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MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

October 2004

Volume 49 #2

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MPLA Listserv

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And the award goes to... MPLA Winners for 2004

At the joint Colorado Library Association (CLA) and Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Conference in Denver, CO, Oct. 20-24, 2004, the following individuals and organizations were recognized as the 2004 award recipients for MPLA. They were honored at the joint CLA/MPLA awards banquet on Oct. 23 at the Marriott Tech Center Hotel.



The **MPLA News Media Support Award** was presented to the *Coffey County Republican* in Burlington, KA. The Media Support Award recognizes the news media organization in the MPLA region making the strongest effort, either in a single presentation, or in on-going coverage, within the last two years, to promote libraries and library services to the community.

Through the efforts of editor Mark Petterson and his staff, timely and accurate news articles concerning the library and its activities appeared regularly in the newspaper. Public support for the Coffey County Library and its three branches has increased dramatically due to the invaluable marketing exposure provided by the newspaper. This is support that the library could not afford to purchase on its own. Mary A. Markwalter, Coffey County Library Administrator, states that "the Coffey County Library is extremely fortunate to have such a generous and thoughtful news editor and staff who promote the activities of our library."

The **MPLA Legislative Leadership Award** was presented to the

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Jill Rourke

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Wyoming State Legislature. The Legislative Leadership Award is given to an individual or group in recognition of exemplary legislative leadership or support for growth and development of a library or libraries in the MPLA area with the past two years.

A support letter for this award stated, "A criterion of this award is recognition of exemplary legislative leadership or support for growth and development of library or libraries. The Legislature of the State of Wyoming has far exceeded this criterion. It has not only supported an individual library, it has supported every library and every citizen within the state." Through their support, for subscription databases, residents regardless of the size of their community or location of their nearest library, have access to all materials and can place interlibrary loan requests from home. "I can find it on the Internet," is truly accurate in this state because the Wyoming State Legislature has provided the funds.

The **MPLA Distinguished Service Award** was given to Patti Butcher, Library Development Coordinator for the Northeast Kansas Library System in Lawrence, KS. The MPLA Distinguished Service Award is given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession, or has furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or performed exemplary services for an extended period of time.



Patti Butcher

Patti Butcher previously served as Reference Coordinator for the Great Bend, Kansas Public Library and as Director of Information Technology at the Kansas State Library. Patti demonstrated from the very beginning of her career that she was destined to be one of the library leaders in our state and region. She is a graduate of the Snowbird Library Leadership and was recognized with the Kansas Library Association's Outstanding New Professional Award.

Patti has provided exemplary professional leadership to the library community of Kansas and the entire Mountain Plains region. Patti has personified the MPLA goal of developing new library leaders, has applied those skills to the improvement of library service, and is now sharing her energy and ability in the development of a new generation of library leaders. As the current president of the Kansas Library Association, she is promoting open access for all and has worked to support library development, information sharing, and interlibrary relationships.

The **MPLA Literary Contribution Award** was given to Roy Wenzel, Senior Journalist and Columnist with the *Wichita Eagle* newspaper in Wichita, KS. The Literary Contribution Award is given to an author whose published writings are most successfully furthering an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region.



Roy Wenzel

Roy Wenzel has used newspaper feature stories to explore life in our mountain plains region. People are always at the centerpiece of these stories; it is through learning about their lives that readers gain an understanding of what it means to be a Wichitan, a Kansan, or a mountain plains resident. Whether a story taking readers along the path of destruction left by a tornado, an account about a couple starting a sanctuary for abused animals in Montana, or a report on the impact of a small town elementary teacher, his descriptive style lets us make a connection with those about whom he writes. Through his connections we, too, share the experience and learn the lessons he seeks to share through his stories.

The **MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award** was presented to Martin Garnar, Reference Librarian, Regis University in Denver, CO. The Intellectual Freedom Award is given to an individual or group mak-

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Martin Garner

ing significant contributions to the enhancement of First Amendment Rights.

It was said of Martin, that “he is a tireless crusader for issues surrounding Intellectual Freedom.” He

has served on the Colorado Association of Libraries Intellectual Freedom for the past several years. He has developed many programs to teach the issues of Intellectual Freedom, including the Intellectual Freedom Facilitators Manual, and has been an active speaker on issues surrounding the First Amendment, including the U.S. Patriot Act. Martin has dedicated time to the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee on the national level and kept ALA informed of the work of the state committee. “Martin continues to be an inspiration to the members of the IFC to continue their dedication and efforts for Intellectual Freedom. He is a role model for us all.”

President’s Letter

By Carol Hammond

A Region of Readers

Many of us have been discouraged by the recent news story reporting the lack of time Americans now spend reading. I could have wished for a reporter to be at the July Board meeting in Denver. A tradition we follow so that we can get to know more about each other is to ask everyone as they introduce themselves to say something on a particular topic or theme. This time we asked board members to recommend a book. Wow! Many in this group of avid and enthusiastic readers could not limit themselves to a single title and suggested several. Everyone wanted to tell us why their recommendation was so appealing – you know how



it is when you find a really great book! So rather than keep this to ourselves, I’m sharing the list with you. At the end of this exercise, I wanted to read every one of these books. And I can assure you, reading is a passion among this board, which is widely representative of MPLA. So here are some sure-to-please, probably can’t-put-it-down titles. Read on!

Carol Hammond – Kahled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*

Jim Minges – Farley Mowat, *The Dog Who Wouldn’t Be*

Susan Moyer – Elizabeth Gilbert, *The Last American Man*

Linda Deacy – Peter Benchley, *The Girl from the Sea of Cortez*

Patti Butcher – Carl Hiaasen, *Skinny Dip*

Jean Hatfield – Kate Di Camillo, *Tale of Despeseaux*; Michael Chabon, *Summerland*

David Oberhelman – Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*

Charlene Greenwood – Tim LaHaye, *Left Behind* series

Venice Beske – David Wann, *The Zen of Gardening in the High & Arid West*

Jill Rourke – Leo Tolstoy, *War and Peace*; Stephen B. Oates, *With Malice Toward None: The Life of Abraham Lincoln*

Erin Kinney – C.J. Box, *Savage Run*

Joe Edelen – Dan Brown, *The Da Vinci Code*

Nina Little – Elizabeth Lowell, *Running Scared*

Sandra Barstow – James E. Zull, *The Art of Changing the Brain: Enriching Teaching by Exploring the Biology of Learning*; Robert Kegan & Lisa Laskow Lahey, *How the Way We Talk Can Change the Way We Work*

Jeanne Narum – Elizabeth Berg, *Talk Before Sleep*; Mark Perry, *Grant and Twain: The Story of a Friendship that Changed America*

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson – Peter Guralnick, *The Rise and Fall of Elvis Presley*

Dan Chaney – Clive Cussler, *Raise the Titanic*

Peter Kraus – David Lodge, *Paradise News*; Bill Clinton, *My Life*

Sharon Osenga – Margot Morrell, *Shackleton’s Way*

Pam Bohmfalk – Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Betty Dance – Parker J. Palmer, *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life*

Mary Caspers-Graper – Tony Hillerman, *A Thief of Time*

Beth Avery – Kent Haruf, *Plainsong*; Roland Smith, *The Captain's Dog: My Journeys with the Lewis and Clark Tribe*

Wayne Hanway – Lynne Truss, *Eats, Shoots, & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation*; Ernie Pyle, *Here is Your War: Story of G.I. Joe*

Teri Metros – Cokie Roberts, *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised our Nation*

So there you have them; some classics, some new titles, but all highly and enthusiastically recommended! Thanks to David Oberhelman for recording the authors and titles, and to the board of MPLA! We are truly a region of readers!

