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MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

August 2004

Volume 49 #1

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

MPLA Listserv

To subscribe, contact
jedelen@usd.edu



President's Letter

By Carol Hammond

Ah, Summer ...

It is 110 today in Phoenix and it's been over 90 days since we had any rain. There are three different forest fires blazing in different parts of Arizona and the smoke is clearly visible to us here in the city. Summer is not our best season here anyway, so I hope it is better where you are, and by the time you read this we will at least have gotten some rain and the fires will be out. I know all too well it won't cool off until September!



Summer is a slower time in most academic institutions, unlike public libraries that are busier than ever with summer reading programs. For us, enrollment is usually lower; everything is a little more casual and less hectic so we can catch up on some things we haven't gotten to during the rest of the year. My personal goal was to improve my business reference skills and since

(Continued on page 3)

IT'S ELECTION TIME!
See inside this newsletter for information on MPLA candidates for office! And don't forget to return your ballot (enclosed).

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North Dakota

Jeanne Narum

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South Dakota

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Utah

Peter Kraus

Wyoming

Jill Rourke

(Continued from page 1)

there were several of us who wanted to work on that, the librarians here designed a seven-week course complete with homework assignments to bring us up to speed. So now I am ready when one of our international business students wants to know if there is anyone who manufactures or distributes mountain bikes in Peru or how they can find out what media outlets there are in Romania.

A favorite activity all year for my husband and I is taking our jeep out to explore the old mining roads of which Arizona has many in its various mountain ranges. At this time of year it means getting up and on the road early before it is too hot. We are rewarded with seeing lots of wildlife and some spectacular scenery, and being able to visit some remote and quiet places. We took one of our jeep trips this weekend.

The trip started out well enough, but as we bounced along a rocky, steep and rutted old road, my “driver” began to comment about the clutch not feeling right. As soon as we made the summit he had his tool bag out and was under the hood. He is a computer network engineer in his day job but also an excellent mechanic who has gotten us out of more than one automotive near-disaster before, so I was not worried. More time to look for rocks and take pictures was all it meant to me. He mentioned something about hoping it would hold together until we got back and we started for home. It was not long, though, before we were looking for a place to stop, since we were going down a mountain and had no clutch left at all. This time I was more anxious and full of questions about what was wrong and how it could be fixed. Calm in a crisis, he just said (from his position under the jeep now instead of at the wheel) that things wear out and nothing runs forever without fixing, and especially if you are traveling on some rough roads, fine tuning is always needed. Also that you need to know the weak points in your vehicle and be prepared for trouble, which we were since we had spare parts and plenty of water.

The trip took longer than we planned, but it turned out just fine.

We will be taking a look at our “vehicle” in MPLA this July, when we meet to update our long range plan. This document has served us exceptionally well for the past five years, but I know it is time to take a look at what runs well and what needs to run better; we need to do a tune up to be prepared for the adventures we will encounter on the road ahead. It’s not good to be out there without a map! We are fortunate to have one of our past presidents, Judy Zelenski, as our driver who will help us all work through this process, so that whatever trip we take it will end up being a good one. We have many good mechanics along in the officers, board members, and committee chairs who will spend some time working on activities and directions. Our goal is to have a revised and updated plan ready by the fall conference in Denver.

I hope you are having a similarly productive summer, as well as one with less heat!

Still Looking for Award Nominations

The MPLA Awards Committee is once again soliciting nominations for the various MPLA awards that will be awarded at the 2005 conference in Denver.

The following awards are provided by MPLA: the Carl Gaumer Exhibitors Award, the MPLA Distinguished Service Award, the MPLA Legislative Leadership Award, the MPLA News Media Support Award, the MPLA Literary Contribution Award, the MPLA Beginning Professional Award, the MPLA Youth Services Excellence Award, and the MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award. A complete description of these awards and nomination forms are available at the following link: <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/awards/awardsindex.html>

Nominations should be mailed to Leroy M. Gattin, Hutchinson Public Library, 901 N. Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501, 620-663-5441 Ext. 110, lgattin@hutchpl.org. Deadline is Aug. 13.

2004 Applicants Selected! MPLA Leadership Institute

Thirteen public librarians, 12 academic librarians, and four special librarians have been selected to attend the 2004 MPLA Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch Nov. 30-Dec. 5. There are three attendees from each of these states: Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Utah, Wyoming, and South Dakota. One applicant comes from Montana, and there are two from all other MPLA states. One Ebsco applicant completes the list.

Attending are:

Krissy	Cwengros	AZ	Public
Ruth	Grant	AZ	Public
John	Doherty	AZ	Acad.
Amy	Greenland	CO	Public
Sandy	Messick	CO	Public
Erica	MacCreaigh	CO	Public
Kate	Capps	KS	Public
Connie	Doeden	KS	Public
Holly	Mercer	KS	Acad.
Eileen	Wright	MT	Acad.
Lea	Simon	SD	Acad.
Rachel	White	ND	Special
Erin	Smith	ND	Public
Joanne	Cavanaugh	NE	Public
Sally	Gibson	NE	Acad.
Kristen	Clark	NM	Acad.
Dana	John	NM	Special
Cory	Tucker	NV	Acad.
Bryan	Fearn	NV	Public
Sarah	Robbins	OK	Acad.
Gina	Minks	OK	Acad.
Dustin	Larmore	SD	Acad.
Lisa	Brunick	SD	Acad.
Susie	Woodward	UT	Public
Debbie	Ehrman	UT	Public
Greg	Hatch	UT	Acad.
Jill	Rourke	WY	Special
Patty	Myers	WY	Public
Erin	Kinney	WY	Special
Ebsco Applicant			

Wyoming PR Guru, Rumpf, Wins National Awards

Troy Rumpf, the public relations specialist for the Laramie County Library System (WY), recently received national recognition for his work.

The Library Public Relations Council (LPRC) honored Rumpf and the library with three awards this year. Two of the recognitions were received in the annual Share the Wealth competition, a contest that showcases 40-50 "PR bests" created for libraries nationwide.



Troy Rumpf

Winning materials were the posters for the Art Flicks series and the Young Adult Coffeehouse. These designs were selected based on originality, visual impact, effectiveness, clarity, and content.

Additionally, Rumpf received an L. PeRCy Award of honorable mention (second place) for the library's annual report.

This is the second year in the past three that LPRC has recognized Rumpf and the Laramie County Library System's public relation efforts.

Additionally, Rumpf was recently appointed to a two-year term on the Public Relations and Marketing Section of the American Library Association/Library Administration and Management Association.

He also serves as Wyoming's representative on the Public Relations/Membership Committee of the Mountain Plains Library Association and as chair of the Wyoming Library Association's Communications Committee.

Remember to use MemberClicks for all your MPLA needs! my.memberclicks.com/mpla

Kansas State Librarian, Duane Johnson, Announces Retirement

By Patti Butcher
Northeast Kansas Library System

Kansas State Librarian Duane Johnson announced his resignation after 22 years in the position. Johnson served under five governors and oversaw great changes in statewide library service.

Duane was honored at a statewide reception July 26, 2004 at the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. The gala evening featured colleagues and friends speaking about Duane's commitment to Kansas libraries, and a certificate presentation from Governor Sebelius' aide Melissa Gregory.



Duane Johnson

Among the major accomplishments during Duane's tenure are: The Kansas library catalog migrated from microfiche to CD-ROMs to an online system; the KICNET calling system was phased out and replaced with an online one; the Blue Skyways Website was developed and housed at the KU Med Center Library; and database purchases increased, and training was provided around the state.

