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MPLA Newsletter

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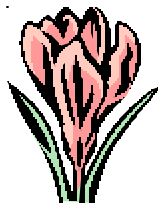
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<http://www.usd.edu/mpla>

MPLA Listserv

To subscribe, contact
jedelen@usd.edu



President's Letter

From Jean Hatfield

As the weather turns warmer and our thoughts turn to spring, we also start thinking of growing things. However, even though I like trees and flowers, when I think of "growing things" I think of **people**.

As a youth services librarian, my job has been to help parents and teachers in "growing" their children through books and programs that encourage them to think and learn. As an administrator and supervisor, I feel that my job is "growing" staff in a similar manner. And as an officer in MPLA, I feel that my job is helping the organization to grow by gaining new members and reaching new heights.

Ask yourself – what have I done lately to help my co-workers, my staff, or my organization grow?

I hope that your answer includes telling them about MPLA and encouraging them to join.

I hope that your answer includes encouraging attendance at our conferences.

I hope that when you think of "growing people" that you think of those people you know who do a terrific job and that you take the time to let them know through nominating them for an award, telling their boss how terrific they are, or simply writing a short note to say how much you appreciate them.

I also hope that when you think of "growing people" that you are en-

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Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson
MPLA Newsletter Editor
Montana Legislative Reference Center
State Capitol, Room 110
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
(406) 444-2957--Phone
(406) 444-2588--Fax
Ljackson@state.mt.us

Submissions:

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January 1	July 1
March 1	September 1
May 1	November 1

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MPLA Membership or

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Joe Edelen
MPLA Executive Secretary
I.D. Weeks Library
University of South Dakota
414 East Clark Street
Vermillion, SD 57069-2390
(605) 677-6082--Phone
(605) 677-5488--Fax
jedelen@usd.edu

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MPLA Officers

President

Jean Hatfield
Johnson County Library
Box 2933
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201
(913) 261-2345-P
(913) 261-2325-F
hatfield@jcl.lib.ks.us

Vice-President/President-Elect

Carol Hammond
International Business Info. Centre
15249 North 59th Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85306
(602) 978-7234-P
(602) 978-7762-F
hammondc@t-bird.edu

Past President

Debbie Iverson
Sheridan College
P.O. Box 1500
Sheridan, WY 82801
(307) 674-6446-P
(307) 674-4874-F
diverson@sheridan.edu

Executive Secretary

Joe Edelen
I.D. Weeks Library
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, SD 57069
(605) 677-6082-P
(605) 677-5488-F
jedelen@usd.edu

Recording Secretary

David Oberhelman
306 Edmon Low Library
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-9773-P
(405) 744-7579-F
davido@okstate.edu



Academic Section

C. Jeffrey Belliston
3325 Harold B. Lee Library
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT 84602
(801) 422-7743-P
(801) 422-0466-F
jeffrey_belliston@byu.edu

Children's/School Section

Donna Norvell
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries
200 NE 18th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
(405) 522-3323-P
(405) 525 7804-F
dnorvell@otln.odl.state.ok.us

Gov. Docs. Section

Louise Treff-Gangler
Auraria Library
1100 Lawrence St.
Denver, CO 80204-2095
(303) 556-3532-P
(303) 556-2178-F
louise.treff@cudenver.edu

New Members Roundtable

Scott Goldy
Wichita State University
1845 Fairmount
Wichita, KS 67260
(316) 978-5210-P
(316) 978-3048-F
scott.goldy@wichita.edu

Preservation, Archives, S.C.

Mary Ann Thompson
Hays Public Library
1205 Main
Hays, KS 67601
(785) 635-9014-P
(785) 625-8683-F
mthompso@fhsu.edu

Public Library Section

Robert Banks
Topeka & Shawnee County
1515 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 580-4481-P
(785) 580-4496-F
rbanks@tscpl.lib.ks.us

State Agencies Section

Judy Zelenski
Central Colorado Library Sys.
4350 Wadsworth Blvd., #340
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
(303) 422-1150-P
(303) 431-9752-F
jzelenski@earthlink.net

Technical Services Section

Carlene Aro
H.M. Briggs Library
S.D. State University
Brookings, SD 57007
(605) 688-5567-P
(605) 688-6133-F
carlene_aro@sdstate.edu

Webmaster

Dan Chaney
Oklahoma State University
306 Edmon Low Library
Stillwater, OK 74075
(405) 744-9772-P
(405) 744-5183-F
dwcosu@okstate.edu

State Representatives

Arizona

Teri Metros

Colorado

Suzanne Taylor

Kansas

Susan Moyer

Montana

Cheryl Hesper

Nebraska

Paul Hoffman

Nevada

Linda Deacy

New Mexico

Charlene Greenwood

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Jeanne Narum

Oklahoma

Basha Hartley

South Dakota

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Wyoming

Patricia Patterson

(Continued from page 1)

couraging promising new professionals to apply to attend the MPLA Leadership Institute or other continuing education programs that advance their knowledge and skills.

All members of MPLA need to help the organization grow by encouraging others to join with us. Take every opportunity to talk about the advantages of MPLA and how great our conferences are. You may be surprised that your co-workers or colleagues in your state organizations may not be familiar with MPLA. It takes just a few minutes to hand someone an MPLA membership brochure, send an e-mail message with MPLA's URL or visit with someone about MPLA.

And let's not forget about "growing" ourselves. We can continue to develop and challenge ourselves professionally by saying "yes" when asked to run for an office or serve on a committee. We can learn new skills by volunteering to do a conference program or assist with conference arrangements. And we can broaden our horizons by talking with people and sharing ideas at conferences.

So as we sit back and watch the grass grow and the flowers bloom, remember that people need to grow, too. And MPLA is a great catalyst for nurturing that growth.



N L A /
M P L A
Conference
2003 pro-
p o s a l
forms are
available at
[http://
www.nevadalibraries.org/Con-
ference03/index.html](http://www.nevadalibraries.org/Conference03/index.html).

President makes Board Choice Award Selection

MPLA President Jean Hatfield has announced that Dr. Camila Alire is her Board Choice Award recipient for 2003. Dr. Alire is the Dean of Library Services at the University of New Mexico. She was previously Dean of Libraries at the Colorado State University and University of Colorado at Denver.

Camila's service includes leadership work within the Colorado Library Association and the American Library Association where she currently sits on its Executive Board. She has written several books and has been the recipient of various state, regional, and national awards including the MPLA Legislative Leadership Award.

Member Winner's Choice MPLA Membership for 2003

Because she was already an MPLA member, Dana W. R. Boden, Lincoln, NE received two prizes when her name was drawn for a free MPLA membership at the MPLA/NDLA/SDLA Tri-Conference! She got her own membership for 2003 for half-price and got to designate a person of her choice for a free membership.

Dana chose Charles D. Bernholz. Charlie joined the University Libraries at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as assistant professor and government documents librarian on Jan. 2. He manages the federal, Nebraska, United Nations and Organization of American States (OAS) document collections. He also works with the Libraries Geographic Information Systems (GIS) resources.

Bernholz received his BA in Psychology from Northeastern University, MA in Psychology from the University of Guelph, and MLS from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He comes to UNL with experience in software development and project management. He has worked as a documents librarian at the Farmington Public Library in New Mexico and at the State University of New York College at Cortland.

Leadership Institute 2003 Applications Begin

Application forms for the 2003 MPLA Leadership Institute to be held November 9th to the 14th at beautiful Ghost Ranch in New Mexico are now available at the MPLA Website (www.usd.edu/mpla/leadership/). MPLA is interested in finding “the best in the west” to participate in the Leadership Institute and encourages anyone who wishes to enhance their leadership abilities and to network with others who are also potential leaders to apply for consideration for one of the institute positions.