***The Wheels on the Bus...* Nebraskans Pick Unique Transport to Conference**

“The wheels on the bus go
‘round and ‘round . . .”

Okay, they didn't have to sing that or “99 bottles of beer on the wall” if they rode to Colorado with Nebraska librarians on a chartered bus, but they could have! Through grant monies from the Nebraska Library Commission, the Nebraska Regional Systems chartered a bus to take all the Nebraskans who wanted to go to the CLA/MPLA Conference from Oct. 20-24 in Denver. The grant for the bus was written by Brenda Ealey, the Nebraska Library System Administrator for all of the Nebraska Regional Systems.

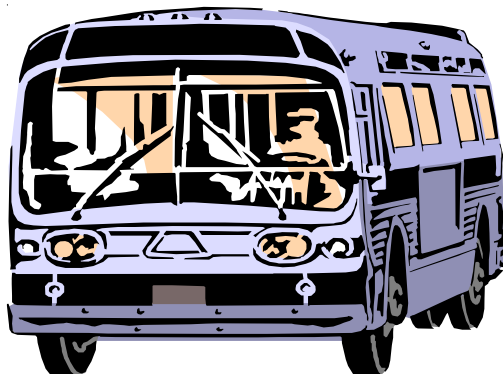
Robin Brooks, MPLA member, Assistant Director and Youth Services Librarian at Kilgore Memorial Public Library in York, NE, current chair of Ne-

braska Library Association's Paraprofessional Section, Vice Chair of the Public Library Section and Vice Chair of the Information Technology and Access Roundtable, calls opportunities like the Nebraska bus trip to MPLA, “a mobile professional networking experience.”

You are Invited to be on an MPLA Committee

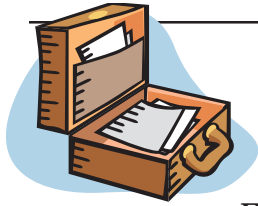
This is your chance to be involved in MPLA and help chart the future of our association. Volunteer to be on a committee. To continue, and to expand, our excellent programs MPLA must have committed, active, and able committee members. You might ask “What's in it for me?” That's easy to answer. MPLA committees are a great way to get to know and meet colleagues who share your interests and concerns, and to contribute to the profession.

MPLA Committees needing volunteers are Awards, Bylaws and Procedures, Continuing Education, Electronic Communication, Intellectual Freedom, Nominating, Professional Development Grants, Public Relations, and Membership.



As you're thinking about being part of a committee, remember you are making a commitment to be an active participant in the group. Active participation in the work of the committee is essential to insure the success of the group.

Getting involved is easy-just let us know your interests. Committee appointments begin after the annual conference and are made by the vice president and the committee chairpersons. Please mail, e-mail, or fax your interest to serve on a committee to Beth Avery, MPLA Vice President, Leslie J. Savage Library, Western State College of Colorado, 600 N. Adams, Gunnison, CO 81231, e-mail bavery@western.edu, or fax (970) 943-2042.



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).

Women Business Owners

Women start their own businesses for a variety of reasons. Independence, flexibility, freedom from corporate limitations and the freedom to take risks are usually major motivational factors for the woman who decides to start her own business. In addition, many women seek personal satisfaction, a certain balance, broader horizons, respect in the industry, the excitement of growth and the opportunity to learn new things. Here is a sampling of interesting Internet sites for women entrepreneurs.

Online Women's Business Center

www.onlinewbc.gov

Created in cooperation with the Small Business Administration, this Center's goal is to provide entrepreneurial women with the information and expertise necessary for planning their economic independence through owning their own business.

National Association of Women Business Owners

www.nawbo.org

This site contains information about the state of the economy, industry trends, technology, and legislation affecting business.

National Foundation for Women Business Owners

www.nfwbo.org

The Foundation acts as a research source to support the growth of women business owners and their enterprises by conducting research, sharing information and increasing knowledge.

National Women's Business Council

www.nwbc.gov

The Council was created to serve as an independent source of advice and counsel to the President, the Congress, and the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise, its public sector counterpart on economic issues of importance to women business owners.

Advancing Women

www.advancingwomen.com

Advancing Women targets female business executives and entrepreneurs who are seeking quick access to efficient and cost-effective business solutions.

Minority Finance

www.minorityfinance.com

Minority Finance is a commercial site that provides investment information for minorities and women, as well as information for minority and women-owned businesses seeking capital.

Forum for Women Entrepreneurs

www.fwe.org

Visit this entrepreneurial organization for women building and leading high-growth technology and life science companies. The site includes programs, listings, and training opportunities.

National Coalition of 100 Black Women

www.ncbw.org

The Coalition is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to community service, leadership development, and the enhancement of career opportunities through networking and programming.

Independent Means

www.anincomeofherown.com

Designed for women-under-twenty, this organization offers services and products for girls' financial independence.

Home-based Working Moms

www.hbwm.com

This professional association provides its members with support, networking, information, a monthly

(print) newsletter, e-mail discussion list, panel of experts, member's showcase, publicity opportunities, membership directory and more.

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.

Remember to use MemberClicks
my.memberclicks.com/mpla

Another Batch of MPLA Soon-To-Be Leaders Packing for New Mexico!

The third MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute is set to begin Nov. 30 and the 30 participants, five mentors, and institute trainer, Maureen Sullivan, are making travel plans, doing preliminary reading, and getting to know one another online. The snow will be blowing before we know it and participants will be packing for winter weather in the high desert at beautiful Ghost Ranch near Abiquiui, NM. The Ranch, made famous by artist Georgia O'Keefe, will be home for five very full days of training, networking, and reflection for those selected to attend this year's institute.

The MPLA Leadership Institute is sponsored by the Association and EBSCO Information Services, our funding partner. The institute is in its third year and has already served as a potent leadership incubator for 60 individuals from the twelve-state membership region. In addition, eleven active member-leaders have served as mentors for attendees with three new mentors selected to serve this year. Not only has the institute been evaluated highly by participants and mentors, but evidence of its success can be seen in the number of partici-

pants accepting and/or seeking out leadership positions in their local libraries and communities, state library associations, ALA and other national professional associations, and especially in MPLA itself. The financial investments made by EBSCO, MPLA,

state library associations, and local libraries, as well as by the participants themselves, have resulted in increased involvement and professional growth for the library community and the individuals involved. The institute is proving to be a real winner and the word is spreading! This year 89 individuals applied for the 29 regular institute positions. Only the top one-third of those applying were selected to register for the limited number of positions within the institute.

Consultant and nationally recognized trainer, Maureen Sullivan, will present three full days of leadership content along with reflective exercises, insightful discussions, and goal-setting activities to enable participants and mentors alike to grow and to plan for rewarding futures. The five mentors selected for this year, have already made their mark on the profession as leaders, mentors, and dedicated and caring individuals. Their expertise and

2004 Leadership Institute Invitees

Kristine	Cwengros	AZ
Ruth	Grant	AZ
John	Doherty	AZ
Amy	Greenland	CO
Sandy	Messick	CO
Erica	MacCreaigh	CO
Kate	Capps	KS
Connie	Doeden	KS
Holly	Mercer	KS
Eileen	Wright	MT
Rachel	White	ND
Erin	Smith	ND
Joanne	Ferguson Cavanaugh	NE
Sally	Gibson	NE
Kirsten	Clark	NM
Dana	John	NM
Cory	Tucker	NV
Bryan	Fearn	NV
Sarah	Robbins	OK
Gina	Minks	OK
Lea	Simon	SD
Dustin	Larmore	SD
Lisa	Brunick	SD
Susie	Woodward	UT
Debbie	Ehrman	UT
Greg	Hatch	UT
Jill	Rourke	WY
Patty	Myers	WY
Erin	Kinney	WY
Katy	Ginanni (EBSCO rep. from AL)	

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openness will serve as additional resources for the 30 librarians selected to attend this year's program. The mentors this year are: Amy Owen, recently retired state librarian of Utah; Maggie Farrell, Dean of the University of Wyoming Library; Jerry Kaup, Director of the Minot (ND) Public Library and former President of MPLA; Patti Butcher, Library Development Coordinator of the Northeast Kansas Library System and current Chair of the MPLA Leadership Institute Committee; and Mary Bushing, Institute Coordinator. These individuals have graciously agreed to give MPLA and the participants a week of their lives in professional service as a key component of the institute. Be sure to thank them when you see them!

