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# MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

August 2002

Volume 47 #1

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

### MPLA Listserv

To subscribe, contact  
[jedelen@usd.edu](mailto:jedelen@usd.edu)



## President's Letter

Dear MPLA friends,

Your board and officers have just finished the July MPLA Executive Board meeting. It was exciting to see and hear the progress that has been made by the various committees and sections. For those who want to see all the details, please check the board archives as posted on the MPLA Website at [www.usd.edu/mpla](http://www.usd.edu/mpla).

Several committees had activities that are worth sharing. The board had hoped to have a virtual meeting of some, or part of, its members in July, but the Electronic Communications Committee, after a good bit of research, decided that the best course would be to have that committee experiment with one of the options and then demonstrate the possibilities at the conference in Fargo. We all will be excited to see what technology can do to help individual members access activities, meetings, classes and conferences in the region and MPLA is helping us by leading the

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MPLA Board members discuss the issues at their July 13, 2002 meeting in Denver.

The MPLA Newsletter is published bi-monthly. Material of regional interest may be submitted to:

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**Submissions:**

Copy deadlines for articles, news information, advertisements, and other copy:

January 10                      July 10  
March 10                        September 10  
May 10                            November 10

**Advertising:**

There is no charge to MPLA personal or institutional members for the joblist or classified advertising. Non-members are charged \$1.25/line. Display advertisement copy rates are available from the Editor (see address above).

**MPLA Membership or**

**Subscription Business:**

Matters pertaining to individual or institutional membership, address changes, and claims or orders for back issues should be sent to:

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**Subscription Fees:**

1 yr./\$22      2 yrs./\$38      3yrs./\$55

The MPLA Newsletter is a publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association and is printed by Vermillion Printing & Graphics, Vermillion, SD.

ISSN 0145-6180

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North Dakota

Jeanne Narum

Oklahoma

Basha Hartley

South Dakota

Suzanne Miller

Utah

Jean Jensen

Wyoming

Ara Anderson

(Continued from page 1)

experiment. The Continuing Education Committee has finished the survey it conducted last year and is studying the results in order to make a recommendation to the board. And finally, those who work with the Leadership Institute reported that the number of applicants for the first Institute exceed by far the available slots. Final selections of applicants have been made and are posted on the MPLA Website.

In addition, the tri-conference program is wonderful and I know many of you are already registered so I'll look forward to seeing you in Fargo.

With best regards,

Debbie



## Letter to MPLA from Tri-Conference Chairperson

Dear MPLA members,

I have not actually seen the movie "Fargo," but many of my friends and co-workers have. Many of them agree that the movie is as FAR as one can GO from an accurate description of what the largest city in North Dakota is really like. Here are just some of the 101 things everyone should know about Fargo:

Fargo was incorporated as a city in 1875.

The population of Fargo was about 600 when it was incorporated. (Currently the population is 74,113 people which doesn't include the sister city of Moorhead, MN which is just across the Red River).

Elevation is 900 ft. above sea level. Average high temperature for Fargo in September is 69 degrees F. and in October it is 57 degrees F.



This guy is STILL THINKING about coming to the 2002 MPLA/NDLA/SDLA Tri-Conference, Oct. 2-5, 2002, in Fargo, ND. It is not too late for him to register and it's not too late for you either!

There Are 3 Ways To Register:

- MPLA newsletter registration form
- NDLA Website for a PDF form that can be printed
- NDLA Website listed above for electronic registration with a credit card

***DON'T DELAY! ACT NOW!***  
***THIS IS AN EVENT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!***

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Fargo was originally two settlements called “Fargo on the Prairie” which was settled on the west side of what is now Broadway, and the other “Fargo in the Timber” was located next to the Red River on the east side of Broadway.

Fargo is known as the fast pitch softball capital of the Upper Midwest.

Fargo was named for William G. Fargo, founder of the Wells-Fargo Express and a director of the N.P. Railroad Company.

The 1989 Fargo American Legion baseball team recorded 30 consecutive victories, a record that still stands today.

The Microsoft/Great Plains acquisition was structured as a stock purchase and valued at approximately \$1.1 billion. Before merging with Microsoft, Great Plains software started in Fargo and it still has the company headquarters there.

Come and experience exciting Fargo first-hand. You will be glad you did. I hope to see everybody at the tri-conference Oct. 2-5, 2002!