Nationally recognized consultant and trainer Maureen Sullivan will once again be the primary speaker at the 6-day event. Six mentors selected from the MPLA membership will assist her in the leadership development work. Mentors provide their time and expertise as a professional service to the association. They participate in the entire Institute and make themselves available throughout for consultation with individuals or groups. During the Institute participants and mentors also have an opportunity to hike, explore the Ghost Ranch venue, and learn about the region’s history and geology.

To be eligible to apply for one of the limited positions an individual must have an MLS or equivalent master’s degree relevant to the library field along with less than 10 years post-master’s work in a library related job. One must also be employed in a library organization in the 12 state MPLA region, be a current member of one of MPLA’s 12 affiliated state library associations, and have a record of experience (includ-

ing non-library) that demonstrates leadership potential. Applications are completed and submitted online and will be accepted from now until midnight on May 31, 2003. From among the applications, a committee in each state will select two candidates to be invited to the Institute and the MPLA Leadership Committee will then select an additional five individuals based upon the recommendations of the state evaluation committees. The final position in the Institute roster will be filled by an individual from our founding partner, Ebsco Information Services, Inc.

Deadline for application is May 31, 2003!

Those selected to attend the Institute will be notified by Aug. 15th. Deadline for receipt of registration fee is Sept. 15th. Registration costs are \$450 with a \$100 discount for MPLA members of record since at least 2002. Their costs are \$350. Individuals invited to participate are also responsible for their transportation to and from the site. Many state library associations have assisted those invited to attend by paying in whole or in part for their transportation costs.

MPLA members are encouraged to apply themselves if they meet the criteria and to recruit appropriate individuals from their libraries and state association memberships. To be selected to attend is an honor and a privilege. The first MPLA Leadership Institute, held in November 2002, was an overwhelming success partly because of the high quality of the participants. There is every reason to suppose this one will be just as successful if “the best in the west” attend!

Public Library Chair Chooses his Board Choice Award

Robert Banks, Chair of the MPLA Public Library/ Trustees Section would like to nominate Jeffrey Dawson for a Board Choice Award. Jeff is currently the Adult Services Supervisor at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. He inaugurated the Business Librarian program at TSCPL and was very successful at developing relationships with the local business community. Jeff spent the early part of his

career in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and Arizona working in a number of different academic libraries. An early mentor suggested that he would be an excellent public librarian. Jeff took that advice and has been an outstanding member of the TSCPL staff. He is enthusiastic and creative in his approach to librarianship. Jeff is interested in MPLA and is looking forward to becoming active in the association.

First MPLA Leadership Institute a Huge Success!

The evaluations from the 29 participants, the six mentors and the consultant/trainer all indicate that the first MPLA Leadership Institute held at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico in November 2002, was a huge success. The responses from both written and verbal evaluation questions, as well as on-going comments from participants send a clear message – “It was great!”

Highlights from the evaluation report prepared by consultant Dr. Mary Bushing, include overwhelming satisfaction and downright delight with the content, materials and presentation by trainer Maureen Sullivan as well as great appreciation for the six MPLA members who served as mentors for this first institute. Of Maureen Sullivan attendees said, “Excellent, ideal, awesome, knew content, was professional.” About mentors, they said, “Loved the mentors, mentors were great, really an asset, appreciated their time and talents, complemented Maureen, one of most valuable aspects.” In addition, participants raved about the natural beauty, isolation, and opportunities for bonding provided by the Ghost Ranch location even if their initial fear of radical technology isolation made them a bit hesitant to let go of their cell phones and e-mail accounts. New friends and mentors as well as lots of content to enhance leadership potential filled the days and made the time pass all too quickly for many. As one participant put it, “Best thing I have ever been to!” And another said, “A real ‘no-BS’ workshop. I really learned something!”

Participants were also in agreement that the Ghost Ranch environment did offer some challenges and was not the Ritz! Ghost Ranch, situated just outside of Abiquiu, New Mexico is the National Adult Study Center of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. and is a fairly typical western “church camp” with a homey, relaxed environment that extends to sleeping accommodations and meals. Layered camp clothes were the uniform of the day with hiking boots or study

walking shoes a must. Participants awoke the first day to a couple of inches of snow and a chilly walk to the dining hall for that first cup of coffee! As with so

many things, being prepared for the ranch rather than room service made all the difference. Future participants will benefit from many of the practical suggestions made by the 2002 attendees. Such suggestions included advice to bring a reading light in case your roommate really does want to sleep while you pursue your mystery or course work, and not to forget warm gloves and sunglasses since temperatures in November at that elevation can range from 0 to 65. Pictures of the event may be viewed at the Website: www.usd.edu/mpla/leadership.

Other practical advice offered by the attendees and mentors included lengthening the Institute slightly and providing more daylight hours for fun by holding some short evening sessions. The Leadership Institute Committee has considered these and all other suggestions and they are implementing many of the suggestions for this year’s Institute in the belief that continuous improvement is the goal. The 2003 MLA Institute will be one day longer, will have more daylight free time, and attendees will get lots of practical advice about “church camp” life prior to attending.

Everyone who benefited from the 2002 Institute also wanted to be certain that our underwriting founding partner, Ebsco Information Services, Inc., be thanked for their generous support of the program. Their investment in the future of library service is evident in the quality of the individuals who attend and benefit from this program. The 12-state MPLA membership is



(Continued on page 6)

Honor those who make a difference



It may not be summer yet and NLA/MPLA is months away, but it's never too early to think about saying thank you.

Nothing makes a library worker feel better than a heartfelt "thank you." Awards are our way to say "thank you" to special staff members, volunteers and library supporters on a large scale. Please think about the people who make a difference in your library. It could be your creative and cheerful youth services staff or a helpful vendor who patiently explained how to operate the new microfilm reader/printers. What about the local legislator who took library issues to the state capitol or the local newspaper who always sent a reporter or photographer to the library for a story? These are the folks we'd like to see honored. Visit the following link for an MPLA Award nomination form and further information. Say thank you in a big way. MPLA Award Information: <http://www.usd.edu/>

(Continued from page 5)

greatly enhanced by this vendor-association partnership.

The application for consideration for one of the competitive slots as an attendee at the 2003 Institute is now available on the Webpage — www.usd.edu/mpla/leadership. Applications must be submitted no later than midnight on May 31, 2003. If invited to attend the institute, participants must pay the registration fee of \$450 (\$350 for MPLA members). The fee covers food, lodging, materials, and content. Transportation to the site is additional. For further information about the MPLA Leadership Institute please see the Website or contact Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary (jedelen@usd.edu) or this year's Institute Coordinator, Mary Bushing (marying@msn.com).

[mpla/committees/awards/awardsindex.html](http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/awards/awardsindex.html).

Kaite Mediatore, MPLA Awards Committee Chair

EBSCO

MPLA Librarians Earn National Board Certification

The following librarians in the Mountain Plains states have earned National Board Certification in Library/Media Early Childhood through Young Adult. This may be something newsworthy and a good way to let MPLA members who are interested in pursuing National Certification find people they can turn to for information or as mentors.

Allen, Janet, Billings, MT, Billings High School.
McKinney, Lyn, Billings, MT, Billings High School.
Gligorea, Mitzi, Gillette, WY, Campbell County School District #1.
Landreth, Richard, Gillette, WY, Campbell County School District #1.
Hawes, R., Phoenix, AZ, Scottsdale Unified District.
Ames, Sandra, Olathe, KS, Olathe School District.
Deam, Daneen, Junction City, KS, Geary County Schools.
Hemenover, Katherine, Manhattan, KS, Manhattan School District.
Olson, Linda, Fort Riley, KS, Geary County Schools.
Thompson, Katherine, Olathe, KS, Olathe School District.