Also during Duane's tenure, innovative and critical services and programs have been added. Among them are the Kansas Library Card and KanAnswer reference service, the KanGuard service, the Gates grant projects, and partnerships with Kan-Ed.

Duane has supported the Kansas Library Association and the Kansas Library Trustee Association in innumerable ways. He helped in the creation of Friends of Kansas Libraries, and the creation and continuation of the ICE Institute – a certificate program for Kansas librarians.

His leadership and commitment will be truly missed! Duane is a past president of MPLA (1986-87). The library community of Mountain Plains wishes him all the best in the next phase of his career.

Pre-conference Grants Awarded by MPLA CE Committee

The MPLA Continuing Education Committee, chaired by Jeffrey Belliston, has approved the following pre-conference grant applications:

- # *Blaze New Trails . . . at Lake Las Vegas*, a pre-conference to be held Aug. 11 2004, prior to the Nevada Library Association Conference in Lake Las Vegas, NV. The grant was approved for \$200.
- # *Delivering Excellent Customer Service to Library Users*, a pre-conference to be held Sept. 22, 2004, prior to the North Dakota Library Association Conference in Minot, ND. The grant was approved for \$400.
- # *Outrageous Customer Service*, a pre-conference to be held Nov. 30 2004, prior to the Arizona Library Association Conference in Tucson, Arizona. The grant was approved for \$400.

Grants are available to any state association. Use the form at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/contined/grantstate.html>.

News from the CAL/MPLA conference

Win \$100 for Your Library in Denver, Oct. 21-24, 2004

Denver: Send your best ideas to the CAL/MPLA Jam Session before October 1, and you could win \$100 for your library or institution. Twenty cash awards will be given to CAL and MPLA members who send in their great tips, tricks, policies, fixes, and workarounds.

Each state will have a winner, as well as special categories for library institutions, libraries from communities of under 1,500, the individual who sends in the most ideas and the individual who convinces the most people to send in ideas!

The Jam Session is your way to share your best ideas on customer service, programs, management, collections, reference, tech services, cataloging: Anything that you think makes your library great! We need your name, library and 50 words or less to describe your idea.

Check the MPLA web site for more information or e-mail ideas to pat@pattern.com.

Free Help With Your Library's PR

Denver: Bring your newsletters, posters, ad, brochures and press releases to the Weavers' networking booth at the CAL/MPLA conference for a free critique. We will tell you what you are doing right and what you could do better. See you there!

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Contact localaffairs@dclibraries.org for free help when planning your trip to Denver. Come and...

1. Hear award-winning authors Avi, John Dunning, Tom Noel, Michael Willhoite and Connie Willis.
2. Network with hundreds of librarians who understand the special issues of our region.
3. Solve real problems with information from top-quality workshops and poster sessions.
4. Attend your own small group meeting and connect with like-minded colleagues.
5. Browse (and buy) bargains at one of the region's largest vendor exhibits!
6. Exchange ideas at the Weavers' networking booth with old and new friends.
7. Enjoy great music, food, shopping and cultural venues in our region's largest urban area.
8. Explore the friendly library communities and beautiful scenery of the Mountain State!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

CAL/MPLA Conference Tidbits

Volunteer at registration desk...

C'mon folks, why don't we paint the town?
And all that jazz.
Just sign your name And join the funky crowd.
And all that jazz.
Registration's a groovy spot,
Where the gang is cool and the vibes are hot.
It's just a noisy hall, where there's a daily call
For all that jazz!

CAL Conference registration desk duty doesn't have to be boring. Sign up for an hour or two with Patty "Jazz Baby" DeGrasse and Stephany "Bee's-Knee's"

Liptak for an unforgettable experience. There is an online sign-up form at <http://www.cal-webs.org>.

Make your room reservation...

The Colorado Association of Libraries Conference Site Selection Committee negotiated an excellent rate for your stay during the 2004 conference. Here is the link to help MPLA members reserve lodging at the conference hotel: <http://www.stayatmarriott.com/cal>. If you prefer to make reservations by phone, please call 1-800-648-4462 and ask for Group Code "CAL" or ask them to refer to the group listed as "CO ASSN LIB."

To register for the conference, go to <http://www.cal-webs.org/conference.html#register>.

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ASSOCIATION FOR
LIBRARY TRUSTEES
AND ADVOCATES

Colorado Association
of Libraries

Mountain Plains
Library Association

It's roundup time for Public Library Trustees !

- October 21-22-23-24 / 2004
- Combined meeting of the Colorado Association of Libraries and the Mountain Plains Library Association
- Denver Tech Center Marriott-Denver, Colorado

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Join us for an exceptional opportunity to meet with fellow Public Library Trustees one-on-one, in small groups, or larger discussion groups sharing everyday challenges and solutions with each other.

TRUSTEE TO TRUSTEE

Register on line:
Colorado Association of Libraries
Put "Library Trustee" on your registration
On Line registration forms will be available about Mid-August

Contact:

Jim Connor
Regional Vice President
Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA)
jconnor@alta10.com



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 JAnderson@fcgov.com.)

Business Plans

Are you starting a new business and need to write a business plan? Or is it time to review your old business plan? Do you need some tips? Here is a list of business plan Websites that cover the basics and provide tips to improve your business plan writing style.

Business Plan Basics

www.sba.gov/starting_business/planning/basic.html

Follow this outline from the SBA Website for a different style of business plan that emphasizes management.

How to Write a Business Plan

www.sba.gov/library/pubs/mp-32.txt

The Small Business Administration gives us this comprehensive document on how to write a business plan. The authors, Linda Pinson and Jerry Jinnett, have written many popular business books.

SCORE Business Toolbox

www.score.org/business_toolbox.html

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a great source of free and confidential small business advice to help build businesses from idea to start-up to success. The SCORE Business Toolbox site offers many links including a template gallery with a business plan for a start-up business and another for an established business.

Bplans

www.bplans.com

Bplans.com contains a collection of 60 free sample business plans online. In addition, it has helpful tools

and know-how for creating business plans. Bplans.com includes practical advice on planning, interactive tools, and a panel of experts who provides answers to common questions.

Entrepreneur Magazine

www.entrepreneur.com/bizstartups/

More than just an online version of the popular magazine, this site is chock full of ideas and examples for business planning and startups.

My Own Business

www.myownbusiness.org

This nonprofit offers a free online course that includes a section on business plans. The site also has free, downloadable forms and business plan templates. Join a business forum or receive a free newsletter.

Business Startup Model

www.columbus-chamber.org/bizmodel/index.html

The Columbus (OH) Chamber of Commerce has created this interactive model that takes an entrepreneur step-by-step through the startup process. Once completed, the entrepreneur will have a full business plan and will be ready to launch their business.

Writing a Business Plan

www.inc.com/guides/write_biz_plan/

Inc. Magazine provides two guides to business plans. One is an in-depth look at each section of a plan, the other is a guide to quickly building and improving a business plan.

A Venture Capitalist and Business Planner Look at Business Plans

www.proplana.com/news.html

The authors discuss what capital sources want to see in a business plan. Cliches and misunderstandings are dispelled and suggestions are made for presentation and writing style.