Sincerely,  
Kaaren Pupino  
NDLA 2002 Tri-Conference Chairperson

## *Ghost Ranch* Mentors Selected for MPLA Leadership Institute



Planning for the first MPLA Leadership Institute is underway. The Institute will be held at Ghost Ranch in northern New Mexico, home and inspiration of artist, Georgia O’Keefe. The Institute dates are Nov. 10-14, 2002.

As part of the original Spanish land grants in the region, Ghost Ranch has a centuries-long connection to the old Spanish families of New Mexico. During

the 1930s the ranch gained fame as a dude ranch. During the 1940s it served as a recreation spot for scientists from nearby Los Alamos. It seems highly appropriate for this site to be a conference and retreat center because it has always evoked a connection with the larger universe, a spirit captured in the art of Georgia O’Keefe and her contemporaries who visited or stayed to continue their art in New Mexico. Ghost Ranch was donated to the Presbyterian Church in 1955 and has been administered as a conference center since that time. In the “vast and other-worldly landscape” of northern New Mexico it “like a fertile green oasis, is a meeting place where people gather to learn, to share ideas, search for inspiration and find inner strength.” What better objectives could a Leadership Institute espouse?

80 applications for the initial MPLA class came in. 53% of applicants were from academic libraries, 35% from public libraries, 9% from “special” libraries, and 3% were from school libraries. The selection decisions were tough, almost grueling, since there were so many highly qualified applicants, but a final list emerged from the work of the MPLA State Representatives and state association presidents.

The first MPLA Leadership Institute class will include two candidates from each state, one from the Institute partner EBSCO, and five from selections made by the Leadership Institute Committee. The initial mailing advised them of their selection with a congratulatory letter, registration form, and initial information. After all have been registered, a second mailing will give final details and information and assignments to carry out before arriving at the Institute.

MPLA recruited Maureen Sullivan, a nationally known and highly sought after facilitator to lead the Institute. Mentors selected to assist Maureen are: Marilyn Hinshaw, Director of Eastern Oklahoma District Library and the Committee Chair; Leslie Boughton, State Librarian, Wyoming; Mary Bushing, Head of Collections, Montana State

University; Mona Carmack, Director, Johnson County Library, KS; Randy Olsen, Assistant Director, Brigham Young University Library, UT; and Dorothy Liegl, South Dakota Deputy State Librarian, SD.

## 2002 MPLA Award Winners

### **Literary Contribution Award**

Elizabeth Cook-Lynn  
Rapid City, South Dakota

*In recognition of exceptional writings that further  
an understanding and appreciation  
of the Mountain Plains region*

### **Distinguished Service Award**

Mona Carmack  
County Librarian  
Johnson County Library  
Overland Park, Kansas

*In recognition of significant development and  
excellence in public library services*



### **News Media Support Award**

The Wichita Eagle, Wichita, Kansas

*In recognition of outstanding support for  
libraries and librarians*

### **Beginning Professional Award**

Tracie Partridge  
Wichita Public Library Wichita, Kansas

*In recognition of outstanding service to  
the profession of children's services*

### **Youth Services Award**

Johnson County Library  
Overland Park, Kansas

*In recognition of excellence in  
library services to youth*



### **Intellectual Freedom Award**

Charles Levendosky  
Casper Star-Tribune, Casper, Wyoming

*In recognition of outstanding contributions to the  
enhancement of First Amendment rights*

## Gold Rush: A Information Tool for the Electronic Environment

Gold Rush is a service being developed by the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries to help libraries manage subscriptions to electronic resources and provide improved public access for their electronic journals and databases. A Web-based central digital registry of databases and electronic journals (both stand-alone and titles embedded within aggregated services), Gold Rush has both a public interface and a staff administrative module.

Gold Rush provides:

- institution-specific searching and subscription management;
- a consortial perspective that allows groups of libraries to more effectively leverage resources;
- searching of journals within aggregations and A&I databases;
- a management system for electronic resource subscriptions;
- a powerful report generator to compare and analyze the content of electronic services;
- an OpenURL resolver.