Witt, Mary, Junction City, KS, Geary County Schools.
Beck, Myrna, Fairview, OK, Fairview School District.
Chapuis, Georgie, Muskogee, OK, Muskogee School District.
Collins, Karen, Fort Gibson, OK, Fort Gibson School District.
Crosswhite, Lorna, Blanchard, OK, Bridge Creek School District.
Mc Rae Price, Brenda, Edmond, OK, Edmond School District.
Minton, Betty, Anadarko, OK Anadarko School District.
Price, Marianne, Geary, OK, Geary School District.
Robinson, Mary Ann, Edmond, OK, Edmond School District.
Smith-Edwards, Beverly, Norman, OK, Norman School District 1.
Story, Rose Mary, Oklahoma City, OK, Putnam City School District.
Wise, Connie, Woodward, OK, Woodward School District.



Business Sense

Jean Anderson
Business Librarian
Fort Collins Public Library, CO

(Note: This column is designed to be a handout for public library business patrons. I would be happy to share this column and previous columns with you - Word format. E-mail me at anderson@julip.fcgov.com.)

Employment Law

Employment law is a broad area including all areas of the employer/employee relationship and consists of thousands of Federal and state statutes, administrative regulations, and judicial decisions. Wading through the information can be daunting for the small businessperson, so I have gathered some of the best Web sites on employment law. Read on...

Employment Law Information Network

www.elinfonet.com

The Employment Law Information Network is an employment law portal site containing thousands of links to employment law content on the Web. This site contains links to U.S. employment law statutes and regulations, employment law articles, and example human resource policies, forms, and contracts. The site also contains a discussion forum where visitors can post their employment law questions.

BenefitsLink

www.benefitslink.com

BenefitsLink is one of the oldest law sites on the Web. It offers compliance information and tools about employee benefit plans sponsored by private or governmental employers in the United States. The site contains recent articles on employee benefits, links to key government documents, and an "ask the experts" Q&A forum.

U.S. Department of Labor

www.dol.gov

The U.S. department of Labor is responsible for the administration and enforcement of over 190 federal statutes, covering areas from wages and house to family and medical leave. The DOL's Website contains a vast array of legal compliance information, including "elaw Advisors" – interactive tools that provide information about federal employment laws.

Context

www.justis.com

Context provides a vast range of legal material on CD-ROM and on the Internet. From an employment law angle, it provides the Internet version of the official employment law case reports, known as ICR, produced by the Incorporate Council of Law Reporting.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

www.eeoc.gov

The EEOC is the primary federal agency that enforces the U.S. employment discrimination statutes (protecting employees from discrimination on the basis of protected traits like race, sex, age, and disability status). The Commission's site includes a wide variety of primary source documents on U.S. employment laws, including statutory and regulation text, enforcement guidance, and the Commission's compliance manual. Information is available for both employees and employers, much of which is written in non-technical terms for the layman.

Findlaw

www.findlaw.com

Findlaw, the legal media site (now owned by West Group) contains information and links to information on virtually every aspect of U.S. law, including employment law. The employment law section includes links to databases, government agencies, sample legal documents, employment law articles, and related Websites.

WorkIndex

www.workindex.com

WorkIndex.com provides a comprehensive index of workplace related Websites (over 3,000) as well as human resource tools and information. The site is produced and maintained by the publishers of *Human Resource Executive* magazine, in cooperation with Cornell University's School of Industrial Labor Relations. It offers business book abstracts, book reviews, a salary calculator, HR news and a place to test HR software. Users can consult a legal clinic, post and search jobs, and read best practice reports.

Colorado Employment Law Newsletter

www.hrhero.com/coemp.shtml

The Colorado Employment Law Newsletter is a subscription-based monthly newsletter designed exclusively for Colorado employers. The complete subscription package includes: 1) Colorado Employment Law Letter - 12 monthly issues in print and electronic format; 2) Access to HRhero.com Subscribers-Only Area - quick access to full text of state and federal employment laws, sample policies, government and employment forms, searchable newsletter database and online index, Employers Forum – an interactive online conference board for HR managers and attorneys, etc.; 3) HRhero News Alerts - e-mail alerts on breaking news in employment law; and 4) HR Executive Special Reports - reports covering topics that are too complex to be fully covered in the monthly newsletter (over 20 special reports, covering FMLA, ADA, employee privacy, downsizing risks, employee background checks, and more).

Society for Human Resource Management

www.shrm.org

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Representing more than 170,000 individual members, the Society serves the needs of HR professionals by providing the most essential and comprehensive set of resources available. The site provides in-depth coverage and feature articles from the Society's publication, *HR Magazine*.

Jean Anderson is the Business Librarian for the Fort Collins Public Library. Suggestions for future columns are welcome: anderson@julip.fcgov.com

Soo-eee!

Laramie County Kids Meet Library's Reading Challenge



Laramie County Librarian Lucie Osborn and "Wilbur."
Troy Rumpf photo

Thanks to kids meeting a large challenge in "Reading Counts," the tremendously successful winter reading program at Laramie County Library System, Wyoming, County Librarian Lucie Osborn kissed a pig.

The library asked students in grades K-12 to read ten books between Nov. 20 and Jan. 23. If students read at least 100,000 pages, Osborn would kiss the pig. With more than 300 Laramie County students completing the requirement, participants read 239,000 pages.

Because kids held up their end of the bargain so well, Judy Norris, the library's outreach coordinator, also kissed the pig!

Nearly 200 people, including several local media figures, witnessed the big smooch, appropriately held on Valentine's Day.

Everyone who finished the reading program received a prize and two participants won a drawing for gift certificates from local merchants.

This program was offered in conjunction with Go Figure!, a national traveling exhibit for children. More than 4,700 people visited the exhibit during its stay in Cheyenne.

For more information about the Laramie County Library System, visit the Website at www.LCLSonline.org

Fill-in Grant Form Now Available!

Thanks to MPLA Webmaster Dan Chaney, Word files of the Professional Development Grants application and evaluative report are available from the MPLA Website at www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/profdev/. Previously the documents were available only as PDF files. The availability of Word files should make it easier for people to fill out the application and evaluative report. We are also going to allow electronic submission (as e-

mail attachments) of both the application and evaluative report. We are hoping that by having Word files available and allowing e-mail submission the whole process of applying should be more convenient. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 18. Applications need to be submitted at least a week before to allow committee members time to review them prior to the meeting.



Kay Christensen, MPLA PDGC Chair

Call for Papers

MPLA Academic Section Professional Forum

The Academic Section of the Mountain Plains Library Association's (MPLA) announces a call for papers to be presented, with the co-sponsorship of the Academic Section of the Nevada Library Association, at:

NLA/MPLA Joint Conference
Lake Tahoe, Nevada, November 5-8, 2003

The MPLA Academic Section sponsors the Professional Forum, which presents new ideas, innovations, and case studies in librarianship that would benefit the profession. Research methodology is encouraged, but not essential. School and public librarians, as well as those from academia, are encouraged to participate. The papers are peer reviewed; a prize of \$300 will be awarded to the winning paper presentation.

Guidelines for Papers

- Problems are clearly identified and solutions proposed.
- Themes can include locally implemented experiences (successes or failures), theoretical models, statistical studies, or state of the art reviews.
- Although formal research methodology is not required, papers should develop clear positions or concepts.

