The Kansas Library Card was introduced by the Kansas State Library in the fall. With it, Kansas residents have remote access to a series of online databases to which KSL subscribes. These include Infotrac, First Search, SIRS Discoverer Deluxe, NetLibrary, and the latest addition Enforme! Revistas en Espanol. These databases are purchased with LSTA funds.

Library school news -- The School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University has created the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) for library staff and trustees. The goal is to provide a variety of continuing education opportunities for library professionals, support staff and board members. Their primary effort at present is the development of a library certificate program that includes class-room-type instruction on a variety of subjects, including collection development, reference, children's service, and administration.



MONTANA

Strategic Planning moving ahead -- The Strategic Planning Task Force of the Montana Library Association is meeting regularly and beginning to shape its recommendations for updating the association and enhancing Montana's library community. Considerations include revamping committees, including clarification of roles and charges of committees such as Communications and Public Relations. Changes in conventions and other meetings and retreats are also being considered.

Possible Marketing Task Force -- At recent Montana federation meetings, the State Librarian, Karen Strege, asked for input into long range planning for the State Library, with groups recommending programs under several topics chosen by the majority. One proposal was for a Marketing Task Force, charged with making plans for marketing both the State Library itself and also Montana's libraries. This task force would work closely with the Marketing and Public Relations Committee of MLA.

Annual conference planned for April -- The MLA Convention Planning Committee reported at length on the excellent programs and special speakers for the annual convention, which will be held in Great Falls, MT, April 25-27, 2001. Special pre-conference presentations and other programs will be held at

the Lewis and Clark Interpretative Center in Great Falls, in anticipation of the coming Lewis and Clark Bicentennial observance.

Statewide library catalog-- Montana is engaged in a three year program to establish a statewide library catalog. The six federations have been divided into three groups for implementation of the project, which began with the two northern federations in 2000, where a small group of libraries joined in a shared catalog run through a server at Havre, MT. Currently, the two southwestern federations have joined in a project implementing SIRSI through a server in Helena, MT. The two southeastern federations are now engaged in considering the best way to join in the effort and are considering demonstrations of SIRSI with the possibility of joining on the same server as the western federations. Problems before the implementers include working with the many small libraries who are not automated or who cannot afford to sustain the maintenance of such a costly project.

P.R. training for libraries -- The final aspect of a long-range effort by the MLA Marketing and Public Relations Committee to train Montana librarians in public relations is a paper presented at the MPLA Convention. The research paper shows the results of

training librarians and then assembling data from their reports of projects in libraries.

NEBRASKA

Masters program cancelled -- Due to an insufficient number of applications for admission to its Master of Library Science (MLS) degree program to be offered next year in Nebraska, the School of Library and Information Management (SLIM), Emporia State University, is cancelling the program.

TV and libraries -- The Nebraska Library Association, in its efforts to coordinate activities with NPTV (Nebraska Public Television), plans to get involved in the NPTV



Nebraska award winners -- These are winners of notable awards presented at the 2001 Nebraska Library Commission/Nebraska Educational Media Association Annual Convention held Oct. 17-19, 2001

Excalibur Award for Outstanding Public Librarian: Kay Schmid; **College & University Distinguished Service Award:** Jim Shaw; **Mad Hatter Youth Service Award:** Glenda Willnerd; **Mentor of the Year:** Sally Payne; **Presidential Award for Excellence:** Brenda Ealey and Chris Le Beau; **Trustee Citation Award:** Lucy Cooper; **Golden Sower Award Winners:** **Grades K-3:** *Bubba the Cowboy Prince*

by Hellen Ketteman; **Grades 4-6:** *The Ghost of Fossil Glen* by Cynthia DeFelice; **Young Adult:** *The Haunting* by Joan Lowery Nixon; **Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award:** Karen Hein; **Paraprofessional of the Year:** Janet Greser and Jacqueline Crocker; **S&I Promotional Award:** Polley Music Library, (Bennett Martin Public Library - Lincoln).

NEVADA

Personnel at Nevada State Library -- The new Assistant Administrator for State Library Services is Phyllis Sargent. Phyllis was working at the Ottumwa Public Library in Ottumwa, Iowa. Prior to that position she was the Collection Development/Technical Services Director for the Washoe County Library. Phyllis has her B.A. and her Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Northern Iowa.