Participants selected for attendance at this year's institute are listed on page 7 of this newsletter. After the institute this year's attendees will leave New Mexico with a new appreciation and understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses and their potential as leaders in MPLA and other professional milieus, including their own library organizations. This quality professional development opportunity is sure to change lives and libraries. Please be sure to encourage this year's participants to continue to development the leadership potential already recognized by the state committees who evaluated the many excellent applicants. Give these individuals and others opportunities to grow and to learn so that this next generation of library leaders will be even more dynamic and wonderful than the previous one has been!



2003 MPLA Leadership Institute attendees.

With support from EBSCO, the cohorts from the past two years held a reunion reception at the combined CAL/MPLA conference in Denver in October. The reunion was held Thursday evening at the Douglas County Libraries' Highland Branch where the all-conference reception was held allowing alumni to attend both gatherings.

After the institute, an evaluation summary will be reported in the newsletter and a full report presented to the Board. A follow-up evaluation will also be conducted by Mary Bushing, Institute Coordinator, asking those who attended the first two institutes to report upon career and personal changes that have occurred as a direct or indirect result of their attendance at the institute in 2002 or 2003. The MPLA Leadership Institute Committee, (Patti Butcher, Chair) is currently pursuing funding sources to enable the Association to extend the MPLA Leadership Institute beyond this third and final year of the project. Visit the MPLA webpage www.usd.edu/mpla to learn more about the MPLA Leadership Institute.

Board Opts for Online Membership Directory

The decision has been made to discontinue the paper version of the MPLA membership directory and to rely on the online version available on Memberclicks. The feature on Memberclicks that conducts user surveys was utilized in reaching the decision; those who responded overwhelmingly voted to go with the online directory. This will save MPLA about \$700 in printing costs.

UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL Information ONLINE. An advantage of an online directory is that it can be continuously updated and will always be current – as long as everyone contributes the latest information! Please use the link on the MPLA web site at www.usd.edu/mpla for a link to Memberclicks. You can also find instructions on how to access and use this service, and be sure your personal information – especially your e-mail address – is current.

Changes, News, and Views in MPLA Land ...

Governor Kathleen Sebelius has announced her appointment of **Marc Galbraith** as **Acting Kansas State Librarian**, effective Aug. 1, 2004. He succeeds Duane Johnson who retired.

“Under Duane’s leadership, the state library provided great support and service to Kansas libraries and their patrons. I’m confident Marc’s extensive experience will allow him to maintain that high level of service during this interim period,” Governor Sebelius said.

Galbraith, Topeka, has worked for the state library for more than 30 years. Most recently, he served as the Director of Research and Information Services.

Galbraith graduated from Washburn University with an undergraduate degree in political science. He later earned a master’s degree in library science from Emporia State University and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Kansas.

Galbraith will serve in the acting capacity until a new state librarian is chosen.

The Montana State Library Commission has appointed **Darlene Staffeldt** to replace Karen Strege as the **Montana State Librarian**, effective Oct. 16, 2004.

Darlene, a member of MPLA for many years, has worked at the state library for 28 years in a number of positions. Most recently, Darlene was the manager of the Statewide Library Resources Program, which includes the Talking Book Library and the Library Development Department.

“I deeply appreciate the vote of confidence given me by the Library Commission. As the next Montana State Librarian I will do all within my abilities and skills, drawing on 28 years of librarian experience to bring into realization the Commission’s mission for the Montana State Library which is to help all citizens receive the information services they need to improve or enhance their lives,” said Darlene.

The chair of the library commission, Al Randall of Troy, said, “the commission has appointed an excellent librarian to replace an excellent librarian. The commission is confident that Darlene will provide the stability and leadership needed during these uncertain times.”

Darlene received her master’s of library science degree from the University of Washington. She received the Shelia Cates “Librarian of the Year” award from the Montana Library Association in 1999 and the Governor’s Award for Excellence in 1993.

Dorothy Liegl, another longtime MPLA member and a member of the South Dakota State Library staff for 32 years, has been appointed the new **South Dakota State Librarian**. In announcing Liegl’s appointment, Dr. Rick Melmer, Secretary of South Dakota Department of Education, cited her leadership among libraries both in-state and regionally and her years of experience with the State Library. Liegl succeeds Suzanne Miller who left the position earlier this year to become Director of Minnesota’s state library agency, State Library Services and School Technology, a unit of the Minnesota Department of Education. Liegl had served as Interim Director since Miller’s departure and had served as Deputy State Librarian since 1982.

Dorothy’s activities with the state library have included development of the Library Training Institute and other staff development programs, work with state and regional humanities planning initiatives, work to enhance the library’s and South Dakota film and multimedia collections generally, and writing a grant application to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that allowed public libraries statewide to receive up to \$1 million in free computers, software, and training. She holds a bachelors degree from the University of South Dakota and a master’s degree in library science from the Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia.

Mr. Jerry Kaup, Director of the Minot Public Library

is the **2004 NDLA Librarian of the Year**. When he was announced as winner during the recent North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference in Minot, Jerry received a well-deserved standing ovation! North Dakota librarians managed to keep it a secret from Jerry until the banquet. After he was announced as Librarian of the Year, Jerry was surprised even more to find out that two brothers who drove up from Nebraska and a sister who came from New Jersey were at the banquet to see him receive this honor. Some of his siblings have not

previously been to North Dakota so it was a great surprise! Congratulations Jerry!

Looking for handouts from programs at the CLA/MPLA Conference? Check out <http://www.cal-webs.org/handouts04.html>.

Professional development grants enable attendance at events

The MPLA Professional Development Grants Committee recently awarded these grants:

- √ \$600 to Sandra Barstow to attend the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute;
- √ \$150 to Kristen Becker to attend the 2004 MPLA Annual Conference;
- √ \$600 to Ollie Denise Smith to attend the 2004 MPLA Annual Conference;
- √ \$150 to Diana Skousen to attend the Joint

Conference of the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services & Association of Rural and Small Libraries;

- √ \$600 to Kay Christensen to attend the ACRL Immersion Program; and
- √ \$150 to Sally Dockter to attend Coaching For Performing.

Look for reports from these winners in future issues of the MPLA newsletter!

EBSCO

Farewell to Donna Norvell

Donna Norvell, an MPLA member since 2000, died Oct 27, 2004 as a result of complications from cancer. Donna worked for the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and was a past chair of the MPLA Children's and School section. Her family is honoring her memory with a fund to purchase a statue of a girl reading which will be installed in a garden at the high school from which Donna graduated. If you would like to donate to this project, make your check payable to the Centennial Foundation for Donna Norvell and send it to: Centennial High School Foundation, P.O. Box 8312, Pueblo, CO 81008.