Evaluation

Papers will be judged on:

- Significance of topics (15 points)
- Development of concept and quality of organization (20 points)
- Clarity of ideas and objectives (10 points)

Final presentations will be judged at the annual conference on:

- Objectives are evident, with clear ideas and concepts (15 points)
- Quality of organization (15 points)
- Quality of presentation, use of visuals, etc. (15 points)

Submission Requirements

- Authors must be current members of MPLA
- Papers must be original—not published or presented elsewhere
- Selected authors will make presentations at the conference
- Papers (2-6 pages in length) must be submitted electronically to mary_caspers-graper@sdstate.edu **no later than August 1, 2003**

For more information contact:

Mary Caspers-Graper, Hilton M. Briggs Library, SDSU, Box 2115, Brookings, SD 57007-1098
mary_caspers-graper@sdstate.edu (605) 688-5565

REMEMBER: MPLA Professional Development grants are available to fund research and travel! See the MPLA Website www.usd.edu/mpla/ for details.



Memorandum of Understanding Written!

Trail States Library Associations and the National Park Service Join Forces for Corps of Discovery II Project

By Cherie Heser
Director, Rosebud County Library
Forsyth, MT

This memorandum of understanding establishes the basis for mutual understanding and cooperation between the Library Associations of Washington, D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Oregon - hereinafter referred to as the Trail States Library Associations - and the U.S. National Park Service (NPS).

This memorandum summarizes how the parties intend to create an alliance for the purpose of the creation and implementation of the Corps of Discovery II project for the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration. The parties will engage in working together to expedite the program and to make it as meaningful, educational, and significant as possible to the citizens of each state involved. Leadership within the Trail States Library Associations will be provided by the designated representatives from each state and their committees, with Cheryl J. Heser of the Montana Library Association acting as liaison for communication between the Trail States Library Associations and the National Park Service representatives.

It is understood that this memorandum of understanding provides a framework to pursue cooperative projects related to Corps of Discovery II. Any exchange of funds or other tangible resources in furthering the purposes of this memorandum will require execution of a separate written instrument in accordance with applicable law.

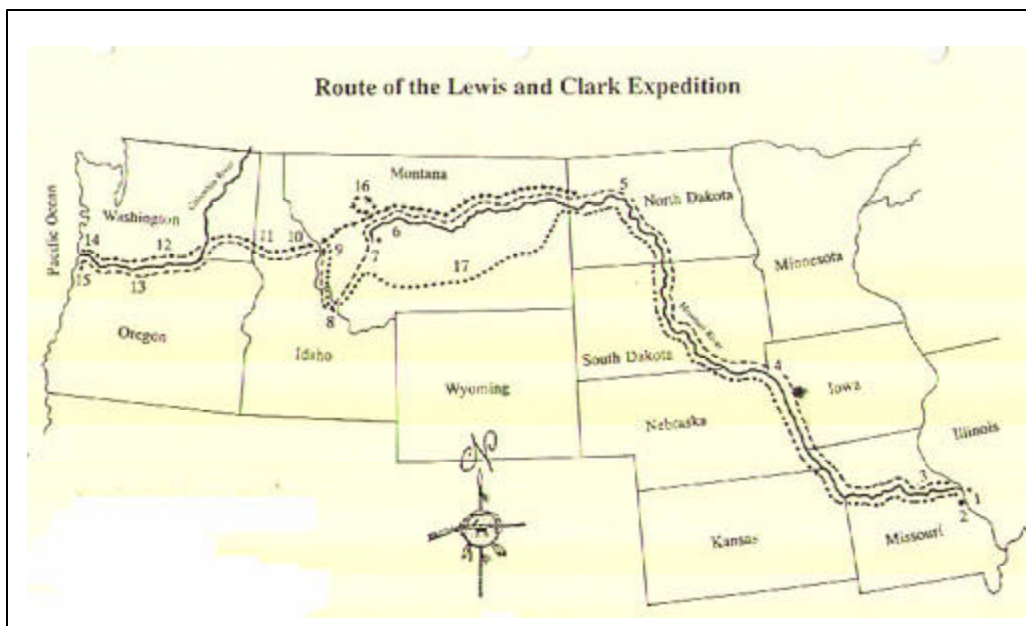
Agreed upon activities:

Resource and Information Location for Exhibits

The Trail States Library Associations will act as communication liaisons with the public, academic, special, and school libraries within their states to locate resources for information for the development of exhibits and activities for Corps of Discovery II.

Meeting Rooms
The Trail States Library Associations will establish communication with libraries in the locations chosen by the National Park Service for

expedite the program and to make it as meaningful, educational, and significant as possible to the citizens of each state involved. Leadership within the Trail States Library Associations will be provided by the designated representatives from each state and their committees, with Cheryl J. Heser of the Montana Library Association acting as liaison for communication between the Trail States Library Associations and the National Park Service representatives.



will establish communication with libraries in the locations chosen by the National Park Service for



“town meetings” or other activities associated with the Corps of Discovery II visit at each location. Where possible, they will encourage those libraries to

provide or to arrange for local meeting rooms.

Public Relations and Local Marketing Assistance

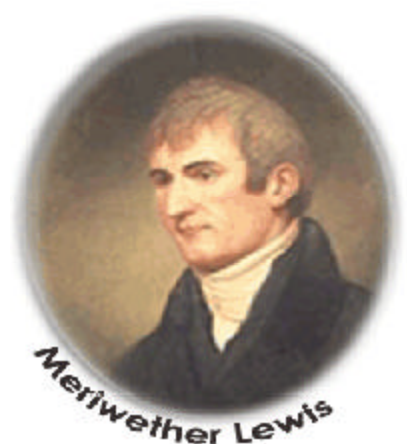
In cooperation with the designated Public Information Officer for the National Park Service, the Trail States Library Associations will work with a network of libraries in the locations chosen by the National Park Service for presentation of Corps of Discovery II. They will assist those libraries in providing or assisting with local publicity for the town meetings and for the visit of Corps of Discovery II. In many cases, the libraries in the network can simply coordinate efforts with the local Chambers of Commerce and other entities with an interest in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial observance. Examples of activities might include providing articles to local newspapers, notices to local radio stations, distribution of posters or brochures, and special invitations to groups or individuals to support or enhance the meetings or visits.

Local History and Story Telling

One important aspect of library involvement in the visits of Corps of Discovery II throughout the Trail States is to take advantage of the opportunity to supplement the program with local history exhibits and activities, some connected with the Lewis and Clark Expedition and others related to other local history. The Trail States Library Associations will encourage and facilitate library involvement in promoting local history.

The National Park Service also considers storytelling, both related to Lewis and Clark and to other local

history, an important part of the Corps of Discovery II mission. The Trail States Library Associations can assist in encouraging and facilitating library participation in providing places for storytelling and promoting local participation.



Promotion and Dissemination of LewisandClarkgnet.org

The Trail States Library Associations will collaborate with the Peter Kiewit Institute and the National Park Service in promoting the LewisandClarkgNet.org Website. This promotion will be accomplished through dissemination of brochures, links on Websites where appropriate, and referring students and the public to this resource. The Website will feature searchable online databases along with traditional resources; online digital videos of presentations and interviews from Corps of Discovery II as it travels along the Trail; and GIS systems that will provide user-friendly navigation to all of the above. Furthermore, all members of the Trail States Library Associations are encouraged to submit new resources to the site, to post reviews of the existing resources, and to give feedback to the LewisandClarkgNet.org staff.

Conditions of Trail States Library Association Involvement

It is understood that the principal role of the Trail States Library Associations in this cooperative agreement is to establish committees to provide communication and leadership for libraries in communities involved with Corps of Discovery II. The Associations cannot guarantee any level of individual library participation, although every effort will be made to enable libraries to participate and to foster a positive attitude of enrichment and opportunity from this cooperative effort.