Jean Anderson is the Business Librarian for the Fort Collins Public Library. Suggestions for future columns are welcome: JAnderson@fcgov.com. Current and past issues of *Business Sense* are available at: www.fcgov.com/library/adult.php

Movies are a Hit @ Scottsdale Public Library



The Scottsdale Public Library System just renewed its movie public performance site license for a second year in a row and customers and staff are delighted. Both the civic center and Mustang libraries have auditoriums which really gives the audience a “going to the movies” experience. The movie license is for the facility so the youth, teen, and adult programmers have all been able to take advantage of the programming opportunities. The adult programmers offered a monthly film series with themes such as Film Noir, Baseball Movies, Oscar Winners, and War and the Human Spirit, along with discussions. Teen programmers incorporated the Harry Potter theme by showing both movies leading up to the midnight release of *The Order of the Phoenix* and youth programmers incorporated movies into the Summer Reading activities.

Movie License FAQs

Q: Why flip over flicks?

A: Videos and DVDs are a popular part of a library’s

collection and showing them in the library can really highlight this. Also, movies can link people to literature - consider *Lord of The Rings*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, and *Mrs. Dalloway*.

Q: Why does the library need a special license to show movies? After all, we own them in our collection...

A: Copyright - showing a movie in a public setting is an infringement. A public performance site license allows films that are produced for “home use only” to be exhibited in a public setting.

Q: Why can Movie Licensing USA issue these movie public performance site licenses?

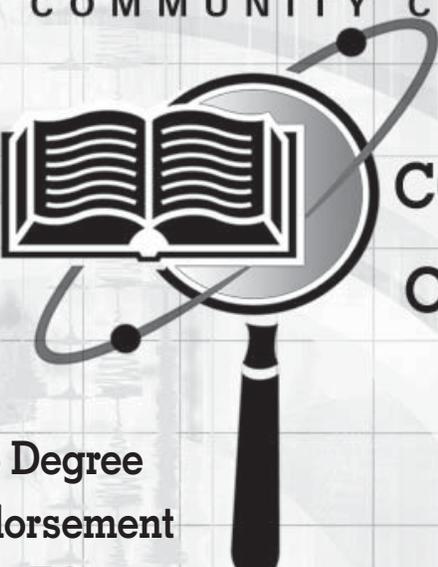
A: Movie Licensing USA is the exclusive license provider of almost all major film studios including Walt Disney, Warner Bros., DreamWorks, Paramount, United Artist, TriStar Pictures, Columbia Pictures, Touchstone, and Universal Studios.

For more information, please contact dbraccia@scottsdaleaz.gov.

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Candidates Vye for MPLA Positions

Don't forget to vote--ballot enclosed in this issue of the newsletter!

PRESIDENT/VICE-PRESIDENT

- **Theresa Jaye Dickson**, Associate Director for Planning and Operations, Pioneer Library System, Norman, OK
- **Sharon Osenga**, System Administrator, Meridian Library System, Kearney, NE

SECRETARY

- **Louis Howley**, Librarian I, Phoenix Public Library, Cholia Branch, AZ
- **Connie Lamb**, Subject Specialist and Collection Development Librarian, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

ACADEMIC SECTION CHAIR-ELECT

- **Jan Fandrich**, Technical and Access Services Librarian, Montana State University Billings Library, MT
- **JaNae Kinikin**, Science Librarian, Stewart Library, Weber State University, Ogden, UT

CHILDREN'S AND SCHOOL SECTION CHAIR-ELECT

- **Julie Bartel**, Teen Librarian, Salt Lake City Public Library, UT
- **Gov. Docs. Section Chair-Elect**
- **Kirsten Clark**, Government Documents Librarian, New Mexico State University, NM

NEW MEMBERS ROUNDTABLE CHAIR-ELECT

- **David Alexander**, Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian, South Dakota State University, SD
- **Kristen Becker**, Director, Liberal Mem. Library, Liberal, KS
- **Preservation, Archives, and Special Collections Section Chair-Elect**

- **Stephen Van Buren**, University Archivist/Head of Special Collections, South Dakota State University, SD

PUBLIC LIBRARY & TRUSTEES SECTION CHAIR-ELECT

- **Joseph Ermer**, Branch Manager, Cody Library, WY
- **Anna Moore**, Independent Library Consultant, OK



Theresa Jaye Dickson



Sharon Osenga



Louis Howley



Connie Lamb

STATE AGENCIES AND COOPERATIVES SECTION CHAIR-ELECT

- **Brian Greene**, WYLD Program Manager, Wyoming State Library, Cheyenne, WY
- **Toni Harrell**, Director of Kansas State Library Talking Book Library Services, Emporia, KS

TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION CHAIR-ELECT

- **S. Michael Kim**, Asst. Prof./Asst. Cataloger, Oklahoma State University, OK

MPLA Has \$\$\$\$\$\$ to Give Away!

Apply Today for a Professional Development Grant

Whether you are attending a conference, presenting a paper, taking a class, or conducting research, MPLA can help finance your professional development endeavor with either a mini-grant (\$150) or a regular grant (\$600).

The committee meets six times per calendar year to consider applications. For the remainder of 2004, the committee will be meeting Aug. 11,

Oct. 13 and Dec. 15. The application form is available as a MS-Word file from the MPLA Website and must be submitted electronically. Please read eligibility requirements before submitting an application form.

Visit the MPLA Website for more information and an application form -- <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/profdev/grants.html>.

Exhibition of Children's Books Introduces Math Concepts

Storybooks present enjoyable, meaningful, interactive math explorations for children and adults in *Go Figure!* a national traveling exhibit currently on display at the Teton County Library, Jackson, WY.

Go Figure! transforms popular children's books into a kid-sized world where children and adults can have fun exploring math with familiar characters such as Arthur, Frog and Toad, and the Three Bears. Five colorful larger-than-life books in the exhibit include a math-related activity such as measuring, weighing, or sorting, along with labels to guide parents. Featured books are *Arthur's Pet Business*, *The Doorbell Rang*, *The Quilt*, *Frog and Toad Are Friends: A Lost Button* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*.

"Children ages two to seven years old and their parents or caregivers will find five-foot tall books featuring math activities scattered throughout the library," said Kirsten Corbett the library's outreach supervisor who coordinated the exhibit's display. "Different books are located in the library's lobby, youth services room and exhibit gallery, and one display even has a touch-screen computer that helps kids learn pattern recognition."



A young library fan plays with Arthur tiles. *Go Figure!* was created by the Minnesota Children's Museum in St. Paul Minnesota and the American Library Association with the help of a major grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). It is sponsored in Jackson by the Robert S. and Grayce B. Kerr Foundation and through the general support of the Teton County Library Foundation.

A free brochure for parents and caregivers presents helpful information on fun and age-appropriate ways to help children recognize and use math concepts such as patterns and shapes, counting and estimating in their everyday lives. The brochure is printed in both English and Spanish, and the exhibit has instructions printed in both languages. The Minnesota Children's Museum also suggests children's books that help reinforce specific math activities. A related book display in the youth services room rounds out the many ways to encourage children's learning after they visit the exhibit.



"The exhibit and book display remind adults and teach children that math is everywhere in storybooks and our daily environment. It's a fun skill that can be naturally learned by young, curious minds," said Debbie Schlinger, Youth Services Supervisor.

Go Figure! was created by the Minnesota Children's Museum in St. Paul, MN and the American Library Association with the help of a major grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). It is sponsored locally by the Robert S. and Grayce B. Kerr Foundation and through the general support of the Teton County Library Foundation. The exhibit will be on display through September 24.