Donna Norvell

Kansas Library Director sent to Siberia --for Conference



Mary Tuytschaevs

Mary Tuytschaevs, the Director of the Dodge City Public Library, Dodge City, KS was the only American library director attending a recent library conference in Novokuznetsk,

Siberia from Sept. 13-23. She gave two presentations: one on "American Public Libraries: Developments and Interaction with the Local Community" and a second presentation on "Services to the Underserved." Mary's invitation was a result of hosting five Russian library managers last October through the Open World Program connected with the Library of Congress. Mary's grandparents were from Old Russia near Moscow and Kiev. The library caravan included over 50 Librarians from 30 Russian Cities. Part of the conference was in Novozunetsk with the last few days in Tashtagol. German Mayer, the Director of the Cuxhaven Library in Germany, was the only other non-Russian librarian attending the conference.



Librarians recognized as Board Choice Selections

Each member of the MPLA Board of Directors is encouraged to select a "Board Choice" candidate. The purpose of the Board Choice award is to recognize those who are doing great things in the profession, but who are not yet members of MPLA. The Board Choice selection receives a one year free membership in MPLA, free registration at the conference in the year the award is given, and half-price membership the following year. Quite a deal!

President's Choice

Carol Hammond announces **David Gunckel**, Director of the Sierra Vista (AZ) Public Library as her selection for the MPLA Board Choice Award. David has been an outstanding leader in libraries in Arizona, and he has a strong record of professional service. Having worked with him over many years, Carol knows he is someone who always steps up to the plate, shows initiative, and has a deep commitment to libraries. His work has always demonstrated his leadership qualities, both in his town where the library stands as an example of his ability to work with people at all levels, and the Arizona Library Association where he carried many programs successfully, especially those related to intellectual freedom. Here is some background information on David:

David Gunckel has been Director of Library Services for the City of Sierra Vista since 1984. He has a B.A. in education and an M.L.S. from the University of Arizona Graduate Library School. His

service in positions of leadership include Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair (AzLA) 1987-1990, Public Libraries Division President (AzLA) 1992, Arizona Library Association President 1996-1997, and American Library Association Council 1998-1999. He currently serves as AzLA Liaison to the Arizona Library Friends. Honors he has received include Librarian of the Year (AzLA) 1992, AzLA/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award 1996, and Arizona Governor's "Arizona Excellence in Rural Development Award 1999."

One professional accomplishment he is most proud of is the design and construction of the new 32,000 square foot Sierra Vista Public Library building, which opened in 1999.

He is a former "Navy brat" (in his own words) and was raised on several Navy bases between traveling to and from duty stations with his family as a child. His interests outside the library include working in the weight room, riding his bike, reading, travel, music, and being with his family.

Vice President's Choice

Beth Avery, Vice President/President Elect is pleased to announce **Valerie Horton** as her selection for the MPLA Board Choice Award for 2004. Valerie is an outstanding leader of libraries in Colorado. She has served at the chair of the Western Colorado Academic Library Consortium for six years and was elected secretary of the Colorado Academic Library Consortium in 2003. She has served on the Colorado Library Advisory Board, the oversight committee for the State Library of Colorado. She is chairing the statewide committee to develop a new strategic plan. She was a member of the Colorado Association of Libraries Legislative Committee from 1998 to 2002 and she's helped bring library science classes to the western slope.

Valerie has been the Library Director at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, CO since August 1997. She also teaches upper division creative writing and library science classes at Mesa. Prior to that she was Head of Library Systems at New Mexico State Uni-

versity from 1988 to 1997. She had the honor of being an ALA International Library Fellow in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago from October 1994 to May 1995. She received her masters of library studies from the University of Hawaii and a bachelor of arts in psychology, cum laude and a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Utah.

When relaxing (not that she has that much time for relaxing) you'll find her reading science fiction, walking in interesting places, and working for the political party of her choice.

Academic Section

Mary Caspers-Graper is happy to announce **Rachel Lindvall** as this year's Board Choice Award Nominee from the Academic Section.

Rachel is Director of Library Services for Sinte Gleska University, Rosebud, SD. SGU is a tribally chartered higher education institution of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and is amongst the oldest tribal colleges in the nation. The library serves as both the institution's academic library and as the only public library for the reservation and its communities. Rachel with her staff of five library technicians wear many hats in the library.

Rachel is currently enrolled in a distance learning program working on her MLS. She has done graduate work in teacher education at Long Island University and has a bachelor of science degree in natural resource management and biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In her personal life, Rachel lives across the border in Valentine, NE with her husband Mark, two teen-aged sons, Danny and Eric, and two labrador retrievers. She is a founding member of the local PTA chapter and has been active with PTA on a national level. She is currently serving as a school board member and is also active in the American Association of University Women and the Red Hat Society. In between attending the many activities that her sons are involved in, she enjoys traveling, reading, gardening, snow-skiing, and swimming.

New Members Roundtable Choice

Scott Goldy, Chair of MPLA's New Members Roundtable, is pleased to announce **Robert Kelly**, Coordinator of Library Services, Hutchinson Community College, Hutchinson, KS, as his designee for the MPLA Board Choice Award for 2004

Robert is a recent returnee to the state of Kansas where he is making the transition from the school library setting to academia and has come to a crossroad where organizational membership is now feasible. He has expressed a passion for involvement in professional organizations and a call to serve his profession in order to further not only his own knowledge and skill but to provide for the future of librarianship. He has expressed interest in MPLA because he has worked in Colorado in the past and realizes the importance of communication, networking and collaboration across borders, not to mention the fact that he has heard many fine things about the MPLA organization. Scott believes that Robert will make a fine addition to MPLA and will help to push forward our goals far into the future.

State Agency, Cooperatives, and Systems Section

Jim Minges, section chair, is delighted to have the opportunity to announce **Diana Weaver** as his selection of the State Agency, Cooperatives, and Systems Section for the MPLA Board Choice Award.

Diana has served in public and academic libraries and multi-type library systems, and has consistently personified "leadership from within." Currently Acquisition/Interlibrary Loan Librarian and Office Manager for the Northeast Kansas Library System in Lawrence, KS, Diana has formerly served as Director of the Arlington City Library and Acquisitions Coordinator at the Sterling College Mabee Library in Sterling, KS.

Diana has been an active leader in professional development activities. She is a graduate of the KPLACE Library Training Institute and is currently Vice-Chair of the KPLACE Roundtable of the Kansas Library Association. Diana served on the execu-

tive board of the South Central Kansas Regional Library System, and was a member of the Services Study Implementation Committee that developed a major restructuring of that system. Currently, Diana is serving on the Kansas Public Library Standards Committee.

Diana Weaver has been an exceptional resource to libraries of all types and has assumed leadership roles in regional and statewide library organizations. Jim is delighted to recognize her accomplishments and welcome her to MPLA.

Technical Services Section

As current chair of the Technical Services section, Sandra Barstow is pleased to present her nomination for the Board Choice Award. It is **Mark Jacobs**, Electronic Resources Librarian at the University of Wyoming Libraries. Mark's tenure at Wyoming began May 2004 after four years as Electronic Resources Cataloging Librarian with the Washington State University Libraries. Upon graduation in 1996 from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he worked until January 2000 as Illinois Newspaper Project Cataloging Librarian with the United States Newspaper Program. At the University of Wyoming, Mark works on collaborative purchases of digital resources with a variety of consortia and vendors. He is also responsible for the development and implementation of the e-resource management and link resolution tool, Gold Rush, at Wyoming.