Thompson Cummins has taken the position of Library Development Officer for Library Planning and Development. Thompson was most recently the Assistant Manager for Public Service for the Lee County Library System in Fort Meyers, Florida. He has a B.S. in English/Political Science, a M.S. in Instructional Systems Technology, a M.L.S. in Library and Information Science from Indiana University; he also has a Ph.D. in Library Science and Business Administration from Florida State University.

Graduate Education -- At a recent Nevada Library Directors' meeting, the University of North Texas presented a proposal to bring an MLS program to the University of Nevada, LV beginning in fall 2002. Under this program students would attend UNLV for four days in fall 2002 and four days in spring 2003 with the remainder of the instruction via the Web. The Web/Institute Program offers four programs of study: General Practice, School Library Certification, Youth Librarianship, and Academic Certification in Youth Services.

Often, students who choose to pursue the Master's in the Web/Institute approach will be placed in a cohort of no more than forty students and will take the first year of studies as a group. This cohort-based approach provides an opportunity for students and faculty to build a vibrant learning community. Additional information about this 36-unit program is available at www.unt.edu/slis/.

New library features "Teen Scene" - On Aug. 28, 2001, the Henderson District Public Libraries (HDPL) broke ground on the new 42,000 square foot Paseo Verde Library. The new



library will feature a fully equipped children's library with a large story room. Also, HDPL is proud to present a new "Teen Scene" in the library that will offer a variety of teen and young adult resources, including audio listening stations, PC workstations, and a variety of print and electronic resources specifically geared to teens and young adults.

Nevada Online Encyclopedia Project -- The Nevada Humanities Committee has received a one-year planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to explore the feasibility of preparing a Web-based state encyclopedia. This will not simply be a print volume posted to the Web, but a statewide reference work conceived from inception in electronic form. During the academic year 2001-02, through its project director, Elizabeth Raymond, the NHC will assemble an editorial group and advisory board, explore funding possibilities and technological delivery systems, and create a table of contents and a work plan for creating the encyclopedia.

Sierra Nevada College gets \$7 million gift -- The William W. Zink Library and Learning Resource Center, slated to open in December 2002, will be located in the heart of the Lake Campus. The Zink Library is a 32,000 square foot building encompassing extreme flexibility in the planning and layout for

library book areas and reading-study spaces. It will include state of the art electronic reference and computer linkages to information resources around the world. The building will also host an art gallery for displaying student art, faculty offices, meeting rooms, classrooms, and an entrepreneurial center.

The \$7 million gift from developer William W. Zink of Incline Village to construct the library is the largest single contribution in Sierra Nevada College history and one of the largest ever made to an institution of higher learning in Nevada.

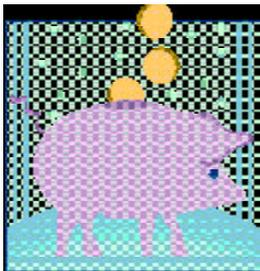
Aiming to close digital divide -- U.S. Congressman Jim Gibbons announced that the U.S. Department of Education has selected the Washoe County Library to receive over \$150,800 in federal funding to establish three Community Technology Centers (CTCs). The Washoe County project aims to close the digital divide in low-income communities, by providing free access to computers and by training low-income youth for employment at the CTCs where they will instruct children and adults in technology skills.

The three Community Technology Centers will provide access to computers, relevant software, and instruction in their use. The CTCs, located in two Washoe County Library sites and at the Northern Nevada

Literacy Council, will serve over 7,000 residents. These sites will provide seven-day access to technology for adult basic education, breaking down barriers to encourage the use of computers and software free of charge.

NEW MEXICO

Task force hoping for \$30 million bond -- New Mexico librarians are organizing a legislative effort to improve public, school, and academic libraries. The New Mexico Library Bond Task Force



is a group of public, school, and academic librarians working together to have the legislature support and the Governor agree to allow a \$35 million bond package on the November 2002 ballot to purchase books and other materials, such as periodicals and electronic databases. The last statewide library GO Bond initiative "Bonds for Books Plus" was passed in 1994. The New Mexico Library Association has endorsed this proposal.

This proposed 2002 Bond would break down as follows:

1. \$9 million for New Mexico public libraries. To be distributed on a per capita basis to New Mexico public libraries as supplementary funding to purchase books, electronic

information resources and the tools needed to share information. Statewide, this is about \$5 per capita, or less than the cost of one paperback book. The New Mexico Municipal League has also supported this Bond concept.

2. \$18 million for publicly funded school libraries. To be distributed both with a minimum per school amount and a per student allocation. On average, this amount will purchase 3-4 new books per student. School libraries are woefully under funded and most science and other dated books are over 10 years old.