Around the MPLA Region



ARIZONA

Library school saved! -- The School of Information Resources, University of Arizona (SIRLS) has been removed from the "proposed elimination list." SIRLS was one of 16 programs in the University proposed for elimination in the wake of major budget cuts last January. SIRLS prepared a comprehensive business plan that describes the means for SIRLS to achieve a measure of self-sufficiency. That plan, together with sustained and vocal support from alumni, employers, students, colleagues and organizations around the country led the President and Provost to issue the following statement:

"The Masters Program is the largest in the College, and one of the largest in the University. It is the only accredited Library and Information Science program in Arizona and in eleven other mountain states. The School has a long history of educating Hispanic and Native American Librarians and its Knowledge River program has been cited nationally as a model for the recruitment and education of minorities in the information professions (*Library Journal*, October, 2002)... We have reached the conclusion that SIRLS should not be eliminated."

COLORADO

World champ leads libraries into second century of service - After a nationwide, six-month search, the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) Board of Trustees appointed José A. Aponte as executive director of the library district in December 2002. He assumed the position on Jan. 8, 2003. Aponte was selected to succeed Patrick Losinski, who became director at the Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library in June 2002 after serving PPLD for four and a half years.

"With over 23 years of experience in libraries in Arizona, Florida, and California, José was the top candidate in our nationwide search," reported Tom Herd, library board president, "He will be a tremendous asset to our library district as we seek

to improve services and establish new libraries to meet the growing demands of a second century of service to our El Paso County residents."



José A. Aponte

Since 1996, Aponte has worked for the City of Oceanside (California), most recently as Deputy City Manager in charge of Neighborhood and Community Services, responsible for the administration of Library Services, Parks and Recreation, Housing and Neighborhood Services, and Code Enforcement. Prior to assuming that position in 2000, he was director for the Oceanside Public Library. His library career also included serving as director of the West Palm Beach Public Library (Florida) and Principal Administrative Librarian, San Juan Capistrano Regional Library (California).

In accepting the position at PPLD, Aponte says, "As an experienced leader in our profession, I am drawn to the potential of this outstanding library and community. It is no secret that the Pikes Peak Library District is recognized by its peers for exemplary planning models, which incorporate residents, staff, trustees, and management teams for highly effective service delivery." Just this year - in June - Aponte received a White House appointment to the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Advisory Council. In addition to library leadership, Aponte is the current world duathlon champion in his age group (50-54). In Austria this past August, Aponte finished 75 out of 1,000 male and female athletes from around the world in this run-bike-run event sponsored by the International Triathlon Association.

Aponte earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bard College (New York) and a Masters of Library Science from the University of Arizona. Aponte and his wife, fine artist Cynthia Reyes, have two sons.

Library funding in Colorado -- Library funding continues to be a critical issue. Due to the very tight state budget situation, CAL decided not to host the usual Legislative Day in February. Instead a CAL-athon was held in January. The goal was to have 15 contacts per state legislator from library supporters. The campaign was very successful with 94% of Senators and 86% of Representatives being contacted. The information used as contacts were made is available on the CAL Website – www.cal-webs.org.

Blue Spruce Award -- A Walk to Remember by Nicholas Sparks is the 2002-2003 winner of the Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award. The Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award is unique in being a state book award nominated and selected entirely by middle and high school students.

School library survey—2002 results available online -- Results from the 2002 Colorado School Library Survey are now available online from the Library Research Service's Website at <http://www.lrs.org/>. Over 600 Colorado school libraries responded to this year's survey. The information gathered in the annual survey provides all library professionals with important statistics for planning, evaluating, and budgeting. The Library Research Service's Website also contains information about Colorado Libraries and the Digital Divide and statistics pertaining to types of libraries.

School research topics bibliography available -- The Colorado State Publications Library recently updated the popular list of Websites from state government agencies that are useful for K-12 students doing research papers. "School Research Topics" provides links to state government sites on topics such as government, health, history, the criminal justice system, education, kids' pages, law, outdoors/wildlife, etc. The list is online at the School Research Topics Website: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/stateinfo/slstpschbib.htm>

Available on the CAL Webpage (www.cal-webs.org) --
* Conference session presentations and handouts; *
2002 Annual Report of The Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL).

Rocky Mountain Book Fair -- The public is invited to attend the Rocky Mountain Book Fair, sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association, in Denver on Aug. 1-2, 2003. For more information on the book fair, contact: Lois Harvey, Coordinator, at Lois431@aol.com.

KANSAS



SLIM doctoral program adapts to include distance participation -- Building on the long-term success of taking its Master of Library Science degree program on the road to states in the western half of the country without local programs, the School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) of Emporia State University is prepared to do the same with its doctoral program starting this fall.

In order to allow students to work towards the doctorate from anywhere in the country, SLIM will implement an Internet-based video conferencing system and provide backup with telephone bridging. Seminar courses will move from meeting for three weekends over the course of a semester to a customizable format to best suit the needs and learning/teaching styles of information professionals. Under the new plan, classes may meet for no more than one weekend or the class time may be broken up into smaller segments and distributed over the course of the semester at the discretion of the instructor. The balance of each course will be highly individualized and interactive more along the lines of traditional tutorials. The seminar classes will utilize a combination of: (1) telephone/video conference calls; (2) Internet chats on WebCT; (3) electronic bulletin board discussions; (4) individual phone conferences between instructor and student; (5) individual e-mails between instructor and student; (6) paper correspondence; and (7) collaboration software.

Since 1987 SLIM has responded to the call of the library and information profession to help educate qualified professionals unable to relocate to a local campus for a traditional learning experience. Nearly 800 individuals from Iowa to Oregon and from New Mexico to North Dakota have earned their MLS

degree from SLIM without ever needing to attend class on the Emporia campus. In typical SLIM fashion, a groundbreaking and innovative plan to offer the PhD in Library and Information Management will start with the fall semester of 2003.

In order to facilitate this evolution in its doctoral program, a program administrator will assist in student advising, coordinate student recruitment, schedule course offerings and locations, and work with faculty to design curriculum delivery options conducive to student participation from anywhere in the country. SLIM will market the program on a national level and admissions will be limited to 10 new doctoral students per year. The program requires 52-58 hours beyond the master degree. Tuition is \$175 per semester credit hour for Kansas residents and \$350 per semester credit hour for non-residents (pending approval). For more information, contact the SLIM office at 1/800-552-4770.

Salina Director earns national honor -- The Salina Public Library is proud to announce that Joe McKenzie, Library Director, has been named as the 2003 Outstanding Supporter of Support Staff by *Library Mosaics* magazine. Joe will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Library Mosaics* and will be presented with his award at the annual COLT banquet June 19 in Toronto, Canada. Joe was nominated for his tremendous support of his staff as well as contributions to library staff throughout the state with the development of SMART.

Sedgwick County libraries form partnership -- Thirteen public libraries serving Sedgwick County communities and residents have received \$70,000 for a program aimed at widening participation in children's summer reading programs countywide. The Celia and Leonard Levand Library Trust pledged the amount to fund joint programming, publicity, incentive prizes, and volunteer recognition awards.

The Levand Trust has benefited the Wichita Public Library for several years. When trustee David Broomfield suggested the need to include other libraries in the Trust's awards program, Wichita Pub-

lic collaborated with three other local libraries -- Clearwater, Derby, and Haysville -- to see if a pilot program could work. All four libraries benefited from coordinated programming, and the cost savings generated from the cooperative purchasing and scheduling. "Bulk purchasing of prizes and volunteer recognition awards were impossible for smaller libraries working alone," said Julie Linneman, Programming and Outreach Coordinator for the Wichita Public Library.