Come attend the session on Gold Rush at the upcoming MPLA Tri-Conference in Fargo! The Gold Rush project was fully launched for Colorado Alliance member libraries in June 2002 and will be available to other libraries in Fall 2002. Contact the Colorado Alliance consortium for details on availability and pricing at:

Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries  
3801 E. Florida Ave., Suite 515  
Denver, CO 80210  
(303) 759-3399 (voice)  
(303) 759-3363 (fax)  
email: [alliance@coalliance.org](mailto:alliance@coalliance.org)

GREAT STUFF on the MPLA Website--  
[www.usd.edu/mpla/](http://www.usd.edu/mpla/)



# Business Sense

Jean Anderson  
Business Librarian  
Fort Collins Public Library, CO

## Planning for the Future

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

Are you starting up 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. Popular business plan books are also listed.

## How to Write a Business Plan

[www.sba.gov/library/pubs/mp-32.txt](http://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.

## The Business Plan – Road Map to Success

[www.sba.gov/starting/indexbusplans.html](http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexbusplans.html)

Follow this outline for a different style of business plan that emphasizes management. (From the Small Business Administration Website.)

## 5 Signs Your Business Plan Will Come Up Short With Investors

[www.tsbj.com/editorial/03050902.htm](http://www.tsbj.com/editorial/03050902.htm)

This article from *The Small Business Journal* offers practical advice for developing a business plan that meets the expectations of a potential capital source. This article was written by Scott J. Pollov, who is a partner with [www.BizPlanIt.Com](http://www.BizPlanIt.Com), an Internet based business plan consulting firm.

## The E-Plan – The Internet Entrepreneur's Treasure Map

[www.businessknowhow.com/Startup/eplan.htm](http://www.businessknowhow.com/Startup/eplan.htm)

Try this Website for a different perspective. The author, Tim Burns, argues that a modern business plan should be presented as a series of 12 PowerPoint slides plus an Executive Summary. The key is in the verbal pitch to potential investors.

## 35 Biz Planning Tips – Best Practices for Practical Success

[www.score.org/35ann/success.html](http://www.score.org/35ann/success.html)

Richard Brenner of the SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) Association provides a complete “laundry” list of planning tips for the small businessperson.

## All Summary, No Substance

[www.inc.com/search/16191.html](http://www.inc.com/search/16191.html)

This *Inc.* magazine site explains how to write an effective business plan executive summary. A real executive summary is used as a basis for evaluating content and style. (This information is excerpted from the book, *How to Really Create a Successful Business Plan*, by David E. Gumpert).

## Business Plan for Small Service Firms

[www.win.org/library/services/busgov/busstart/lssmfir.htm#title](http://www.win.org/library/services/busgov/busstart/lssmfir.htm#title)

This aid presents a basic outline for developing a business plan for a small firm in the service industry. The outline helps the reader answer questions about developing successful content in various sections of a complete plan.

## Planning for Customers by the Numbers

[www.inc.com/search/16623.html](http://www.inc.com/search/16623.html)

Finding statistical sources for demographics can be difficult. This article from *Inc.* magazine offers some suggestions.

## A Venture Capitalist and Business Planner Look at Business Plans

[www.proplana.com/news.html](http://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.

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## Myths and Realities of Business Plans

[www.powerhomebiz.com/vol6/bplanmyths.htm](http://www.powerhomebiz.com/vol6/bplanmyths.htm)

Isabel Isidro, managing editor at [PowerHomeBiz.com](http://PowerHomeBiz.com), offers some practical advice on business plans in these two articles.

## How to Develop Your Marketing Plan

[www.powerhomebiz.com/vol77/marketing.htm](http://www.powerhomebiz.com/vol77/marketing.htm)

Writing your marketing plan can help you identify the most cost-effective strategies you can use to present your business to your target audience. The author provides a simple outline for writing the marketing section of a business plan.

## Business Plans That Impress Investors - 5 Secrets

[www.powerhomebiz.com/vol47/bplans.htm](http://www.powerhomebiz.com/vol47/bplans.htm)

Business plans may attract (or repel) investors. Five key concepts of a business plan are discussed.

## Class Acts

[www.business2.com/articles/mag/0.1640.14221.FF.html](http://www.business2.com/articles/mag/0.1640.14221.FF.html)

Think your business plan is top-notch? Put it to the test. This article from the *Business 2.0* magazine explores business plan competitions and why they are not just for MBA students anymore.

## How to Supercharge Your Business Plan

[www.expert-zine.com/business\\_plan.html](http://www.expert-zine.com/business_plan.html)

A 19 point checklist is presented that will help any writer tuned into the key essential ingredients of a successful business plan.