For more information about the *Go Figure!* exhibit or the ongoing children's Summer Reading Program "Laugh It Up @ your library," contact Teton County Library Youth Services at 733-2164 ext. 103 or visit the library online at www.TCLib.org.

A Sampling of Math Books Recommended by the Minnesota Children's Museum:
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle /*La Oruga Muy Hambrienta* by Eric Carle;
Bunny Money by Rosemary Wells; and
One Grain of Rice by Frank Demi.

“Colored Red”

A Quick Introduction to Colorado from a Non-Native

By Kay Lowell

John Denver wasn't just “indulging” when he sang about a Rocky Mountain high back in the 70's. Colorado, our nation's 8th largest state at over 104,000 square miles, is also its highest, with an average elevation of 6,800 feet above sea level. When we call Denver the Mile High City, we ain't kiddin'!

To most people, Colorado is synonymous with the Rocky Mountains, which stretch in two roughly parallel lines from north to south through the central and western portions of the state. And no wonder; the section of the

Rockies in Colorado includes 15 peaks of 14,000 feet or higher. Mount Elbert, the tallest, reaches to 14,433 feet. There are also some 830 other peaks of 11,000 feet or more. Combined, the mountains are a formidable mass, something that cannot be ignored – not only visually, but in its effect on weather patterns, travel, and the history and economy of the state. Beginning with the discovery of gold at Cherry Creek in 1858, entrepreneurs have come to the mountains and their valleys and “parks” for precious metals, natural gas, minerals, and even gems. A substantial portion of the state's economy is generated from industries that cater to the many tourists who come to take in the mountains' sheer beauty – often from atop a pair of skis.



Photo by Kay Lowell

But Colorado is more than its high country. The eastern third of the state consists of the Great Plains, covered with broadly rolling grasslands that slope very gradually downhill toward Nebraska and Kansas. Once home to gigantic herds of pronghorn sheep and bison, this semi-arid land is sparsely populated but beautiful in its own right. In his novel *Centennial*, James A. Michener said

through one of his characters that if you could but bring water to the soil, you could grow anything in it. That is surely evidenced by the abundant fields of winter wheat—the “amber waves of grain” you've heard tell of—as well as sugar beets. Bison have

given way to herds of beef cattle, but livestock raising continues to be productive on the eastern plains. In places, creeks whose beds are normally dry have combined with energetic winds to erode soft stone, leaving amazing and gorgeous landscapes in spots where the upper layers of rock are harder. One notable example is the Pawnee Buttes formation in northeastern Colorado, Michener's model for “Rattlesnake Buttes” in *Centennial*.

The Western Slope, across the Continental Divide from the heavily populated area at the feet of the Front Range, has yet another sort of beauty. Its mountains slope more gently than those in the central part of the state, but never let you forget

(Continued on page 14)



MPLA Featured State COLORADO



Meet Kay Lowell, MPLA's Colorado Representative

Kay came to the practice of librarianship early, as anyone who was in the 8th grade in Dixfield, ME in 1971 could attest. Her first accomplishment as a student librarian was to shift the entire collection so as to eliminate all of those pesky empty spaces at the end of shelves. (Never mind the fact that some books were checked out and new ones were coming in ...).

During the many years since that auspicious beginning, Kay earned a B.A. in English literature, with an emphasis in secondary education, from Colby College in Waterville, ME. Endeavors during the 1980s included teaching high school English, mythology, and folklore; retail management in the footwear field; fundraising at the local PBS station; paralegal and legal secretarial work; and educational adventures in law, real estate brokerage, and computer programming.

These varied experiences have proven invaluable in Kay's career as a cataloger. She began as a paraprofessional at the Auburn (ME) Public Library where she was taught the cardinal rule of subject heading practice ("You can't just make them up!!") and learned how manual catalogs and circulation systems worked. From 1990-1992 she attended State University of New York at Buffalo's School of Information and Library Science, working in the Health Sciences Library's cataloging department while earning her MLIS. During that time UB inaugurated its first online catalog. Kay got to help with the cleanup after the initial record load and learned authority control from CAL Chair-Elect Ellen Greenblatt (who has never been allowed to forget it since!).

After graduation, Kay spent a year in part-time professional positions at Medaille and Canisius Colleges in Buffalo, garnering experience in refer-



Kay Lowell

ence, systems analysis, and the cataloging of curriculum materials. In August 1993, she followed the trail of Michener's *Centennial* characters along the Platte River to become Catalog Librarian at the University of Northern Colorado's James A.

Michener Library in Greeley, where she has been since. She recently completed a term as Chair of the ALA ALCTS/CCS Cataloging of Children's Materials Committee, and serves on CAL's Intellectual Freedom Committee.

Kay's family consists of husband Nathan, whom she met in a women's lit class at Colby in 1978; her two alarmingly precocious daughters, Elizabeth (9) and Jennifer (6); and three extremely elderly felines known collectively as the "Crotchedy Old Ladies." She pursues a doctorate in Educational Technology at the University of Northern Colorado—and often wonders whether she will ever catch it. In her copious free time she is an avid fan of Japanese anime and manga; she serves as the Faculty Advisor for the Greeley Anime Club and the Japanese Student Association. She works very hard at integrating her various experiences into her practice of librarianship and her research, as well as investing all of her endeavors with a heaping helping of oddball humor. ("Mom, you are SO WEIRD...").

“Colored Red”

(Continued from page 12)

that they are mountains. With the Rockies squeezing moisture out of the atmosphere before it heads east, the Western Slope is often favored with more abundant water than other parts of the state. Some of the most succulent peaches grown anywhere result. In the northwest, dinosaur fans can visit rich deposits of fossils. The vast Colorado Plateau, a “basin” of sedimentary rock that covers parts of four states, abuts the Rockies in the westernmost part of the state. Ringed by mountains, the Plateau’s dryness and remoteness has left its fossil record relatively undisturbed by man.

The southwestern part of the state contains some of the oldest evidence of human settlement in the area. The Anasazi, who flourished roughly between 1500 B.C. – 1300 A.D., built cities into the soft stone of the cliffs. There they were very well protected from both wildlife and weather. The Mesa Verde National Monument is a wonderfully preserved example of these cliff dwellings. Several major tribes of Native Americans have lived in Colorado, including the Arapahoe, Sioux, Navajo, and Utes, who favored the high country. Visitors can still travel portions of the Ute Trail in the high elevations of Rocky Mountain National Park.

The Spanish were the first Europeans to come to the state. They gave it its name, which means “reddish colored,” as anyone travelling through the many river canyons in the state could easily understand. French explorers who came later claimed the area as part of “Louisiana,” which was sold to the United States in 1803. Zebulon Pike, for whom Pike’s Peak—the easternmost of the Rocky’s huge “14ers”—was named, explored the region three years later at the government’s request. Later, Spain—which still owned Mexico—reclaimed southern and western Colorado. It wasn’t until the Mexican War of 1848 that ownership of the area by the United States was settled. The history of the state is evident in both

place names, like the town of La Salle, and the population, which is approximately 25% Hispanic.

The real growth in population began with the discovery of gold in 1858. The following year, residents named the area “Jefferson Territory,” a name which existed unofficially until 1861, when Colorado Territory was created by the national government. Colorado City was the first capital of Colorado Territory, followed by Golden (1862-1867), and finally Denver, which continues as capital to this day. Statehood came in 1876.