MONTANA



Offline a success -- The annual retreat for the Montana Library Association (MLA) Offline Interest Group, took place Feb. 20-22 at the Great Falls Public Library (MT) with 65 enthusiastic participants. Offline is a Group concerned with networking and computing in the Montana Library community.

Presentations at this year's Offline dealt primarily with security issues at both the public PC level and at the network level. Two pre-conferences on Feb. 20 dealt with virtual reference and Sirsi reports. As always, there were plenty of opportunities for fun and food, as well as the best personal networking available in Montana. A highlight was dinner in the library, complete with music and a trip to the Sip 'n Dip (can you say mermaid?), recently voted among the world's ten best bars by *GQ Magazine*.

NEBRASKA

Kilgore receives grant for new furnishings and programming -- Reaching more kids with better services is Robin Brooks' goal. And the children's librarian at Kilgore Memorial Library says she'll be able to do exactly that, thanks to a grant the library recently received. Kilgore is one of 16 public libraries in the state to be chosen to receiving funding through the Excellence in Children's Services grant provided by the Nebraska Library Commission.

NLC Director Rod Wagner said the \$4,750 award was part of \$34,535 to be distributed across the state for innovative public library projects for children and young adults.

Welcome to MPLA

New Members

ARIZONA

Angie Creel-Erb
Arizona Western College

Elaine Cubbins
Tohono O'odham Community
College

R. Sean Evans
Northern Arizona University

COLORADO

Claudine Perrault
Douglas Public Library District

KANSAS

Tami Albin
University of Kansas

Kristen Becker
Kansas Wesleyan University

Travis Dudley
Southwest Kansas Library
Association

Vecky Ortiz
Dodge City Public Library

Helen Rigdon
Coffeyville Community College

MONTANA

Vera Abrams
Fallon County Library

NEVADA

Cheryl Bricker
Trustee--Douglas County Public
Library

Mike Coleman
Trustee--Douglas County Public
Library

Ray Tomalas
Trustee--Douglas County Public
Library

Linda Turria
Trustee--Douglas County Public
Library

Ann Whitney
Trustee--Douglas County Public
Library

NEW MEXICO

Tracie Antonuk
Rio Rancho Public Library

Wanda Dozier
Santa Clara Pueblo Comm. Library

Shelley Glantz
Linworth Publishing

Alisha Martinez
Santa Clara Pueblo Comm. Library

Teresa Naranjo
Santa Clara Pueblo Comm. Library

NORTH DAKOTA

Beverly Clouse
North Dakota State University

Tim Greenback
Trustee--Minot Public Library

UTAH

Karen Edge
University of Utah

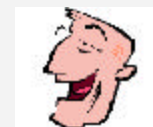
Shaun Spiegel
Weber State University

WYOMING

Bill Nelson
Natrona County Public Library

How many academic librarians does it take to change a light bulb?

- 1 special collections librarian to archive the old, burned-out bulb;
- 1 acquisitions librarian to order new bulbs;
- 1 catalog librarian to catalog and classify the bulbs (by wattage, color, fluorescent or incandescent, etc.);
- 1 reference librarian to make sure the bulb is what the patron REALLY wants;
- 1 interlibrary loan librarian to order the bulb from another library if it's not in stock;
- 1 media services librarian to make sure that the bulb meets stated instructional objectives;
- 1 government publications librarian to check that the bulb meets federal standards;
- 1 circulation librarian to check out the bulb;
- 1 library administrator to supervise the entire system;
- AND 1 student assistant to change the light bulb.



THAT'S A
CHUCKLER!

The program is designed to encourage creative thinking, risk-taking and new approaches to address the problems and needs of children and young adults in the community.

Part of the funding has already been used to purchase colorful banners, a helpful story-telling easel, book and magazine displays, and kid-sized bean bag chairs for the library.

In addition, Brooks said the funding will go towards programming, including providing an opportunity for York College Children's Literature students to work as volunteer mentors in activities such as story times and the summer reading program. With the college students' help, Brooks is anticipating that the library will attempt its first youth summer reading program.

Kilgore will also be using part of the funding in a partnership with Youth Leadership York to develop youth leaders and in an outreach to students at Nebraska Evangelical Lutheran High School who are in York on Saturday afternoons.

"This grant money enables us to begin needed programs and try projects that we have previously been unable to attempt," Brooks said. The new programming opportunities are expected to begin later this spring.

(Reprinted from yorknewstimes.com)

Scholarships announced -- Recipients of the Nebraska Library Commission Master of Library Science Scholarships are Susan Franklin, Hastings, attending the University of Missouri; Jane Raglin Holt, Lincoln, attending the University of Missouri; and Harold Brick, Omaha, attending the University of Missouri. Each will receive \$1,000 to support their pursuit of graduate level library education.

Nebraska Book Awards -- The 2003 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB), will recognize and honor books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or that relate to Nebraska. Books published in 2002

(as indicated by the copyright date) are eligible for nomination. They must be professionally published, have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and be bound (with the exception of e-books, which will be accepted in the competition). Books may be entered in one or more literary categories. Certificates will be awarded to the winners in each category. Award winners will be announced at the Nebraska Center for the Book's Annual Nebraska Book Festival Oct. 24-25, 2003 at Creighton University in Omaha. For more information about this event, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/public/ncbawards.html>.

Spring meetings -- Spring meetings sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association's Public Library; Special & Institutional; School, Children's and Young People's Sections; and the Nebraska Educational Media Association will be held May 12th, 14th, and 16th. For more information about the sites and programs, visit <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/1313.html>.

Quilting ain't wilting -- The purpose of the American Quilt Study Group (AQSG) is to promote and preserve research on quilts, quilt making, and quilt makers. Since 1998 the American Quilt Study Group library collection has been cataloged, housed, and preserved by the University Libraries at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. The AQSG library collection is composed of approximately 6,000 monographs, journal volumes, exhibition catalogs, and ephemeral items. The majority of the AQSC collection is available on East Campus at C.Y. Thompson Library (CYT), while the Sally Garrouette collection, quilt exhibits, catalogs and rare items are located in University Archives/Special Collections at Love Library. To locate AQSG materials, search the Libraries' online catalog by the keywords: "American Quilt Study Group" or "Sally Garrouette." The University Libraries welcomes donations of quilt-related materials to the AQSG collection. For further information, contact Mary Cassner at C.Y. Thompson Library at (402) 472-4409.



Council on Libraries appointees -- New appointments to the Nebraska Library Commission's State Advisory Council on Libraries include Theresa Jehlik, Training and Staff Development Coordinator, Omaha Public Library; Jan Boyer, Dean, University Library, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Rebecca Pasco, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Library Science Programs, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Diana Johnson, Director, Stromsburg Public Library; and Sharon Osenga, Administrator, Meridian Library System.

NEVADA

"One Book, Many Stories" -- Want to get hooked on a good book? How about an armchair excursion to a tiny Nevada town that exudes character and entertaining stories? January through March 2003, Western Nevada Community College and the public libraries of the seven counties the college serves presented "One Book, Many Stories," a community reading project where residents throughout western Nevada read the same book, then gather for discussions, and also brought the author to various local communities for a lecture series.

The chosen book was *Mountain City*, a colorful and easy-to-read memoir about growing up in a tiny northeastern Nevada town -- population 33. Author Gregory Martin received the Washington State Book Award, The University of Nevada's Silver Pen

Award, and the work was named a *New York Times* Notable Book.

The 193-page book is a collection of vignettes and wise and humorous observations on Mountain City and its inhabitants, including Martin's Basque family. The town is filled with eccentrics, philosophers and comedians, and one cat that was found as a kitten, frozen solid to the porch of the family store until it was saved by Martin's aunt. The cat lived in the store for 19 years, always healthy and confident, "despite her missing tail, ears and toes."