Mark's early service at Wyoming includes his role as permanent chair of the Electronic Resources Working Group and membership on the Collection Development Committee. He is a member of the library's Web of Science Taskforce charged with the resource's implementation and advertisement in the library and university communities. He serves as Wyoming's representative to the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries (Alliance) Taskforce charged with the development and implementation of a plan for the negotiation with Elsevier Information for a group purchase of the ScienceDirect resource. And Mark is an active member of the North American Serials Interest

Group (NASIG). He has presented or volunteered at each of the last three NASIG Conferences. He is a member (since 1994) of the American Library Association, since 1997 of the Association of Library Collections and Technical Services, and has served since 2000 as a member of the ALA/ALCTS/Council of Regional Groups/Speaker's Bureau Committee. He is a member of the Wyoming State Library's Electronic Resources Committee.

Mark's research interests include the open access movement and the changing roles of librarians (especially in collections and technical services). He has had articles published in *Information Technology and Libraries*, *Serials Librarian*, and *Clio: Among the Media*; as well as chapters in two Haworth Press monographs.

Around the MPLA Region

ARIZONA



Japanese Horner Fellow selected -- The Horner Fellowship was established in 1989 to foster cultural understanding and informational exchanges between Arizona and Japanese librarians. The International Committee of the Japan Library Association has selected Mr. Yasuhiko Uchino as the 2004 Horner Fellow from Japan. Mr. Uchino will be coming to Arizona from the Kashima Municipal Library in Kashima City, which is located in the northeast Kanto region, not far from Tokyo. He received his master of library and information science degree from Tsukuba University and has been continuing his studies as a doctoral student. He will visit Arizona for three weeks this fall, so that he can attend the 2004 AzLA Annual Conference held in Tucson.

Noted author visits Arizona -- Graeme Base, popular Australian author and illustrator visited Arizona in September. Base's book, *The Water Hole*, was the winner of the 2003 Arizona Young Reader Award in the picture book category. Base stopped in Arizona for three days on a national tour scheduled by his

publisher, Abrams Publishing. He promoted his latest books, *Truckdogs and Jungle Drums*, from coast to coast. Base visited schools in Tucson and in Phoenix, as well as appearing at a number of local bookstores.

Tucson-Pima Public Library resumes Director search -- It was previously announced that Susan H. Hildreth, Director of the San Francisco Public Library, had been selected as the new Director of the Tucson-Pima Public Library and would begin her new position on July 19. Ms. Hildreth, however, has chosen to remain in California after she was appointed to the post of State Librarian by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. The City of Tucson already has begun the process of finding a replacement, and is planning to contact other finalists who were under consideration during the search process.

EqualAccess Libraries Program Gets Underway -- Aug. 30 was the kick-off day for the Arizona EqualAccess initiative. EqualAccess Libraries is an initiative developed by Libraries for the Future, a national organization that champions the role of libraries in American life and works to strengthen individual libraries. A challenge grant awarded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation with matching grants from the Arizona State Library, Archives, & Public Records, the Qwest Foundation, and Arizona Community Foundation will help establish 15 EqualAccess Libraries annually in Arizona.

The Access Programs provide flexible models for library programming that address essential information and learning needs. The Access model integrates outreach, coalition building, needs and assets assessments, and advocacy training with technology-based programs. There are three access models: Health Access, Lifelong Access, and Youth Access.

COLORADO

Collaborative Digitization Program names director -- Jill Koelling has been appointed Executive Director of the Collaborative Digitization Program. She has spent most of her curatorial career incorporating the use of digital technology to provide access to primary source materials. During her seven years as Curator

of Photographs and Head of Digital Imaging at the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) she worked with society staff to establish the first digital imaging laboratory operated by a regional conservation center. Koelling joins CDP after spending the past year and a half as Curator of Visual Materials at Cline Library, Northern Arizona University. The Collaborative Digitization Program at the University of Denver, established in 1999 as the Colorado Digitization Project, enables access to cultural, historical, and scientific heritage collections of the West by building collaboration between archives, historical societies, libraries, and museums. The CDP provides assistance to the cultural heritage community through best practice guidelines, workshops, and digitization grant funding.

For more information on the CDP and its activities please visit www.cdpheritage.org or e-mail rurban@du.edu.

(from Centennial State Libraries, October 8, 2004)

WebJunction Colorado opens -- Colorado has a new WebJunction page! <http://co.webjunction.org/do/Home>. Many of us who attended ALA Midwinter were treated to a WebJunction reception and a demo of this potentially outstanding online community software from OCLC. Colorado's new site has links to a wealth of helpful sites, newsletters and technology information. Check it out if you're interested in trying out WebJunction.

Intellectual Freedom -- Those on the CAL Intellectual Freedom Committee are very proud of their present and past committee chairs, Nicolle Steffen and Martin Garner. Martin is also this year's MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award winner. You can check out Nicolle and Martin's happy faces accepting the SIRS-ProQuest State and Regional Achievement Award at the ALA Annual Conference, as well as see some of the work that the awards represent, at <http://www.cal-webs.org/if.html>.

KANSAS

New Dean of libraries -- A library professional with more than 20 years experience at four large public academic libraries has accepted the post of Dean of

Libraries at Kansas State University. Lori A. Goetsch was selected to fill the post being vacated by Brice Hobrock, who has been dean of K-State Libraries since 1982. Goetsch began work in August.

"We are pleased to welcome Lori Goetsch to K-State," said K-State President Jon Wefald. "Her extensive experience at libraries similar to ours will help her take the lead in insuring that K-State Libraries continue to provide excellent support and materials needed by students and faculty today and into the future. We know that Lori will do a great job as Dean of Libraries." Goetsch has held increasingly responsible leadership posts, supervising programs and personnel at four academic libraries, all members of the Association of Research Libraries. She has had experience at three land-grant institutions.

Most recently, Goetsch has been Director of the Public Services Division at the University of Maryland's Library. She provided leadership for service activities in the main research library and six branch libraries. She supervised 12 team leaders in a division of approximately 40 librarians and 100 support staff. Previously she worked at the University of Tennessee as Head of Reference Services and Associate Professor 1993-97; at Michigan State University as Head Librarian for Information/Reference 1987-93; and at the University of Illinois at Chicago as Assistant Reference Librarian 1982-85.

Goetsch earned a master of library science degree from Rosary College (now Dominican University), River Forest, Ill., and master's and bachelor's degrees, both in English, from Illinois State University, Normal.

Topeka/Shawnee hosts conference -- Celebrate the Book: A Regional Readers' Advisory Conference, hosted by the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, Topeka, KA, was held Friday, Nov. 5. Joyce Saricks was the featured speaker. Joyce has written extensively about Readers' Advisory work, including a book published by the American Library Association entitled *Readers' Advisory Service in the Public Li-*

brary. Joyce and other presenters from the area, such as Kaite Mediatore, conducted breakout sessions throughout the day. Those were on various aspects of readers' advisory work, featuring sessions on various genres from horror to inspirational fiction. Practical aspects of working with books such as book repair were also covered. Tours of the recently remodeled Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library were available.

Johnson County Library is hot stuff -- The Johnson County Library has again been ranked second in the nation in its population category (250,000 to 499,999) by the 2004 Hennen American Public Library Rating Index, based on input and output data gathered by the U.S. Federal-State Cooperative Service for 2002. In the six times the report has been issued, Johnson County Library has scored in the number one or two positions each time.

Grants for digitizing project received -- Utilizing funding from two grants, the Johnson County Library and the Johnson County Museums will scan for Internet access 10,000 Johnson County Museum photographs, as well as 2,500 from Olathe Public Library and 1,000 from the Johnson County Archives. The materials will be accessible via JoCoHistory.net, one of a family of Webpages developed by the Johnson County Library and its partners. The two grants that enable this photo digitization project and the expansion of JoCoHistory.net are a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Johnson County Museum, with the library as a partner, in the amount of \$90,724 and a grant from the Johnson County Heritage Trust Fund to the library in the amount of \$26,000. The Johnson County Archives and Olathe Public Library, as well as the Museum, are partners with the library in the latter grant application.