## Popular Books on Business Plans:

- *Entrepreneur Magazine's Creating A Successful Business Plan: A Step-By-Step Guide To Building Your Plan*
- *Business Plans Made Easy: It's Not As Hard As You Think!*  
*Anatomy Of A Business Plan: A Step-By-Step Guide To Starting Smart, Building The Business, And Securing Your Company's Future*

· *Your First Business Plan: A Simple Question And Answer Format Designed To Help You Write Your Own Plan*

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



## Goopy Globber Satellite Science Exemplifies “New” Library

In the past, libraries might have been places for quiet contemplation, but now, more and more are becoming active centers of community life. Satellite Science, a collaborative program between the Phoenix Public Library and the Arizona Science Center, is an exciting example of the “new” library. The library becomes a place where young participants and their families make goopy globber, dissect insects, or don goggles and lab coats to create their own laboratory versions of lemonade.

Satellite Science is made possible by an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant. Debuting in the spring of 2001 and running through early 2003, the program will bring a total of 40 exciting, hands-on workshop topics into eight of the Phoenix Public Libraries, reaching approximately 7,000 participants. Twice a year, the program offers eight different workshops featuring topics such as DNA, Static Electricity, Forensics, Robots in Space, and Bubbles and Foam. Workshops are designed for middle-school students and their families – offered for free in area library branches. However, there’s more to this program than just workshops.

Satellite Science encourages lifelong family learning and increased science literacy by placing science in a casual atmosphere where families and kids normally congregate. Satellite Science has four components, two of which are based in local

libraries. Workshops, as mentioned above and checkout kits. Checkout kits are self-contained and topic-specific, designed to be used at home or at the library, and can be checked out for a period of seven days. By the close of 2002, 16 different kits will be available. Open house events are held once a month at the Arizona Science Center. Participants in the program are provided free admission on these special days. Lastly, the Satellite Science website ([www.satellitescience.org](http://www.satellitescience.org)) not only provides families with additional educational materials, but also offers information about upcoming workshop topics and dates, checkout kits, and open house events. The Website contains information on all aspects of the program and there is a special section for museum and library professionals.

One of the most exciting aspects of Satellite Science is that it is a student driven program; recruiting student presenters from library teen councils and local high schools. Teamed with an adult men-

tor, student presenters are trained on workshop materials and the Arizona Science Center pedagogy. Presenters are responsible for setting up and delivering the workshops in their assigned library. Not only do the student presenters serve as a positive role model for teens, but gain self-confidence and skills in presenting materials to a diverse audience.



This unique collaboration – science centers and libraries – seems to fulfill the goals of both institutions. It offers a new type of learning opportunity to library patrons by providing a community resource for education, and the science center is able to provide educational outreach, as well as bring new visitors to the Center through the open house events.

For libraries that may be interested in implementing this national model, a “How To” manual will be available online at [www.satellitescience.org](http://www.satellitescience.org) by

Ebsco Ad

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the end of 2002. The Satellite Science Program also offers training, rental, or purchase of complete workshop and checkout kits, and assistance with set up and implementation. For more information, please contact Dianne Benoit, the Program Coordinator, at [benoitd@azscience.org](mailto:benoitd@azscience.org).

## Around the MPLA Region



### ARIZONA

*Culture, Connections and Community* -- is the theme of the Arizona Library Association's 2002 annual conference. Highlights include award-winning authors, Jules Feiffer, Christopher Paul Curtis and many more; Robert Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services; programs on storytelling; and a new public health information initiative. There will also be programs about local programs and issues including AZLA's reorganization. AZLA will have two new author awards thanks to Arizona Highways. Complete information about the association and conference is available at [www.azla.org](http://www.azla.org).

*OneBook Arizona* -- The inaugural OneBook program was deemed an amazing success! *Animal Dreams* by Barbara Kingsolver was the title selected. One librarian wrote, "The junior high language arts teacher here had about eight of her students come to get *Animal Dreams*. A 7th grade girl who hasn't gotten very interested in anything we have recommended came in to tell me she had just finished the book (in one week) and wanted to check it out in her brother's name because he wants to read it. I have never seen her so enthused." Tucson and Pima County will be premiering One Book, One Community with *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya in October.