Six hundred copies of the book were distributed through local libraries to book clubs and other interested readers. The book was also used in some spring 2003 English classes at WNCC and area high schools. Book clubs, high school and college classes, and many local residents will all be reading and discussing *Mountain City*.

"One Book, Many Stories" culminated March 17-20, when Gregory Martin made several appearances in Carson City, Lyon, Churchill and Douglas Counties. At these appearances, Martin read from the book, signed copies and answered questions.

New children's wing -- The Lied Children's Wing of the Round Mountain Library was dedicated Oct. 19, 2002. It exists due to the financial

support of the Lied Foundation and support from the taxpayers of the district. The majority of the tax money used came from the Net Proceeds Tax paid by the Round Mountain Gold Corporation, support from the library patrons and the dedication of the Smoky Valley Library District Board of Trustees and the employees of the district.

Born during the gold excitement of the 1900s, the first Round Mountain mining company began in April 1906 and prospectors and mining investors flocked to the area. There were 15 companies in operation and about 400 people by the end of June. A library and a jail were built in 1907. The new 5,020 square foot Round Mountain Public Library was dedicated in January of 1991.



NEW MEXICO

New Mexico losing state librarian -- Benjamin T. Wakashige, who has served as the State Librarian for New Mexico since 1988, will leave his position in May to take a position as the Director of the Library at Pacifica College in Forest Grove, OR. Wakashige has been instrumental in improving libraries in many ways such as



working for the \$16 million bond issue for school, public, and academic libraries that was passed overwhelmingly in November, 2002. He has been responsible for a statewide database for periodicals that all public and all high school libraries in the state receive. He also started the NM Task Force for School Libraries which has accomplished writing standards and funding for these libraries.

USA Patriot Act in NM -- Both the New Mexico House and Senate are sponsoring joint memorials that would address the USA Patriot Act. House Joint Memorial 40 declares opposition to federal measures that infringe on civil liberties. The memorials call for libraries to post a prominent notice to patrons that records of books they check out could be provided to federal agents and that, under the Patriot Act, librarians are forbidden to inform patrons when this happens.

New Mexico Union List of Serials project -- The New Mexico State Library is coordinating an effort to establish a Union List of Serials in OCLC's Worldcat database.

Laura Gilpin in Rio Rancho -- Laura Gilpin, a native Westerner, was a professional photographer who had mastered the techniques of landscape, portrait, still life, commercial, documentary, and aerial photography as well as the principle and extant methods of printmaking. She packed her equipment on horseback to photograph the source of the Rio

Grande, did studio portraits for society matrons, and flew low to capture the light and shadows on Shiprock from every possible angle. She did her work for 55 years before gaining widespread national recognition for it. In addition she published several books for which she was photographic illustrator, writer, and designer. She was a Renaissance woman, both accomplished and advanced in the realms of practical skills, artistic vision, social attitudes, and racial politics. She is said by those who knew her to have "filled the room" with her presence. In this one woman show Deborah Blanche, New Mexico actor and storyteller, will portray Miss Gilpin as she was in the year 1954 -- a confident and ebullient woman in her early 60's. Miss Laura Gilpin, as portrayed by Blanche, in "Laura Gilpin, Photographer," is on Saturday, March 15 at Rio Rancho Public Library.

Award for NM Center for the Book - New Mexico Center for the Book wins the Boorstin Community Service Award, Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole announced. The New Mexico Center for the Book, one of the national center's 49 state affiliates, has received the first Boorstin "Community Togetherness Award," the award named for Librarian of Congress Emeritus Daniel J. Boorstin and his wife, Ruth Boorstin. Boorstin was the Librarian of Congress from 1975-1987 and established the Center for the Book in 1977. To mark their recent 61st

wedding anniversary, the Boorstins gave the national center a gift of \$6,100 to be presented to a state center that demonstrated unusual success in involving different parts of the community in its reading and literacy promotion programs.

"One of our smaller but most dedicated state affiliates, the New Mexico Center for the Book has brought national outreach projects such as Letters About Literature and River of Words to small towns and communities throughout the state since 1996," said Cole.

The New Mexico Center for the Book will use funds from the Boorstin award to help support two new projects for young people: Poetry in Place and Creative Writing in Place, which will be hosted by libraries in rural, difficult-to-reach towns and American Indian reservations.

NORTH DAKOTA

State librarian testifies -- The North Dakota State Library testified before the North Dakota State House Appropriations Committee on Feb. 27 concerning the state library budget. State Librarian Doris Ott testified before the committee of the whole at the end of the DPI budget overview. When questioned about the apportioned one cent per pack of the state cigarette tax going to state library aid, Ms. Ott stated that the North Dakota State Library has never received the full amount it was supposed to receive. The budget hearing gave

NDLA the opportunity to invite legislators to their booth that was set up in the Great Hall on Feb. 28. The booth featured the services that the state library provides and the databases which both the state library and NDLA are requesting funding for.

Librarian receives national scholarship -- Naomi Frantes is the recipient of a \$3,000 national scholarship awarded by the American Library Association Government Documents Roundtable. The W. David Rozkuszka scholarship is awarded annually to one librarian across the United States, who is currently working with government documents in a library, and working to complete a master's degree.



Naomi Frantes

Frantes is currently working toward her Master of Library Science degree through Southern Connecticut State University. She is employed as manager of State Document Services at the North Dakota State Library, where she has worked for twelve years. Frantes will use the award to pursue her lifelong dream of

getting her masters degree in library science. "I love library work and am honored to be the recipient of this scholarship. Government documents are a valuable information resource." She plans to finish her MLS degree by May 2004.

She was selected for the scholarship based on her strong writing skills and her contributions to other students pursuing their MLS degrees.

This award was established in 1994, and is named after w. David Rozkuszka, former documents Librarian at Stanford University.

Workshops focus on online catalog -- The North Dakota State Library is offering a series of workshops this summer. Graduate credit is available through the North Dakota State University (NDSU).

They will focus on all aspects of the statewide online library catalog including: the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN), Gale Group's Periodical/Reference Package, ProQuest newspaper database, Electric Library2, and netLibrary electronic books collection.

The workshops are scheduled in Minot, Jamestown, Devils Lake, and Dickinson. Registration information is available on the State Library home page at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us> under "Training: Electronic Resources Searching Techniques." You can also register by calling Lorretta at

the North Dakota State Library at 1-800-472-2104, or (701) 328-2492. For questions concerning the workshop, contact Stella Cone at (701) 328-2185.

After May 1, the registration will be \$45.00 payable to the North Dakota State Library. For those who wish to receive graduate credit, the cost will be an additional \$50.00 payable to NDSU the first day of the workshop.

Workshop Schedule

June 23-25 Minot-Minot State University

July 14-16 Jamestown-Jamestown College

July 21-23 Devils Lake-Lake Region State College

July 28-30 Dickinson State University (co-sponsored by West River Teacher Center)

SOUTH DAKOTA

SoDakLive -- The South Dakota State Library launched a new Internet site, SoDakLive – South Dakota Land of Infinite Variety, Electronically. The new site is a one-stop directory for South Dakota state government Websites and publications. SoDakLive is powered by Bright Planet, a provider of business solutions for researching, monitoring and managing surface and Deep Web content. SoDakLive is available at www.sodaklive.com/index.asp

Winner of library card design contest -- Alyssa Morgan, a fourth-grade student from Northwestern School, Mellette, SD is the winner of the statewide Kids Create!

Library Card Design Contest. Sponsored by the South Dakota State Library and the South Dakota Arts Council, the contest for students in grades K-5 called for young artists to submit drawings of what libraries and reading mean to them. The State Library received 945 other outstanding entries submitted from more than 41 South Dakota communities.