MONTANA

Money to be budgeted for leadership institutes -- The Montana Library Association (MLA) passed a motion to: "direct MPLA and PNLA representatives from MLA to make a budget request of \$1,000 each year to cover costs of Montana librarians attending a lead-

ership institute held by the sponsoring associations" and that "funds allocated to MPLA and PNLA leadership retreat attendees be limited to no more than \$500 per person."

Fifty-six libraries part of state catalog -- The Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) project now has 56 libraries of various types involved. The MSC runs on Sirsi's Unicorn integrated library system, presenting a public interface called ibistro. Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funds are being used to assist MT libraries with start up costs to join the MSC. The libraries have formed a consortium to run the MSC through its membership.

Scholarships for library education -- Six Montana residents are pursuing graduate library degrees this fall with financial assistance from the Professional Education and Employment for Librarians (PEEL) scholarship program. The Montana State Library Commission granted the following scholarships: Honore Bray (Anaconda) will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (\$20,000); Kathryn Holt (Havre) - Drexel University (\$18,000); Judith Brown McKenna (Bozeman) - Texas Woman's University (\$18,000); Lauren McMullen (Big Timber) - University of North Texas (\$13,000); Frederick Noel (Polson) - University of North Texas (\$15,400); and Anne James (Kalispell) - The College of St. Catherine (\$18,000). The PEEL Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that at least one \$15,000 scholarship will be available next year as well. Montana's PEEL project is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)'s Recruiting and Educating Librarians for the 21st Century grant program.

NEBRASKA

McGoogan Library receives NCLIS award for Consumer Health Information Resource Service (CHIRS) -- The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) has announced that the McGoogan Library of Medicine of the University of Nebraska Medical Center has been selected to receive the 2004 NCLIS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Libraries for Nebraska. Outstanding libraries in 37 states are being

ARIZONA

Linda Barnett
Artesia Zia Intermediate School

Polly Bonnett
City of Mesa Public Library

Andrew Chanse
Arizona State University

Cathy Chung
Phoenix Public Library

Geneva Durkee
Navajo County Library District

Norma Fowler
Sedona Public Library

Fay Freed
Phoenix Public Library

Bonnie Johnson

Mary Macleish
Glendale Community College

Jean Mills
Thew School/Tempe Elementary

Brad Vogus
Arizona State University

COLORADO

Nancy Almand
Corwin Middle School

Ellen Greenblatt
Auraria Library

Robb Heckel
Student

Joann Perry
Cache Lapoudre Jr. High School

Katharine Phenix
Adams County Library District

Bette Rathe
University of Northern Colorado

Tom Riedel
Regis University

Welcome to MPLA

New Members



Clara Sitter
University of Denver

Peggy Strick
Crown Pointe Academy

Nancy Tanner
Corwin Middle School

Gene Trant
Wellington Public Library

Linda Tuttle-Shaw
Manitou Springs Public Library

Jon Walker
Pueblo City-County Library

Beth Williams
Library Consultant

KANSAS

Cindy Bailey
Wichita Public Library

Tara Baillargeon
Kansas State University

Christine Barrett
Emporia State University

Laura Bean
National American University

Regina Beard
Kansas State University

Kate Capps
Olathe Indian Creek Branch Library

Maribel Galindo
Grant County Library

Janene Hill
Grant County Library

Helen Hokanson
Johnson County Library

Dee Longoria
Grant County Library

Kimberly Martin
Bonner Springs City Library

James Nyce
SLIM/Emporia State University

Angela O'Kane
Monticello Trails Middle School

Rita Severt
Newman University

Judith Wolfe
Wichita State University

MONTANA

Bill Kehler
Rocky Mountain College

Kathy Mora
Great Falls Public Library

NEBRASKA

Lori Brezena
Swanson Library

Karen Drevo
Norfolk Public Library

Nancy Escamilla
Scottsbluff Public Library

Cathy Hatterman
Nebraska Library Commission

Paul Oertell

Jennifer Powell
Scottsbluff Public Library

Laureen Riedesel
Beatrice Public Library

(Continued on page 23)

recognized by NCLIS in 2004 for their contribution to health awareness and health education.

“The purpose of the awards is to help increase awareness of healthy lifestyles,” said NCLIS Chair Beth Fitzsimmons, of Ann Arbor, MI. “Millions of American are diagnosed each year with chronic diseases, which in many cases could have been avoided, had the individuals followed healthier lifestyles.”

Fitzsimmons continued, “For many individuals, we now know how to prevent or delay the onset of the major chronic diseases, and we know a lot about how to slow the progress of these diseases for the 175 million Americans who already live with these chronic conditions. Libraries are a natural location for disseminating health information, and the efforts of the McGoogan Library, and especially its Consumer Health Information Resource Service (CHIRS), have been outstanding in carrying out this function.”

Nominations for the NCLIS Blue Ribbon Award came from Rod Wagner, Director of the Nebraska Library Commission, with the final decision made by NCLIS on the basis of the program’s potential impact, innovativeness, and replicability. The award is being presented because the Commission wants to recognize the library’s efforts in providing accurate, useful consumer health information to the people of Nebraska, and this particular program exemplifies the role libraries can play in increasing awareness of consumer health related issues and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Both the program’s design for working within the structure of the Nebraska Library System to improve delivery of consumer health information to Nebraskans and the expert medical librarian backup provided for questions that cannot be answered at the local level, have enabled Nebraska to strengthen and build its consumer health information services across the state, resulting in a healthier, well informed community of users.

ABOUT CHIRS: Consumer Health Information Resource Service (CHIRS) began in January 1985

as a cooperative venture between three independent groups and agencies. The cooperative members included the McGoogan Library of Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the Nebraska Library Commission, and more than 70 public libraries in the state. The original objectives of CHIRS have not wavered since its implementation: to provide educational and consultation services to non-health science librarians; and to serve as a health information resource library for the state of Nebraska. The aim of the service is to provide health information, free of charge, to residents of the state of Nebraska no matter their location.

How do you access CHIRS? Feel free to call (402) 559-6221 or (866) 800-6029 (toll free outside of Omaha); e-mail askus@unmc.edu; or access the CHIRS Website at <http://www.unmc.edu/library/consumer> and click on Contact CHIRS to fill out an online request form.

Nebraska Books Honored -- The 2004 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB), recognizes and honors books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or concerning Nebraska. This year’s winners are:

Children: *The Ring Bear*, written by N.L. Sharp, illustrated by Michael T. Hassler Jr., Dageforde Publishing, Inc.

Young Adult: Ruth Foreman, *Free to Drink the Wind: A Misty West Mystery*, Beaver Books.

Cover Design/Illustration: *Road Trip: Conversations With Writers*, Shelly Clark and Marjorie Saiser (editors), Randy Barger (cover photo), Chris Bristol (cover design), The Backwaters Press.

Fiction: *Acts of Love on Indigo Road*, Jonis Agee, Coffee House Press.

Non-Fiction: *Restoring the Burnt Child: A Primer*, William Kloefkorn, University of Nebraska Press.

Anthology: *Road Trip: Conversations With Writers*, Shelly Clark and Marjorie Saiser, The Backwaters Press.

Poetry: *Potato Soup*, Twyla Hansen, The Backwaters Press.

Books published in 2004 will be eligible for the 2005 awards program. To receive notification of the 2005 book awards program, contact Maria Medrano-Nehls, (402) 471-2045, (800) 307-2665, mgeibel@nlc.state.ne.us.