3. \$8 million for academic libraries. To be distributed on a formula basis to all academic libraries in the state. This amount will purchase approximately two library books, or other materials for each full time student in a New Mexico college or university. The New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries has also supported this Bond concept.

"Libraries: The Human Factor" -- The New Mexico Library Association will be holding its annual conference in Las Cruces, NM on April 17-20, 2002. The theme is "Libraries: The Human Factor."

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota State Library has a new head librarian -- Wayne Sanstead, North Dakota's Superintendent of Public

Instruction has appointed Doris Ott to the post of North Dakota State Librarian.

Ott is a native of Carson, a former librarian at the Magic City Campus school in Minot and instructor of library science at Dickinson State University. "I'm very enthusiastic about libraries and especially North Dakota libraries," Ott said. "I'm very eager for the opportunity to see them go forward."

The state library, located in the Liberty Memorial Building on the state Capitol grounds, keeps collections of books, magazines, federal and state government documents, and other reference materials.

The library provides research for state workers and elected officials, training programs for librarians and schools, and reading programs for the physically handicapped and learning disabled.

Fargo, here we come! -- The 2002 MPLA Conference will be held in Fargo, ND at the Ramada Plaza Suites Oct. 2-5, 2002. This conference is a tri-conference, held in conjunction with the North Dakota Library Association and the South Dakota Library Association.

OKLAHOMA

First Amendment Congress 2001 -- Oklahoma's third annual First Amendment Congress was held at the University of Central

Oklahoma in Edmond on Nov. 8 & 9. The event was sponsored by the Oklahoma Library Association, Freedom of Information Oklahoma, Inc., the Metropolitan Library System, the Tulsa City County Library System and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

The speakers, including Bennett Hazelton, Intellectual Freedom Award winner and Creator of Peace Fire, Paul McMasters, Ombudsman for the Freedom Forum, Washington, D.C. and Scott Armstrong from the Information Trust in Washington, D.C. were passionate about First Amendment issues and civil liberties. Their remarks reflected events of Sept. 11 and their impact on freedom of information issues. Oklahoma's State Attorney General, Drew Edmondson gave an excellent presentation discussing his opinion that governmental electronic documents and e-mail fall under the same regulations for open records as written documents.

The attendance for this Congress was outstanding, there were 239 participants. The participants included educators, school administrators, librarians,



journalists, attorneys, government officials, high school students and college students.

Oklahoma Library Association sets Legislative Goals for 2002 -- Oklahoma librarians and library supporters will approach the state legislature on Feb. 12 this year with the following requests.

1. Preserve local control and funding of Oklahoma's libraries.
2. Support the Oklahoma Department of Library's budget request. It will:
 - a. Encourage early childhood education by adding a book to public library collections for every preschool child in the state (\$5.6 million);
 - b. Help upgrade and construct public library buildings in the state (\$300,000);
3. Support the expansion of the Allen Wright Library Building to house the State Archives, as recommended by the Long Range Capitol Planning Commission. (\$4.8 million);
4. Continue support of statewide database subscriptions, which provide important reference resources to all Oklahoma library customers;
5. Ensure quality information services to Oklahoma school children by staffing school libraries with certified masters level school library media specialists.

Upcoming OLA Workshops --
*On the Frontline: Handling Conflicts with Patrons and

Public Groups.

- *Celebrating the Web mini-conference
- *Speaking up for Your Library
- *So You Have to Do a Workshop!

For more information check out the Oklahoma Library Association Website at www.pioneer.lib.ok.us/ola

OLA Annual Conference - April 17-19, 2002 -- The upcoming conference of the Oklahoma Library Association to be held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa next spring is shaping up to be a great event. The theme is "Oklahoma: Where it's @!" and the keynote speakers will be Cecile Richards and William Bernhardt. It promises to be the best conference ever!

SOUTH DAKOTA

Siouxland Director to retire -- Jim Dertien, director of the Siouxland Libraries, has announced he will retire in April 2002. During his twenty years at Siouxland, Jim developed a strong city-county library system. Jim has also been a leader and advocate for libraries throughout South Dakota. He will be missed.

Ready for computers -- The Gates State Partnership Grant program has begun in South Dakota. Applications were completed in October by approximately 70% of eligible libraries. Many public libraries are anxiously waiting for the arrival of their first

computer! Implementation is scheduled for the summer.