The majority of Colorado’s people live in cities and towns along the eastern edges of the Rockies, with some 2.6 million of us in the metropolitan Denver area, although there are substantial cities and towns in all areas of the state. Four major-league sports teams—the Denver Broncos (football), Colorado Avalanche (hockey), Denver Nuggets (basketball), and Colorado Rockies (baseball)—are based in Denver. There are numerous cultural institutions, festivals, and even national-caliber rodeos in the state. The first public school in Colorado was founded in Auraria (now part of Denver) in 1859, and the first institute of higher education was Colorado Seminary, which is now University of Denver, founded in 1864. There are now some 28 public and 48 private institutions of higher education in the state, making Colorado’s workforce one of the country’s best-educated. Colorado also plays an important part in the nation’s system of defense, with the U.S. Air Force Academy situated in



Photo by Kay Lowell

Colorado Springs, and the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) bunkered into the heart of the mountain. Fort Carson has been one of the busiest places in the country recently, as troops involved in the Iraq war come and go frequently.

Colorado is home to the highest continuous paved road in the United States—Trail Ridge Road through Rocky Mountain National Park—as well as the highest road, the Mount Evans Highway, which reaches an elevation of 14,264 feet. The Eisenhower Tunnel at Loveland Pass is the longest vehicle tunnel in the United States. In spite of these man-made wonders, however, Colorado is still all about its geography. It boasts both the Arapahoe Glacier and the Great Sand Dunes National Monument, a five by seven mile deposit of sand originally from the Rio Grande River. Colorado has a semi-arid to arid climate, yet serves as the headwaters of a number of the country's great rivers, including the Colorado, the Arkansas, the Rio Grande, the Platte, and others. These have not only shaped the history of Colorado by providing that most vital of resources, water, but have shaped the land itself, creating such spectacular locations as the Royal Gorge and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison.

Colorado is home to the highest continuous paved road in the United States—Trail Ridge Road through Rocky Mountain National Park.

Colorado has had many colorful characters in its past. “The Unsinkable” Molly Brown, who gained fame by surviving the wreck of the Titanic, had already built a substantial reputation in Denver for her outspoken personality and mining wealth; her mansion is now a historic landmark in Denver. “Buffalo Bill” Cody, famous for escorting sheltered Easterners on fabulous bison hunts and for his “Wild West Show,” is buried on Lookout Mountain in Golden. And then there is another Colorado

first: Alferd Packer, first person in the United States to be convicted of cannibalism. Mr. Packer attempted to lead a party of gold prospectors from the Ouray region toward Breckenridge, but got lost in a snowstorm and was the sole member of the party to survive. After several different arrests and as many versions of his own confession, Alferd was convicted and sentenced to death for consuming his companions (that sentence was later reversed). In 1996 Alferd joined Molly Brown, Buffalo Bill, and the barely fictional town of Centennial, CO in film history, with the release of a campy movie called *Cannibal: The Musical!*

There is much more to Colorado than can be shared in a couple of pages. Fortunately, Colorado's libraries and museums have been hard at work creating accessible, fascinating ways to learn more. Some suggested sites to visit are:

- The Western Trails Colorado project: <http://coloradodigital.coalition.org/westerntrails>.
- Colorado Heritage: <http://coloradodigital.coalition.org/heritage>.
- The photography collection of the Western History/Genealogy Department at the Denver Public Library: <http://photoswest.org/>.
- and, for the less serious among us, Colorado ODDities: <http://www.diac.com/~ekwall2/info/coloddity.shtml>.

Around the MPLA Region



ARIZONA

New directors named at Tucson-Pima and Chandler Public Libraries -- Susan H. Hildreth, formerly the Director of the San Francisco Public Library, was been selected as the new director of the Tucson-Pima Public Library and assumed her new position on July 19. Ms. Hildreth filled the position formerly held by Agnes Griffen who retired in June 2003. She began her library career in New Jersey in 1973 and moved to California in 1980. She joined the San Francisco Public Library as deputy librarian in 1998 and was

named city librarian in 2001. Ms. Hildreth holds a master's degree in library science from the State University of New York and a master's degree in business administration from Rutgers University. "I am honored to be selected as the library director for the Tucson-Pima Public Library, an organization that has an outstanding reputation for providing excellent library service," Hildreth said.

Brenda Brown, former manager of the Peoria (AZ) Public Library, was recently named to the position of Chandler Public Library Manager, filling the position vacated last year by manager Karen Drake. Ms. Brown, a longtime Arizonan, started her library career as a volunteer at Chandler in 1986. She served at the Scottsdale Public Library prior to being appointed as the Peoria Public Library Manager in 1996. Ms. Brown holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Arizona and is the past president of the Arizona Library Association. City of Chandler Community Services Director Mark Eynatten said that "Brenda's vision and philosophy

of library services is community focused, and her attitude closely aligned with my belief in creating a sense of "wow" for our customers."

Scottsdale librarian assists in the capture of prison escapee -- Ted Johnson, senior coordinator at the Scottsdale Public Library System's Palomino Branch, made the papers in May as a result of his single handed capture of a prison escapee. Ted was camping in the southern Arizona mountains when a bedraggled person wearing only orange sweatpants and worn tennis shoes entered his camp site. The visitor was an escapee from the Arizona State Prison Complex-Fort Grant serving time for aggravated assault on a police officer. The person claimed to be a lost hiker, but Ted's wife had cautioned him about a man who had escaped earlier that month. When he noted the man's cold, tired, and famished condition, he guessed the true story. Mr. Johnson fed the polite escapee, gave him a shirt and parka, and kept an eye on him overnight as he slept. The following morning Johnson convinced the escapee to hike out with him

EBSCO

to the town of Thatcher. As they were hiking, Ted saw two men on all terrain vehicles. The cavalry had arrived in the form of two law enforcement officers who had been searching for the prisoner. Following the incident, Mr. Johnson told the press that the prisoner “was totally out of his element and totally hated being in the mountains and being there. He wanted to get back to Phoenix and I was his ticket to do it.” For his calm under fire, Ted is truly an Arizona library action hero!

COLORADO

Virtual reference serves more than twice the expected number -- The *Ask Colorado 24/7* virtual reference project continues to be a huge success, with over 20,000 questions having been handled in the first ten months -- more than twice the projected first-year volume! Statistics show that the program is reaching all areas of the state, including remote and rural areas. There will be a number of new libraries of all types joining the service next year. For more information, see <http://www.aclin.org/reference/stats.html>.

Noteworthy performances -- Jose Aponte, director of the Pikes Peak Library District, was named the 2004 Trejo Librarian of the Year by REFORMA. Catherine Murray-Rust is the new dean of libraries at Colorado State University. Lamar Public Library was recognized by WebJunction with its Opportunities through Community Engagement award for exemplary service provided to its Spanish-speaking immigrant population. The Library and Information Science Program at the University of Denver has been accredited by the ALA. The next comprehensive review will be in 2011.

KANSAS

Kansas Libraries' 20/20 Potential -- The Kansas State Library has launched a strategic planning initiative entitled “Kansas Libraries' 20/20 Potential.” It will include a series of meetings throughout the state where librarians, trustees, and library advocates can participate in the evaluation of current statewide services and provide input to help build a better vision of future services.

New dean of library school -- Ann O'Neill has been

named as the new dean of the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University. She takes the reins from interim dean Diane Bailiff. O'Neill will be in charge of the school's upcoming reaccreditation, a task with which she is familiar; in her former position she was director of accreditation for the American Library Association.