*Knowledge River participants chosen* -- Of the 12 Knowledge River Scholars, five are Native American and seven are Hispanic. States represented are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Oregon, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, and Utah. Almost 20 students qualified and the Uni-

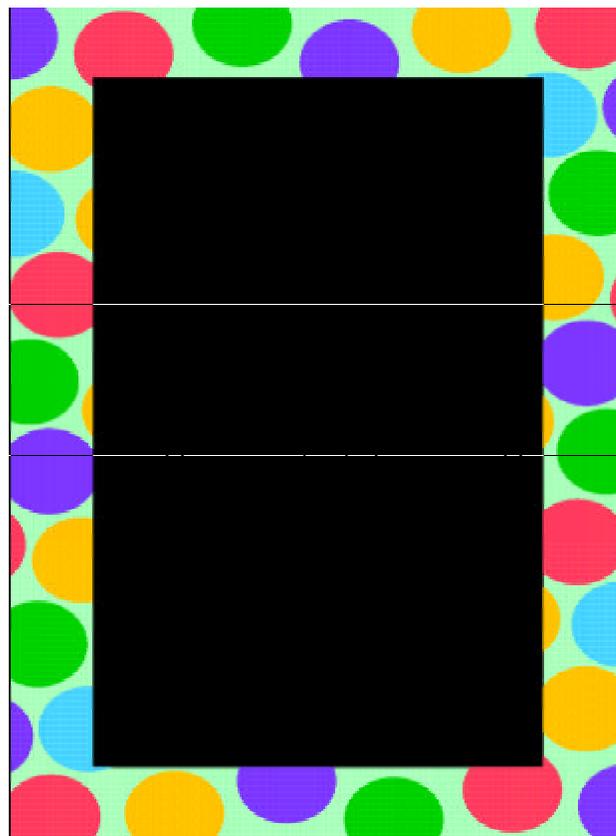
versity will be giving them all scholarship help. Kathy Kaya has represented MPLA in the Knowledge River advisory group.

*Arizona award winning librarians* -- Carla Stoffle, University of Arizona Dean of Libraries, is the recipient of the 2002 ALA Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award. *Criticas*, the Spanish language selection periodical, chose Amanda Castillo as "Librarian of the Year." And John Charles, Scottsdale Reference Librarian, has been named the 2002 Librarian of the Year by the Romance Writers of America.

### COLORADO

*Budget cuts rear ugly heads* -- Early in June, Colorado Governor Bill Owens used his line-item veto to cut \$4.67 million in library-related funding from the state budget. The ramifications are tremendous and a meeting of the CAL Board in June addressed various strategies. The CAL lobbyists recommended that reaction to the cuts should be considered and made in consciousness of the political ramifications of any actions. Eleven full-

(Continued on page 16)



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*The MPLA Board Choice Award, initiated in 1999, is a personal initiative by MPLA Board members (officers, state reps., and section chairs) to identify and recruit individuals with demonstrated ability in a library setting to membership in the Mountain Plains Library Association. The person is selected by consideration of their potential to benefit MPLA and the profession in a broader sense. MPLA Board members consider this award a personal quest to identify and recruit future library leaders, those who will serve their own library, and their state and regional associations well. All Board Choice winners will be profiled in the MPLA newsletter. What follows below is just a few of the winners; more will follow in future issues.*

## MPLA Board Choice Awards



### President's Choice

**Gloria J. Hicks**, Cataloger, University of Wyoming Libraries, has been selected to receive a one-year free membership in the Mountain Plains Library Association as part of its "Board Choice" Invitational Membership Promotion. Gloria J. Hicks was chosen by Debbie Iverson, President of MPLA based on her professional qualities and potential for contributions to MPLA.

Ms. Hicks has experience in various corporate positions in Colorado, San Francisco and Chicago and has worked at the Amon Carter Museum library in Ft. Worth Texas. Ms. Hicks holds degrees in English Literature - BA, MA and ABD and earned her MLS in 1999; all from Texas colleges.

Gloria moved to Laramie in August 2000 and has worked to become an acclimated Wyomingite; she's an outdoor enthusiast who tries to ski several times a week in the winter and hike and camp in the summer.