“Old Trade, New Tools” -- The South Dakota Library Association conference was held Oct. 3-5, 2001 in Aberdeen. The conference theme was “Librarians Innovate: Old Trade, New Tools.” There were many wonderful programs attended by library professionals from across the state representing all types of libraries. The keynote speaker was Keith Fiels, State Librarian of Massachusetts, who gave a motivating talk on the politics of libraries. Other prominent speakers included Mary Bushing, Montana, and Bill DeJohn, Minnesota/Minitex. At the annual Awards Ceremony, Jim Oliver, Children’s Librarian at Siouxland Libraries was named Librarian of the Year. Jan Gossman, Bison Public Library was named New Librarian of the Year. The membership looks forward to an exciting tri-conference next year in Fargo.

Books, books, books -- Alcester, Bison, Edgemont and Waubay Public Libraries were recipients of a Brownstone Grant this fall. This grant is a gift of 100 children’s books and is designed to promote reading and literacy.

UTAH

Specialized Web resources -- The Health Round Table of the Utah Library Association offers a list of anthrax Web resources. With the concern over anthrax

exposure and infection, the HRT prepared a list of resources available on the Web. The list contains sites for consumer information, sites appropriate for health professionals, and a bibliography for librarians. It may be accessed at www.ula.org/information/anthrax.

Improving end-of-life care -- Public libraries around the state received a package containing ten free books about death and dying issues, a four-part video series, and promotional materials to publicize this contribution in their communities. The gift is the result of a grant awarded to the Salt Lake City Public Library, KUED-Channel 7, and the Partnership to Improve the End-of-Life Care in Utah.

Weber County Library wins big -- The Weber County Library basked in the limelight at the annual meeting of the American Library Association in San Francisco, coming away with two Public Relations All-Star awards. It won top prize for its Friends of the Library newsletter, and for its 2000 Summer Reading Program, which concentrated on nonfiction materials.

Librarian position open -- The position of University Librarian at the H. B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University in Provo, is open. Dr. Steling Albrecht, who has been with the

library about 30 years, is retiring as library director.

WYOMING



Wyoming conferences -- More than 175 people attended the Wyoming Library Association’s Annual Conference, Sept. 26-29 in Cody. This year’s theme was “It’s Time to Tell Our Story.” Lesley Boughton, Wyoming State Librarian, said, “The programs were well received and the vendors were very positive.”

Annual awards were also presented at the banquet: Amy Shelley, Laramie County Library System Children’s Services Manager, is the Librarian of the Year; Debra Adams, Teton County Library Assistant Director, received the Distinguished Service Award for her leadership at that library, as well as her service and contributions to Wyoming libraries and to librarianship; and Laramie County Community College Library received the Georgia Shovlain Award for its remodeling project.

The 2002 WLA conference will be held Sept. 18-21 in Casper. Future conferences will be held in Evanston, 2003; and Sheridan, 2004. In 2005 MPLA will meet with WLA; the location and date should be decided soon.

WYLD about new software -- The Wyoming Libraries’ Database (WYLD) will select a new integrated library systems

Leadership Institute Coordinator Mountain Plains Library Association

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is the position that makes the Leadership Institute flow, from liaison with the conference facility before, during and after the event to liaison with the selection committee for chosen attendees, AND from arrangements for participants to plan their arrival, providing on-site orientation, to the evaluation of the project after each completion cycle. The position will be contracted for one cycle (approximately one year) with option for renewal. The position is expected to require about 5-10 hours per month except in high activity season. It is a part-time post answering to the MPLA Leadership Institute Committee and the MPLA Executive Board, and the individual will work closely with the MPLA Executive Secretary.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Serves as project coordinator for the MPLA Leadership Institute.
2. Oversees the administration of the budget allocated by MPLA for the Leadership Institute.
3. Serves as liaison to the MPLA Leadership Development Committee and the MPLA Executive Board by participating in the decision making process as an ex-officio, non-voting member and by providing information and documentation on candidates and recommended staff as may be needed.
4. Arranges for the Leadership Institute by acting as liaison with the conference facility and identifying all Institute needs and requirements, as well as needs and requirements of individual participants that must be met to carry out the Leadership Institute.
5. Negotiates contracts and agreements in accordance with MPLA policy. Such agreements and contracts may be with speakers, resource persons and mentors as may be identified by the MPLA Leadership Development Committee, or with suppliers of goods or services for the Institute.
6. Oversees physical arrangements for the Leadership Institute, including food and beverage arrangements for meals and breaks, meeting rooms with appropriate set up and audio-visual requirements, sleeping room assignment, and the supplies or equipment for activities during the Institute. Organizes handouts and other supportive material for use at the Institute.
7. Manages registration functions for the Institute, including arrangements for transportation to and from the site. Provides registration documents, provides all guidance material for participant's travel arrangements and information they require to be prepared for travel to and from the Institute site. Provides or gives citations to material that may be required for advance preparation for the subjects to be presented. Does a thorough job of making sure everyone hits the ground feeling comfortable, secure, and prepared for participation in the Institute.
8. Develops promotional material for the Leadership Institute. These materials will include brochures, press releases for the library press, and mailings to the MPLA membership. Sends a press release to the designated local press of each selected participant and prepares press releases for each Institute participant to deliver to local press sources and professional publications when they return home.
9. Does follow-up evaluation and correspondence, including thank you letters for speakers and certificates for mentors. After each Institute cycle, prepare a primary evaluation which focuses on reconstructing the experience to be reviewed with the MPLA Leadership Development Committee, with a summary evaluation to the MPLA Board meeting immediately following.
10. Will facilitate continuing communication between participants by establishing a follow up listserv and maintaining contact information for participants of Leadership Institute classes.