NEVADA

Aboy matey -- Pirate teleconference event -- Henderson District Public Libraries (HDPL) hosted its first teleconference event for the public on July 19, 2004. "Under the Black Flag," an exciting program for school-age children, was offered free via teleconferencing with one of the largest international maritime museums in the world, the Mariners' Museum in Newport News, VA.

Through a special partnership with Mariners' education department, HDPL Youth Services offered children a thrilling look back in time at Pirates! Young attendees enjoyed a personal guided tour to learn about weapons used by the scoundrels of the sea.

U of Nevada to build state of art facility -- University of Nevada officials announced a record combined \$10 million gift from Chuck and Ann Mathewson and International Game Technology (IGT) that will create a novel \$66 million "Knowledge Center" from renderings and blueprints to groundbreaking next spring.

The Mathewson family and IGT have each committed \$5 million to the project. When completed, the Knowledge Center will replace the University's current 42-year-old Getchell Library—and then some.



The center's features will include an auditorium for cultural events, an art gallery with special Western American collections, this hemisphere's largest collection of Basque materials, a "popular collection" reading room where people can read current newspapers and best-selling books, food and beverage services, and high-tech meeting rooms where researchers, students, and others can meet and collaborate on a variety of projects.

In this facility, "librarians" will be "information specialists." For nearly a decade they have been supplementing their library sciences acumen with IT skills that include Web content management and design, advanced online database searches, and training on technology and software programs used for effective presentations. This integration of information technology and library science expertise will enable the information specialists to "coach" faculty, students, and others on topics ranging from expediting research to ferreting out less-accessible information. They also can help faculty and students prepare presentations for a wide range of audiences.

NEW MEXICO

Grant awarded for online archive project -- The University of New Mexico Libraries, the Collaborative Digitization Program and the University of Wyoming are pleased to announce the award from the NEH to fund the creation of the Rocky Mountain Online Archive (RMOA). This three-state cooperative project will add access to over 500 new EAD-encoded finding aids from 22 participating institutions to the 1,300 finding aids described and presented in the Online Archive of New Mexico.

Library celebrates 100 years -- The Las Vegas Public Library is 100 years old and is located in the only remaining building built in New Mexico through the philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie. To commemorate the 100 years of service as the library to the Las Vegas and surrounding communities, the City of Las Vegas, the U.S. Post Office, and the Citizens' Committee for Historic Preservation will jointly sponsored the Carnegie Library Centennial Celebration. An art contest for artists between the ages of 8-18

was held to find a design to serve as a one-day cancellation postmark through the U.S. Post Office.

State library hosts five-state documents conference -- Federal depository librarians, library directors, and library staff from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, and Utah met in Santa Fe Aug. 4-6. As the Federal Depository Program continues to change and evolve at a rapid pace, depository libraries are challenged to provide the best possible access to information to their clients and the citizens. Workshop topics covered marketing the use of government documents, depository laws and guides, Indian treaties and lands, electronic documents and their collection, Websites and their use, patent searching, electronic vertical files, and more, with presentations by experts in these fields.

New Public Libraries -- Several new public libraries have opened in New Mexico this year. The libraries are located in some of New Mexico's most remote towns and villages. With the help of the Internet and library listservs, residents in these communities have established connections with the state's librarians and have solicited advice, information, and a generous number of book and furniture donations. New libraries include the Talpa Community Library, The Placitas Community Library, The Questa Public Library, the Gila Public Library, and the Corona Lending Library.

NORTH DAKOTA

International reading conference held -- The 31st Plains International Reading Association (IRA) Regional Conference was held in Bismarck-Mandan Oct. 6-9, 2004. "Exploring Frontiers in Literacy" offered outstanding literacy opportunities for all educators and especially librarians. In addition to nationally known speakers such as Richard Allington (current IRA president-elect), Richard Long (No Child Left Behind) and Jerry Peasecki (United Nations consultant), there was motivational sessions by Claudia Busch Lee and Steven Layne plus many authors familiar to librarians. Clay Jenkinson (as Thomas Jefferson) presented the 2nd general session and Friday night's banquet featured Margie Palatini, author

of *Piggie Pie*, *Earthquake*, *Web Files*, and many more.

Benches in their honor -- Retired Stoxen Library (Dickinson State University) Director Bennett Reinke and Stoxen Library Librarian, Jim Martz, were recognized during National Library Week for their outstanding contributions to the community. To commemorate their contributions, Dickinson State students, faculty, and staff completed a successful fundraising campaign for the purchase of two decorative benches named in their honor. These benches are placed within the newly designed Stoxen Library patio. Reinke and Martz were joined by a large group of university colleagues gathered for the bench dedication ceremony, which concluded with a reception and well wishes from all those in attendance.

Libraries receive funds to automate -- Eight North Dakota libraries have been awarded funding to assist in automating their libraries. Thanks to grant awards totaling over \$250,000 from the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, these libraries are one step closer to providing enhanced library services to their communities. Grant recipients include Beulah Public School Libraries, Cavalier Public School Library, Heart of America Library (Rugby), Larimore Public School Library, Minot Public Schools Libraries, Napoleon Public School Library, Northwood Public School Library, and Underwood Public Library. Libraries will use the funding to add their records to the state-wide library catalog, Library Access North Dakota, and allow patrons to see what is in their local library catalog.

Longtime MPLA member retires -- Darryl Podoll, Director of Library Services at Valley City State University at Valley City State University for almost 20 years retired June 30. He is a longtime member of the Mountain Plains Library Association, having joined in 1979 when he was Library Director at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, KA. Donna V. James is the new Director of Library Services at VCSU.

OKLAHOMA

New Oklahoma City downtown library opens -- Hundreds of people crowded the street between the Oklahoma County Courthouse and the library Aug. 17 to hear local and state officials — including former Oklahoma City Mayor Kirk Humphreys and current first lady Kim Henry — speak at the dedication and public opening of the \$24 million Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library.

Since the library project officially started 11 years ago, it ran into several costly delays. Most recently, there were three years of delays because of site issues and also because of a lawsuit over a subcontractor's delivery of exterior tiles.

Donna Morris, the library system's Executive Director, said that the library offers a greatly expanded book collection, an innovative children's area, and high-speed Internet access. Interior design features include a four-story glass atrium and a wood-trimmed, 137-seat auditorium. The fourth floor includes classrooms and offices.

More than 3,000 people helped load thousands of books into the new building on Friday, Aug. 13 during a ceremonial "passing" of the books. The library is named for the former Oklahoma City mayor who spearheaded the downtown capital improvement plan that included the library and helped it gain the approval of city voters. It is the last of nine major projects that were approved in 1993.

Literary landmark dedicated -- Librarians, VIPs, trustees, friends, and others crowded the large browsing Room of Oklahoma State University's Edmon Low Library on Oct. 1, 2004, for the dedication of the library as a Literary Landmark, housing the papers of pioneering historian Angie Debo. Michael Wallis, award-winning author of *Route 66* and numerous other books, presided. A highlight of the ceremony was Glenda Carlile, Director of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, in character as Angie Debo, acknowledging the honor.

Planning for 2005 OLA Conference Well Underway --

Oklahoma Library Association President Lynn McIntosh and Program Committee Chair Susan Dulaney Wright have got the planning for the 2005 annual conference moving along on schedule. The theme is "A New Spin @ Your Library." Among the presenters will be noted readers' advisor and model for the librarian action figure Nancy Pearl and MPLA President Beth Avery. OLA will be trying a new venue for the 2005 annual conference at the U. S. Postal Service Training Center in Norman.