New directors -- Dennis Wilson, a graduate of the first MPLA Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, has been named as the director of the Southwest Kansas Library System. In addition, Paul Hawkins was named as the new director of the South Central Kansas Library System earlier this year.

MONTANA

Discover New Trails @ your Library -- Montana participates in a consortium of 27 state agencies and associations working together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials. This year's theme focuses on Lewis and Clark and lots of fun activities are happening throughout the state. From visits from Lewis and Clark in a hilarious program called “Manifest Scrutiny” (a jeopardy parody hosted by Captains Lewis and Clark (manifestscrutiny@bigsky.net), to scavenger hunts, to reenactments, Montana has many opportunities to learn about the famous expedition. The Montana Library Association is also selling a Lewis & Clark Activity Book. The well-done coloring/activity books are \$2 each. Many libraries are using them in conjunction with this summer's reading program “Discover New Trails @ your Library.” Some libraries and local groups are adding to the cost and selling them as fundraisers. To order, please e-mail or call Julia Herdina, jherdina@manhattan.k12.mt.us, (406) 284-3341 ext. 222.

Interested in lobbying how-to? -- *Lobbying for Libraries and the Public's Access to Government Information* by Bernadine E. Abbott Hoduski, Chair of Friends of the Lewis & Clark Library (Helena MT) is a book published in 2003 by Scarecrow Press that may have just what you are looking for. The author has first-hand knowledge about getting the Lewis & Clark Library levy passed as well as lobbying for a statewide database purchase by the State of Montana for

its citizens. The book can be purchased through the Scarecrow site at a discount.

Montana Festival of the Book receives money -- The Montana Arts Council has awarded MCH a \$5,000 grant in support of the 2004 Montana Festival of the Book, Sept. 30-Oct. 2, in Missoula. This year's Festival will feature Chuck Palahniuk, Chris Crutcher, Mark Spragg, Landon Jones, James Lee Burke, Marcus Stevens, Pete Fromm, Sharon Butala, Elwood Reid, William Kittredge, Guy Vanderhaeghe, Diane Smith, and scores of other writers, scholars, publishers, civic, and cultural leaders. The festivities will begin Thursday evening, Sept. 30, with a special edition of National Public Radio's popular "Selected Shorts" program, presented in association with Montana Public Radio. The full schedule of events will appear in August at the Festival Website at <http://www.bookfest-mt.org>.

NEBRASKA

netLibrary Shared Collection becomes available to many through grants -- The Nebraska Library Commission offered a limited amount of grant funding to assist public and school libraries in their purchase of the new SOLINET/NEBASE netLibrary Shared Collection. This funding was available to those public and school libraries whose price fell below the \$250 minimum cost for the netLibrary collection. This included public libraries with fewer than 5,000 registered borrowers and school libraries with fewer than 500 students. Libraries could apply for \$125 or the difference in their calculated cost and the minimum purchase cost of \$250. Funds for the netLibrary grants were awarded on May 21, 2004 with a total of \$1,510.40 awarded to the following libraries to assist them in their purchase of the new SOLINET/NEBASE netLibrary Shared Collection: Battle Creek Public Library, Bayard Jr./Sr. High School, Creek Valley Middle School, Fairbury High School, Fillmore Central High School, Garden County High School, Humphrey Public Schools, Kimball Jr./Sr. High School, Leyton Public Schools, Lyman Public Library, Mitchell Public Schools, Mount Michael

Benedictine High School, Paxton Consolidated Schools, and Seward Memorial Library. Libraries that received funding were required to send a staff member to a netLibrary workshop.

The Festival of the Book is coming -- On Sept. 17-18, the University of Nebraska at Kearney will host the Thirteenth Annual Nebraska Book Festival, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Nebraska Humanities Council. Co-sponsors include the Nebraska Library Commission, University of Nebraska Press, Kearney Public Library, and Kearney Hub.

Special activities will focus on the featured book, *A Different Plain: Contemporary Nebraska Fiction Writers*, edited by Ladette Randolph with an Introduction by Mary Pipher, and published by the University of Nebraska Press. Sessions throughout Saturday will offer the opportunity to meet many of the authors, hear them read, and ask them questions. Libraries interested in participating in book discussions prior to the Festival can receive a special purchase discount. Contact Jeanne Saathoff, Kearney Public Library & Information Center Director, 2020 First Avenue, Kearney NE, 68847-5306, (308) 233-3280, jsaathoff@kearneygon.org, or Susanne Bloomfield, Nebraska Book Festival Director, 74064 L Road, Holdrege NE, 68949, (308) 995-8547, bloomfields@unk.edu.

For more information about the 13th Annual Nebraska Book Festival see the Festival Website at www.unk.edu/acad/english/nebraskabookfestival/home.html.

New Members Round Table Mentoring Program -- NMRT has announced the beginning of the NMRT Mentoring program in the *Nebraska Library Association Quarterly*, Summer 2004, Vol. 35, No. 2, p. 32. The *Quarterly* can be found at www.nebraskalibraries.org.

According to the article the benefits of the program

Look for a long list of NEW MEMBERS in the October issue of the MPLA newsletter!

for new librarians are to be multi-faceted, including: acculturation into the Nebraska professional library world; leadership development; increased awareness and internalization of professional responsibilities and ethics; improved self-confidence within the field; decreased isolation; and the provision of a safe environment in which to test ideas. Mentors also will benefit from the satisfaction of influencing new professionals, as well as in other ways.

The mentoring program is intended to be semi-formal in that it has some broad guidelines. Participation is voluntary; each relationship has a clear and well-defined purpose, i.e. to share practical experience and to develop leadership skills and professional ethics. There is a mechanism by which mentors and protégés are matched according to factors such as type of library and proximity, as well as experiences of the mentor and interests of the protégé;

For more information visit the NMRT Webpage: <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/NMRT>.

NEVADA

One For the Books! -- Washoe County Library System turns 100 this year. On May 21 and 22, the Washoe Library Foundation, in celebration of Washoe County Library turning 100 years old, brought to Reno six Hollywood celebrities to participate in the event—writer Clive Cussler, author of 19 consecutive New York Times fiction best sellers; actress and author Erin Gray, who played ‘Kate’ of NBC Television “Silver Spoons,” and ‘Colonel Wilma’ of “Buck Rogers in the 25th Century;” David Zuckerman, writer and executive-producer of television hits, “Fresh Prince of Bel Air,” “The Family Guy,” “King of the Hill” and most recently “The Big House;” Ellie Kanner, casting director of the original cast of “Sex and the City,” “Friends,” and “Lois and Clark” among others; Mara Purl, author of the Milford-Haven novels and featured actress in

The year is 1904 and Reno’s Free Public Library becomes a reality. This was one of over 1,600 libraries funded worldwide by Andrew Carnegie.



“Days of Our Lives;” and Peter McAlevey, producer of “Radio Flyer,” “Flatliners,” “Hard Promises” and “Double Impact.”

Nevada history in maps -- Historic maps of Nevada are scarce and found in only a few of the state’s repositories of cultural heritage. In the earliest maps Nevada, along with much of the Western Hemisphere, was originally identified, if at all, as ‘terra incognita’ - unknown land. This collection of historic maps was selected by age, condition, and how well they would be presented on a Website, in addition to their general representation of the development and settlement of the area which became the state of Nevada.