### Newsletter Editor's Choice

Newsletter Editor, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, is delighted to announce her selection for an MPLA Board Choice Award for 2002-**Chandler Jackson** (no relation!). Chandler is the Library Director at the University of Great Falls, MT, a position he has held since October 1999. Prior to that, Chandler was the Division Head of Public Services at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, TX and before that, both a Fine Arts and Music Librarian at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Chandler applies his varied and eclectic background in a number of ways. He is an active member of the Montana Library Association; he served

as co-chair of the 2002 Montana Library Association Conference in Great Falls, as well as being an active member of the MLA Bylaws and Public Relations Committees. Chandler is also a member of the American Library Association, and has served on numerous boards and committees for both the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

Although Chandler has only been in Montana for a few years, his big boots and Texas drawl have surely found their place here. He is a welcome, and vital, addition to the Montana library community. He is always ready and eager to help and it is for that reason, he has been chosen as an MPLA Board Choice winner. Congratulations, Chandler!

### A Good Practice Reminder From Pattern Research:

Tight budgets shouldn't mean an end to opportunities. A workplace magazine article club is a quick way for employees to introduce other staff members to new ideas. Business, self-help, and specialty magazines and Websites are all good sources of concise articles on personnel management, and leadership issues. Take turns hunting for one-page summaries about consumer trends, new technology, the concerns of seniors, teenagers, and recent immigrants, education, and health, then present your new information at a 30 minute brown bag lunch.

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### **Children's and School Section's Choice**

Amelia Shelley has recently announced her selection for MPLA Board Choice Award. Amelia has named **Shari Haskins** of Lander, WY (Fremont County) for the Children's and School Section Board Choice Award. Shari is the Adult/YA Service Librarian at the Fremont County Library and chair-elect of the Children's/Young Adult Section of the Wyoming Library Association.

Shari has lived in Fremont County for 10 years. She graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1982 with a BS in physical education, with a minor in English and a middle school endorsement. She taught middle school and junior high for 11 years, including physical education and reading. She also coaches girls' basketball, volleyball, track and tennis.

Shari has been a real innovator at Fremont County. Along with establishing a young adult program for the library, she has found creative ways to appeal to teens in her area such as gas coupons for summer reading incentives and a youth volunteer program. This is particularly effective due to the isolated nature of her community.

One of the first things Shari did was move the YA area. Like so many libraries, it was in some dark, far-off corner where no one would ever take notice of it. Within a year they moved the entire YA area down into the adult area. The YAs now have their own bookcases for their fiction, their own magazine section, and all the YA non-fiction is intershelved with the adult non-fiction. The useage of all YA material has increased by a third.

### **Arizona's Choice**

Jane Kolbe, MPLA's Arizona Representative, nominates **Jan Elliott** for the MPLA Board Choice Award. Jan Elliott is a Consultant with the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records. Jan has been at the Arizona State Library since 1992. She came to the state library from Arizona State University West.

Jan has managed the state library's continuing education program including the week-long summer institute held in conjunction with the University of Arizona's Library School. That role will be expanding to spearhead an effort of the Western Council of State Librarians in the next year to coordinate, expand and improve access to library education at all levels in the west.

Jan has helped a significant segment of Arizona libraries set appropriate goals and improve their focus on the future with a strategic planning process. She is also responsible for collecting Arizona's public library statistics.

Jan is active in the Arizona Library Association and the Maricopa County Library Council. She graduated from the State University of New York at Geneseo, NY. Jan enjoys reading mysteries, hiking, camping, horseback riding, bird watching and her friends and family.

### **Colorado's Choice**

**Cynthia Hashert**, Auraria Library in Denver, has been selected to receive a one-year free membership in MPLA as part of MPLA's Board Choice program. Cynthia was selected by Suzanne Taylor, the Colorado Association of Libraries Representative to MPLA.

Cynthia Hashert is the Head of the Acquisitions Department at Auraria Library (serving the University of Colorado at Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and the Community College of Denver). She has a B.A. in English from the University of Texas at Arlington and an M.L.S. from the University of North Texas. Before coming to Auraria Library in 1996, Cynthia was at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she held various positions including reference librarian and serials librarian. She currently purchases all the materials for Auraria Library including electronic resources and serials. She is an active member of the Colorado Library Association (now Colorado Association of Libraries) and has served as chair of the Technical Services and Automation Division.

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## Greetings from Nebraska—The Cornhusker State!