SOUTH DAKOTA

New officers for library association -- South Dakota Library Association celebrated its 100th anniversary at the annual conference in Spearfish, Oct. 7-8. Two hundred and eleven people attended the conference. Doug Johnson, president of the Minnesota State Affiliate of AASL (MENO) was the keynote speaker. Will Hobbs was the featured speaker at the author luncheon. New South Dakota Library Association Officers were elected and took office at the conference. President: Deb Hagemeyer; Vice President/President Elect: Kevin Kenkel; Secretary: Pam Lingor; Treasurer: Brenda Hemmelman; ALA Councilor: Jennifer Irwin; and MPLA Representative: Colleen Smith.

Libraries form cooperative cataloging group -- Five South Dakota academic libraries have cooperated to form the South Dakota NACO Funnel. NACO is the name authority component of the Library of Congress's Program for Cooperative Cataloging. Members of NACO contribute original name, title, and series authority records to the Library of Congress Name Authority File. Dustin Larmore of Dakota State University will serve as the South Dakota NACO Coordinator. Other institutions participating in the project are Augustana College, Northern State University, the South Dakota State Library, and South Dakota State University.

UTAH

Eccles Library receives blue ribbon award -- The Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library at the University of Utah has received a national award for a state-wide effort to provide Utah residents access to con-

sumer health information and training using Internet connections at public libraries. The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science recently gave the library a 2004 NCLIS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for the Utah Consumer Health Information Initiative. The honor goes to libraries that “do the most to promote healthy lifestyles,” the commission said.

Miscellaneous -- The Library in the Park (Cedar City Library) was awarded a 2004 American Institute of Architects (AIA) award for 2004. The Brigham City Library is one of 60 libraries across the nation to receive a grant to feature programs about Nobel Prize-winning author Isaac Bashevis Singer. And Gary Rasmussen has been named the Interim Director of the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah.

WYOMING

New Director at Teton County -- The Teton County Library Board announces the appointment of Debra Adams, current Acting Director, to the position of Teton County Library Director.

“We are thrilled to announce Debra Adams as the library’s new Director. While we were fortunate to have a number of highly qualified candidates for the job, Deb’s qualities and experience carried her to the top of the list. Her recognized leadership and established peer support from the staff will make for a smooth transition,” said Library Board President Liza Hoke. “This fall, as we begin to prepare for our next five-year strategic plan, Deb will be a valuable asset in moving us forward, while we continue to meet the community’s needs and provide outstanding customer service.”

Adams began her career in libraries in 1987, when she was offered a 10-hour-a-week position at the Teton County Library Alta Branch. During her 13 years with the Alta Branch, the position grew considerably and Adams had the opportunity to do almost everything from providing customer service at the front desk to organizing children’s summer reading programs and assisting patrons with reference questions and computers.

In 2000, Adams moved full-time to the Teton County Library in Jackson and served as circulation supervisor, where she managed eight full-time staff members, 14 cross-trainers, 10 substitutes, several shelvers and the Alta Branch Manager, before taking on the newly-created position of Assistant Director in 2001. Adams was also the recipient of the Wyoming Library Association’s Distinguished Service Award in 2001 for demonstrating outstanding service for at least five years and contributing significantly to Wyoming libraries and to the profession of librarianship. She was specifically recognized for her perseverance in the expansion of the Alta Branch Library.

Everybody Reads Mark Spragg! -- What if everybody in one community read the same book? Natrona County is going to find out this fall when “Everybody Reads Mark Spragg!” Based on the popular nationwide program “One Book, One Community,” the goals of this event are to foster reading and the discussion of books within Natrona County. For six weeks, beginning Sept. 20, Natrona County Public Library, Casper, WY, in partnership with Evenstart, NCSD #1, Blue Heron, B. Dalton, Ralph’s Books, and several other local businesses, will join in activities centered around Wyoming author Mark Spragg’s *Where Rivers Change Direction*. Mark Spragg is also the author of *The Fruit Of The Stone* and *An Unfinished Life*, which were released in August 2004. Spragg lives in Cody, WY and is the winner of the Mountain & Plains Booksellers award.

Younger readers can join in the fun with Gary Paulsen’s *Haymeadow* and *C is for Cowboy* by Eugene Gagliano. These books contain the same western and intergenerational family themes found in Spragg’s books. Events held in conjunction with “Everybody Reads” will include brown bag speakers, book discussions, movies, and an opportunity to hear Mark Spragg speak.

Summer reading program a huge success! -- July 31 marked the end of an incredible summer of reading for Natrona County kids and teens. Over 1,600 children participated in “Discover New Trails @ Your Library” and 400 teens “lost” themselves in “Get

Lost @ Your Library.” In addition to lots of reading, there were many special events including magician Cody Landstrom and a swinging performance by the Rockadiles, as well as activities like a hike on Casper Mountain and a pizza taste-off. Natrona County’s youth didn’t have time to be bored this summer! This year’s program wrapped up with a special announcement of participants and the winners of \$200 Eastridge Mall gift certificates at the Aug. 2 Casper Rockies Game.

New Volunteer Coordinator named -- The Laramie County Library System, Cheyenne, WY is pleased to announce that Julie Eatmon has been named the library’s new Volunteer Coordinator.

“It’s really great to see so many people who volunteer, from teens to retirees and everyone in between,” she said. “To be a part of the connection the library has with our volunteers and to foster that relationship is very rewarding.”

Last fiscal year, 350 volunteers dedicated nearly 10,000 hours to the library.

One of her goals is to expand the number of volunteers at the library as she implements changes and strives to enhance the volunteer program.

Lynn Patterson, who retired in the spring, previously held the position.

MPLA New Members

(Continued from page 17)

Rivkah Sass
Omaha Public Library

Valetta Schneider
Western Nebraska Community College

Galen Schroeder
Freelance indexer

NEVADA

Arnold Maurins
Washoe County Library System

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 30- Dec. 2	Arizona Library Association Annual Conference, Tucson
Nov. 30- Dec. 5	MPLA Leadership Institute Ghost Ranch, NV
March 30- April 1	New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque
March 30- April 1	Kansas Library Association Annual Conference, Overland Park
March 30- April 1	Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference, Norman
April 23- April 26	Montana Library Association Annual Conference, Billings
Oct. 5-7	South Dakota Library Association Annual Conference, Pierre
Oct. 6- Oct. 9	Colorado Association of Libraries Annual Conference

UPCOMING MPLA CONFERENCES

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: (April 30-May 3) Salt Lake City, UT
(joint with Utah Library Association)

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

2010: Oklahoma
(joint with Oklahoma Library Association)

Anna Vaillancourt
Las Vegas Clark County Library District

Sidney Watson
University of Nevada

Andrea Wirth
University of Nevada

**LOOK FOR NEW MEMBERS FROM NEW MEXICO,
NORTH DAKOTA, OKLAHOMA, SOUTH DAKOTA,
UTAH, AND WYOMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
THE MPLA NEWSLETTER.**

MPLA Newsletter

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



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Permit N. 63

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

Osenga Shall Lead...

MPLA 2004 Election Results Announced

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sharon Osenga



Sharon Osenga

RECORDING SECRETARY

Louis Howley



Louis Howley

ACADEMIC SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Jan Fandrich

TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

S. Michael Kim

STATE AGENCIES, COOPERATIVES AND SYSTEMS SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Brian Greene

PUBLIC LIBRARY/TRUSTEES SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Anna Moore

NEW MEMBERS ROUNDTABLE

Chair-Elect

David Alexander

CHILDREN'S AND SCHOOL SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Julie Bartel

PRESERVATION SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Stephen Van Buren

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SECTION

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Kristen Clark