The historic maps included in this collection were published by the U.S. government, Nevada and other state or territorial governments, publishers of commercial maps and atlases locally and nationally, and associations such as the Lincoln Highway Association. Most are published on printing presses, but some are hand-drawn manuscripts; most are in English but some of the earlier maps are in French. By constraint of available material, the history presented is focused on western settlement. Although few were found, maps representing Native American settlements or culture were included.

The printed copies of the historic maps currently in this online collection are owned by the Nevada Historical Society, the Nevada State Library and Archives, and the Special Collections Department of Getchell Library, University of Nevada, Reno. Until now, they have not been readily accessible to the students of this large state nor to the general public except through on-site visitation. Compounding their obscurity, their cataloging is limited and, therefore, they are largely unknown to the casual researcher. The inventory for the initial selection was carried out by the UNR map librarian, who was thrilled by the collective depth of their holdings and deeply appreciates the willingness of these institutions to share their rare materials for this project. Continuation of this statewide review of maps held by other institutions will undoubtedly produce a much broader spectrum of maps for this site: <http://www.delamare.unr.edu/maps/digitalcollections/nvhistory/Default.htm>.

NEW MEXICO

Program proposals due Aug. 31 -- Just a reminder that proposals for the NMLA 2005 Annual Conference (March 30 - April 1, 2005, in Albuquerque) are due Aug. 31, 2004. Fill out the session proposal form found at the conference Website: http://www.unm.edu/~osterloh/nmla_conference/home.htm. In order to be considered, proposals must be completed in their entirety and postmarked by Aug. 31, 2004. Questions? Please contact Cassandra Osterloh, Chair, Program Committee, NMLA 2005 Annual Conference, (505) 277-0675, or osterloh@unm.edu.

Institute for American Indian Arts (IAIA) has new library -- The IAIA's new library was dedicated on May 15. The library is 55,700 sq. ft. and can house a collection of 27,000 items. The library is equipped with wireless network, audio/video stations, group study rooms, computer work areas, and a laptop computer center. The architects designed the building with features that are environmentally friendly. The structure is made of concrete and glass. Reflective materials within the building add to the strength of natural light. The electrical lighting system automatically adjusts to the brightness of the natural light. The building also includes rainwater catchments that funnel rainwater from the roof into cisterns.

WebJunction New Mexico Launches -- New Mexico's version of WebJunction was revealed on June 25 at the American Library Association in Orlando, FL. WebJunction New Mexico follows the standard format of the national WebJunction page, but the content of the pages is filled with information that is relevant to librarians in New Mexico. The page was developed by the state library, but editorial responsibility for the Website content will eventually be shared by librarians around the state. The page provides links to educational opportunities, information about technology, and best practices for all library types. Librarians will also be able to communicate with each other through online forums. To visit this new Website go to: <http://nm.webjunction.org>.

Library on National Register -- The Lordsburg-Hidalgo Public Library was listed in February on the National Register of Historic Places. Built during the Great Depression by the WPA, the library features New Mexico's signature Aztec-Pueblo architecture. The Lordsburg-Hidalgo Library is one of only two county libraries in the state.

Library wins Best Building -- Farmington Public Library is a winner in the New Mexico's Best Buildings 2004 for Best Interiors and Best Lighting in an annual contest sponsored by the New Mexico Building Branch, Associated General Contractors, and the New Mexico Business Journal. Some call the new Farmington Public Library the "Four Corners Signature Project of the Year." The design intent was based on integrating today's modern education approach, building materials, and advanced electronic technologies with ancient Navajo customs and beliefs.

NORTH DAKOTA

The movable computer lab -- In February 2004 the Minot Public Library installed a computer lab of 11 computers on six carts with wheels. When the lab is not being used or a group wants to use the large meeting room, the computers can be rolled into a large storage room. This allows the room to be used for meetings as well as training library customers.

The lab was funded through an LSTA grant awarded through the North Dakota State Library. During the first three months of using the lab, 198 individuals attended 24 training sessions. During the first year the goal is to train 688 individuals. Training sessions offered to the public include the "Library Online Catalog," "Databases Provided by the Library," "Searching the Internet for Information," and "E-mail." The lab is also used to train staff and area school and public librarians in the use of the databases. Sessions on "Genealogy Research over the Web" and the "Foundation Center Non-Profit Grant Database" are also provided.

There always seems to be a waiting list of 40-60 individuals who wish to participate in the training sessions. Most people responded to posters at the

library. About 40 to 50 individuals sign-up at one of the four to five exhibit booths set up at events in the community. Over 80% of the individuals taking the training are over the age of 55.

Most perfect harmony: Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Experience -- The North Dakota Humanities Council awarded the Patrons of the Minot Public Library (friends) a \$4,070 grant to sponsor a day-long Lewis and Clark Commemoration in the Community on Nov. 20, 2004, the day the Corps of Discovery moved into their new Fort Mandan. The total budget for the project is \$15,205 with other contributions from the Great Tomato Festival, Patrons of the Library, local schools, service clubs, and book sales.

The program will feature authors Rolland Smith (*Captain's Dog*), Dorothy Patent (*The Lewis and Clark Trail Then and Now*), Liselotte Erdrich (*Sacagawea*), Tracy Potter (*Shebeke*), and John Hoganson and Ed Murphy (*Geology of the Lewis & Clark Trail in North Dakota*). Cathy Barton and Dave Para from Boonesville, MO, will interpret and perform music of the Corps of Discovery. Reenactor Tim McLaughlin will portray Rene Jusseume and reenactor Christopher Floyd will portray George Drouillard. A variety of exhibit booths will provide displays and information on the dress, food, culture, and life on the Missouri in the early 1800s.



Gary Lucy, professional artist, from Washington, MO will also be sponsored on Nov. 13. Gary Lucy's works are not only great art but art with a historical message. During recent years Gary has devoted much of his time and research to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He has seven paintings portraying the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He will give two to three presentations on his historical research and his approach to painting.

Prior to the Nov. 20 activities the Library and other participating groups will promote a Read-it-Forward Program. 300 copies of the book *Captain's Dog* by

Rolland Smith will be distributed throughout the community. When an individual has finished reading the book they are to pass it on. A bookplate will be placed in each book explaining the concept of "Read-it-Forward" and listing the Nov. 20 program. We will also have a Webpage where readers can log in to indicate that they have read the book

Transitions -- Leela Bina, director of library services at MedCenter One in Bismarck, and MPLA member, retired on June 30.

OKLAHOMA

Johnson new dean of Oklahoma State University Libraries -- Sheila Grant Johnson is the new dean of libraries at Oklahoma State University. She has been with the OSU libraries since 1978 and has been assistant dean for public services and collections since 2000. Johnson received her MLS from the University of Texas – Austin. She succeeds Edward Johnson, who retired earlier this year.

Mohr new head of library development -- Vicki Mohr became the new director of the Office of Library Development at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries on June 7th. Mohr has been a library consultant with ODL for a number of years, but also has been in private business and worked for Oklahoma's Pioneer Library System.

New Oklahoma City library to open -- Oklahoma City's new Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library will open on Aug. 17, according to Metropolitan Library System Executive Director Donna Morris. The 112,356 sq. ft., \$24 million building project was held up more than three years because of site problems and legal battles over a subcontractor's delivery of disputed exterior panels. Several days before the opening ceremony, on Aug. 13, there will be a symbolic "book passing" from the old downtown library to the new with a human chain of more than 1,500 volunteers. The old library will close on July 17 and more than 100,000 books and materials will be moved by the staff.