An image of Morgan's winning entry, a marker and crayon drawing, will be printed on the front of the State Library's new library cards. In addition, Morgan will receive a \$100 Savings Bond from South Dakotans For The Arts. The original artwork will be framed and hung in the South Dakota State Library.

The new card is below. To view additional winning entries in each age classification, visit: <http://www.sdstatelibrary.com/forlibrarians/art/artcontest.htm>.



Storyteller visits daycares -- What do you do with a willing volunteer who has a dramatic background? Yankton Community Library initiated an innovative program for licensed daycares in private homes. The volunteer and storyteller, Mike Kohn, will stop at daycares in the community where

he will bring stories to life and engage children in songs and fingerplays. The program will help bring the library to daycares too distant from the library for an afternoon walk or those without transportation.

The Brookings, SD academic, public, and school library support staff celebrated their 5th annual Library Support Staff Day with a luncheon on April 3. Guest speaker was Stephen Van Buren, H.M. Briggs Archivist Librarian and South Dakota State University Archivist.

UTAH

Gorgeous new library in SLC -- The new, spectacular Salt Lake City Public Library opened Feb. 8, 2003. Voters approved an \$84 million bond four years ago. The library has six floors with a fireplace on each floor, 240,000 sq. ft., an outdoor amphitheater, meeting rooms, retail shops, an outside ramp leading to a roof-top garden, and underground parking.

Architects used much natural light, with spacious windows for panoramic vistas of the Wasatch Mountains.

Self-checkout machines speed patron transactions. The technology center is equipped with 140 computer workstations, and the library houses one of four Gates Library Training Labs found in Utah. The library collection exceeds 500,000 items. An art gallery features the works of local artists. A 320-seat

auditorium gives public space at the heart of downtown Salt Lake City.

WYOMING

Inspired by Leadership Institute -- Wyoming State Library has teamed up with Salt Lake Community College in Sandy, UT to offer a library technician certificate program class online at Utah resident rates. Lesley Boughton, State Librarian, was inspired by the MPLA Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, NM, to get the ball rolling on the library technician certificate classes. These classes are a great benefit for any library staff member who hasn't had any formal training. Grant money can be applied for through the McMurry Library Endowment Fund and the Library Service Technology Act.

Endowment benefits libraries -- The Carol McMurry endowment has awarded \$82,924 to libraries and individuals around the state in 2002. It has awarded more than \$150,000 since its inception in 2000. The grant money can be used for competitive grants that allow libraries to buy children's books or adult books.

Raising Readers on Wyoming -- Former First Lady Sherri Geringer kicked off the Raising Readers in Wyoming program recently at the Campbell County Public Library in Gillette. The Raising Readers in Wyoming program promotes reading to young children between birth and five years by giving them new books

as part of their regular well child visits. The goals of this program are to improve the child's health, encourage early literacy and support families as they prepare their children. This program is patterned after a successful program initiated in Maine.

Around the state -- Jeanette Woodward is the new Fremont County Library Director. After more than 20 years as director of college and university libraries in North Carolina, Virginia, Michigan and New Mexico, she switched to public libraries. She received her MLS from Rutgers. Woodward is the author of *Countdown to a New Library: Managing the Building Project* and is under contract to write *Better than a Bookstore*. She believes that libraries should imitate the bookstore approach to marketing and customer service while emphasizing libraries' unique services. She plans to stay in the area while working on a new addition for Fremont County Library.

Natrona County Public Library has hired Laurie Spurling as the new Public Services Librarian. She comes from the University of Kansas Library where she worked five years. She has worked at public libraries in Denver and Las Vegas. Spurling earned her MLS from the University of Tennessee. In coming to the Natrona County Public Library, Spurling says she has come full circle. Her experience in academic and private libraries has been excellent experience for public library work.

Go Figure! Add up the numbers to equal a huge success -- An event five years in the making, and success greater than anyone anticipated.

Go Figure!, a charming interactive math and reading exhibit for kids recently ended its popular run at the Laramie County Library System.

Amy Shelley, manager of Youth and Outreach Services, applied for the grant in 1998. The application was one of only 75 accepted, and the only one in Wyoming. Then the wait began, since LCLS was one of the last library's on the tour.

In all, 4,744 people visited the exhibit during its run.

UPCOMING EVENTS-2003

April 9-11	Kansas Tri-Conference, Salina
April 23-25	New Mexico Library Association Conference, Albuquerque
April 23-26	Montana Library Association Conference, Butte
May 7-9	Utah Library Association Conference, Sandy
Sept. 24-27	North Dakota Library Association Conference, Bismarck
Oct. 1-4	Wyoming Library Association Conference, Sheridan
Oct. 15-17	South Dakota Library Association Conference, Sioux Falls
Oct. 16-19	Second Annual Colorado Association of Libraries Conference, Keystone
Oct. 29-31	Nebraska Library Association/NEMA Convention, Omaha
Nov. 5-8	MPLA/Nevada Library Association Conference, Lake Tahoe, NV

UPCOMING MPLA CONFERENCES

2003: Nov. 5-8	North Lake Tahoe (joint with Nevada Library Association)
2004: Oct.	TBA (joint with Colorado Library Association)
2005:	TBA (joint with Wyoming Library Association)
2006:	No joint conference
2007:	TBA (joint with New Mexico Library Association)

This included a special grand opening, weekly family nights, open houses for daycare and homeschooled students, class and school tours, and people visiting the exhibit while in the library.

The exhibit, at LCLS from Dec. 5-Jan.23, is organized by Minnesota Children's Museum and the American Library Association's Public Program Office and Association for Library Service to Children. Go Figure! is made possible in part through a major grant from the National Science Foundation, with additional support from Cargill and 3M.

MPLA Newsletter

I.D. Weeks Library
414 East Clark Street
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, SD 57069-2390



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Librarians Benefit with MPLA

- Opportunities for professional development
- News of people and programs in member states
- A forum for the exchange of ideas
- Professional development grants
- Support of regional library efforts

ARIZONA COLORADO KANSAS MONTANA NEBRASKA NEVADA NEW MEXICO NORTH DAKOTA OKLAHOMA SOUTH DAKOTA UTAH WYOMING

Special! 1/2 Price New Member Offer

New members calculate dues below, then reduce them by 50%

MPLA Dues Schedule (Membership year is calendar year)

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP - Open to anyone interested in library services. \$15/yr. for those salaried at \$15,000 or less. Add \$1.00 for each \$1,000 above \$15,000.

RETIREE, STUDENT, TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP - \$15/yr.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP - Libraries, business firms, and other institutions supporting the Association. Institutional members also receive FREE advertising for job openings in the newsletter! Membership fee is based on total annual budget

Under \$100,000	\$50/yr.	\$300,000-499,999	\$100/yr.
\$100,000-\$299,999	\$75/yr.	\$500,000- up	\$125/yr.

Name _____ New _____
 Position/Title _____ Renewal _____
 Institution _____
 Business Address _____ Work Phone _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Address _____ Home Phone _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____
 E-mail Address _____ Preferred Mailing Address Business Home

Sections(s) Academic Technical Services State Agencies, Systems, & Cooperative Public Library/Trustee
 New Members Roundtable Children's & School Preservation, Archives & Special Collection Government Documents

It is important to indicate section preferences if you would like to vote for section officers!

I am interested in serving on the following committee(s) Awards Finance Bylaws & Procedures Continuing Education
 Electronic Communications Intellectual Freedom Professional Development Public Relations/Membership

I am willing to be nominated for an MPLA office

For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website at www.usd.edu/mpla

Mail to: Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary
I.D. Weeks Library, University of South Dakota
414 East Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069-2390

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