QUALIFICATIONS: Prior successful experience planning and conducting workshops and conferences. Demonstrated organizational and project management skill. Ability to work well with individuals and groups. Ability to communicate tactfully and effectively orally and in writing. Ability to make presentations to an audience of library professionals and lay people. Demonstrated familiarity with continuing education needs of library and information professionals and staff, and an ability to do needs assessment for educational events and training activities. Ability to motivate action to achieve quick results in a project setting.

CONTACT: Marilyn Hinshaw, Chair, MPLA Leadership Institute Committee

E-mail mhinshaw@eodls.lib.ok.us

Voice mail (918) 683-2846 x234

SPECIAL NOTE: The position is open immediately. The initial Leadership Institute is slated for fall of 2002. Salary is expected to be near \$4,500, in correlation with other MPLA paid positions, and based on the model of other library organizations with such a position existing. The contract will reflect both a total salary to be paid and the schedule of payment. Other questions may be directed to the Committee Chair, at the address and phone listed above.

software. At the annual conference Integrated Library Systems (ILS) showcased products, which included seven vendors: 3M Library Systems, Endeavor, Epixtech, Ex Libris, Inc., Gaylord Information Systems, Sirsi Corp., and The Library Corp. Requests for proposals have been returned and the work of selection will now begin. (WYLD) plans to be live on the system by the end of July 2002.

Directors retreat -- In October, library directors from around the state gathered for the annual directors' retreat, which is now in its third year. The meeting was held Oct. 24-26 in Torrington, and 23 of 32 directors attended the event. Workshops were held on evaluation and assessment, conflict resolution, time management and multi-tasking. Lesley Boughton, Wyoming State Librarian, facilitated discussions with the directors on the current issues Wyoming's libraries face today. Jerry Krois, Deputy State Librarian, said evaluations of the retreat and the programs were high, and that attendees liked the time slots for interactive discussions that were built into the retreat.

Anthology writer can visit libraries -- Bill Hoagland, is the author and editor of *Ring of Fire*. Contributors to the anthology are 36 writers from Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. Hoagland is available to visit libraries to speak about the anthology. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 2713, Cody, WY 82414 or (307) 587-7607.

To study U.S. leaders -- Teton County Library's Outreach Coordinator Kirsten Corbett trained for an upcoming library program Oct. 19-20 in Chicago. The program, "Presidents, Power and Politics," is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and an initiative of National Video Resources and the American Library Association. Teton County Library is one of 20 libraries in the nation chosen as a pilot site for the series. Corbett will coordinate the program and Peter Anderson of Driggs, Idaho, will lead the discussions. The six-week series will begin Jan. 24, 2002, and will be accompanied by an art exhibit, "They Also Ran: the Presidential Hopefuls," which features men who ran for President but never won. The exhibit will be on display from Jan. 14-Feb. 23, 2002.

Job Opening

Library Manager

Mohave County Library District is seeking an experienced library professional in Kingman, AZ. Responsibilities include knowledge of computer systems and general library operations. Requires MLS degree with five years of library experience including three years of supervisory experience. Salary \$30,513-\$32,323/annually + benefits. Submit completed application to Mohave County Human Resources, P.O. Box 7000, Kingman, AZ 86402-7000, (928) 753-0736 ext. 4116, fax (928)753-0783, www.co.mohave.az.us. Open until filled. Job #9899. EOE

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