SOUTH DAKOTA

New MPLA rep. -- Suzanne Miller, South Dakota

MPLA representative, left the state to take a new position with the Minnesota Department of Education as director of library development services and school technology. Mary Caspers-Graper will fill the position of South Dakota MPLA Representative until the next election is held.

Prairie Bud and Prairie Pasque Award winners -- Wait! Not Paint!, written and illustrated by Bruce Whatley, is this year's winner of the Prairie Bud Award. This winner was selected by 5,194 South Dakota students in grades K-3 who have read 15 nominated titles and voted for their favorite. Whatley's book received 887 votes. The 2004 Prairie Pasque Award winner is *Skeleton Man* by Joseph Bruchac. 2,401 South Dakota students in grades 4-6 read 15 nominated titles and voted for their favorite which received 511 votes.

Governor shuts down Website -- On the urging of Governor Michael Rounds, the state library board shut down the teen section of the state library's Website. The Governor objected to a link to Planned Parenthood on the teen site which he claims violates the state's Internet policy because Planned Parenthood is a political organization that hires lobbyists. A committee will be appointed by the governor to review all the links on the state's site for compliance.

Support staff BranchOut -- The Support Staff Section of SDLA hosted the 2nd Bi-annual BranchOut SD Conference, July 29, 2004, on the campus of Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD. Maureen Sullivan, organizational development consultant and librarian, was the keynote speaker. For more information about BranchOut, check the Website: <http://lib.sdstate.edu/salonen/BranchOut.htm>.

UTAH

MPLA grant winner -- Fran Zedney, Ogden, UT, was recently awarded a grant from MPLA to attend the 2004 LOEX of the West Conference held in June at Boise State University. Fran, who is the Reference/General Instruction Coordinator at Weber State University's Stewart Library, highly recommends the conferences to anyone involved in library instruction. The number of attendees is generally limited to about 200, making for a small conference which promotes

learning and sharing of ideas. Fran reports that the opportunity for grants for continuing education is one of the best perks of MPLA membership.

Relocation -- Sarah Michalak, director of the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah, is leaving to become the vice provost and dean of libraries at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

WYOMING

Legislative committee wins honor -- The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) is honoring the Wyoming State Legislature's Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee for its leadership in making a powerful health resource available to the state's residents. The Joint Committee was the driving force behind purchase of the Cochrane Library, an online collection of eight evidence-based medicine databases. The legislature has also funded seven other statewide databases this year.

Wyoming Library Leadership Institute -- The fourth Wyoming Library Leadership Institute, a program for both degreed and non-degreed library workers, was hosted in Lander this summer. Participants from all over the state and from all types of libraries had a chance to interact with their peers and develop essential leadership skills.

Nomination letter written by happy customer -- Casper College Goodstein Foundation Library was the business winner for the first annual Exemplary Service Person (E.S.P.) customer service awards in Natrona County sponsored by the Casper Area Chamber of Commerce, the Business Retention and Expansion Committee, and the Wyoming Business Council. The nomination letter was a full two notebook pages long from a woman who detailed how helpful the staff was in guiding her through the research process.

Magazine coming back -- The *Wyoming Library Roundup* is coming back into circulation this summer! The *Roundup* was published as a quarterly magazine by the Wyoming Library Association (WLA) from 1942 until 1990. The Wyoming State Library has partnered with WLA to bring back the publication. The first issue, focusing on children and libraries, will be out

in late summer and features a cover interview with Lynne Cheney.

Two designers win national awards -- Two Teton County Library (Jackson) graphic designers have won national recognition for art work in two competitions held by the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) and the Library Public Relations Council (LPRC). The awards were officially announced at the American Library Association's national conference held in June 2004 in Orlando, FL.

The "Swap & Shop" competition sponsored by LAMA honored youth services graphic artist Melissa Brumsted with a "Best of Show" award in the Calendar category for three successive children's event calendars. In addition, graphic designer Margaret Murphy contributed three publicity materials for the Swap & Shop take-home packet of outstanding library public relations materials. Murphy was asked to submit publicity materials in the Special Events/Programs, Adult Reading Club, and Diversity categories. The annual theme for the LAMA competitions was "Sizzling PR: Making Your Promotions Pop!" and designs by both artists were on display in conjunction with the contest at the American Library Association's national conference.

In a second contest, the Library Public Relations Council awarded Melissa Brumsted an Honorable Mention for her Program Announcement entry for a youth services Halloween event. Murphy was asked to contribute samples of her work in the Bookmark category for the LPRC collection of exceptional publicity materials called "Share the Wealth," which is distributed to LPRC members across the country.

The Teton County Library was also recognized by LPRC in 2003 as a Division I Winner in the Program Flier category and in 2002 as a Division I Winner in the Newsletter category.

JOB OPENING

Mohave County Library District (AZ) is seeking a motivated Public Service Branch Librarian, Job #11177 in Bullhead City, AZ. The Branch Librarian organizes and manages daily operations of the Bullhead City Branch Library. They hire, train, schedule, supervise and evaluate professional and paraprofessional staff of 15 and

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 11-14	Nevada Library Association Conference, Henderson
Sept. 24-26	North Dakota Library Association Conference, Minot
Oct. 6-8	Nebraska Library Association Conference, Grand Island
Oct. 6-8	South Dakota Library Association Conference, Spearfish
Oct. 13-16	Wyoming Library Association Conference, Rock Springs
Nov. 30- Dec. 2	Arizona Library Association Conference, Tucson
Nov. 30- Dec. 5	MPLA Leadership Institute Ghost Ranch, NV
March 30- April 1	New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque

UPCOMING MPLA CONFERENCES

2004: (Oct. 21-24) Denver, CO
(joint with Colorado Association of Libraries)

2005: (Oct. 12-15) Jackson Hole, WY
(joint with Wyoming Library Association)

2006: No conference
(transition year to spring conference)

2007: Albuquerque, NM
(joint with New Mexico Library Association)

2008: Salt Lake City, UT
(joint with Utah Library Association)

2009: Overland Park, KS
(joint with Kansas Library Association)

will participate in collection development activities. Knowledge of standard reference tools and automated systems are necessary. They represent the District to local Friends groups, foundations, educational institutions, businesses and governments. Bullhead City serves a population area of about 50,000. Mohave County is one of the fastest growing rural counties in the country. (www.co.mohave.az.us) Qualifications: MLS degree from an ALA accredited program. Three to five years library experience and one to two years of supervisory experience are required. Candidate must demonstrate proven leadership, team-building skills, comprehensive knowledge and experience in public service, communication and problem-solving expertise. Salary range: \$33,654 - \$52,249 annually + benefits. For applications contact: Mohave County Human Resources, PO Box 7000, 809 E. Beale Street, Kingman, AZ 86402-7000; (928) 753-0736, ext. 4116, Fax (928) 753-0783. Closes Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. Please refer to job number. EOE

MPLA Newsletter

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



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COMPLIMENTARY COPY

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



Time to Update the Plan ...

Led by facilitator Judy Zelinski, below, the MPLA Board spent July 23 working on updating MPLA's Long Range Plan (done every five years). Through the use of large and small group discussion, much was accomplished. The current Long Range Plan (pre-updates) is available at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/>.

M P L A
Webmaster,
Dan Chaney,
says the fun
people are one
of his favorite
things about
MPLA. Below
is Dan having
"fun" with a
new friend.