I am Paul S. Hoffman, the Nebraska Library Association Representative for the Mountain Plains Library Association. (Okay...this isn't exactly the truth. I am the NLA Representative, but "Hoffman" isn't my real last name. In 1906, im-



**Paul Hoffman**

migration officials at Ellis Island found my grandfather's last name too difficult to pronounce so they *suggested* Hoffman as an alternative. My grandfather, who spoke very little English and did not want to cause any tsuris\* that might result in him being shipped back to Kiev, readily agreed. How else could he earn enough to bring the whole mishpocheh\*\* to

America? There's a more to this story...when we meet I'll tell you about it).

\* Yiddish for troubles, difficulties, etc.

\*\* Yiddish for family/relatives

I was born in California. However, my father's first professional position was that of library director for Northern Natural Gas Company (later becoming the company we all know as ENRON). This meant pulling up family roots by the shores of Monterey and transplanting them to the streets of Omaha.

I received my undergraduate degree in speech communication at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis. I later attended a technical institute in the "Twin Cities," where I learned graphic design and multimedia production. Dissatisfied working as a designer – where my efforts were deemed creative if the client thought so – I spent a year or two at odd jobs and thinking about a vocation that

would make me happy. Something positive resonated inside when I gave serious thought to following in my father's footsteps.

And so... I received my MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1988. I returned to Nebraska where I was fortunate to be offered a position with the Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) as their network coordinator – supporting the informational, technical, and administrative needs of OCLC-member libraries throughout the state. During my six years with the NLC, I was privi-

leged to travel throughout the state visiting all kinds of libraries: some, small brick buildings nestled

in peaceful, rural settings. Others fashioned in metal and glass bearing a contemporary architect's vision of utility and beauty. At each stop across the broad expanse of a state that measures its beauty on a horizontal scale, I found a common thread in the dedicated librarians determined to bring their resources to bear for the benefit of the community they served. Fourteen years ago, when I started my position, those resources (especially computer- and Web-based tools) varied greatly from institution to institution. But the goal and philosophy of service, then and now, remain as enduring as the Conestoga wagonwheel ruts that can still be seen etched deep into the ground in western Nebraska.

Of course, a different sort of pioneer now traverses the state, and beyond. Where once Nebraskans sought to establish homesteads to graze cattle and farm the rich soil, they now seek enrichment from information with which to cultivate



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diverse interests. With the help of state and federal aid; local initiatives; and collaborative partnerships Nebraskans access information via the Internet, local area networks, new libraries, continuing education opportunities, and involvement in library organizations/conventions.

Where once seeds were scattered along furrows of rich soil, networks of fiber optic lines crisscross the state. Where a person's horizon line was once defined as the gentle curve of the plains at the edge of his/her vision, resources Nebraska libraries provide have helped to provide new kinds of vision for citizens and their communities. And the benefits derived from new sources of information have dramatically expanded the horizons for Nebraskans, creating new landscapes unimagined by the early pioneers. These metaphors should not suggest that agriculture has ceased to be part of our proud heritage and prosperous future, only that information is also a precious resource and knowledge is the result of its cultivation.

Time passes. In library positions at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (where I supported National Library of Medicine member-libraries) and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (where I am currently an instructional librarian and professor of record for a library course), I've had additional opportunities to read the lay of the land. I like what I see. There is a greater awareness on the part of the public that the library transcends "place" – that is to say, it offers access to materials and information not centrally located – while acknowledging (and relying on) the indispensable elements of expertise and dedication that are the providence of our librarians and library staff.

There are exciting and challenging times to be a librarian, and I've done my best to keep up (and ride when I can) the wave of new technologies, user needs, and issues facing our field. I have tried to remain active in the Nebraska Library Association, as Nebraska's MPLA Representative, and as a member of NLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee and Information Technology and Access Roundtable. I have served on various library committees at UNL,

and have attended numerous workshops, seminars, and conventions. I continue to "keep the saw sharp" by providing library training and instruction, drawing upon new skills and perspectives from my colleagues across the nation, and doing what I can (formally and informally) to be an advocate for information literacy/access...which surely must be a cornerstone for our great republic.

I have been fortunate enough in my comparatively short career as a librarian to work with talented, energetic, and generous people on *both* sides of the reference desk. I have seen the way good libraries enrich the lives of people and contribute to the growth of communities. And I have belonged to organizations like the Mountain Plains Library Association, which has shown me that, like an acorn seed, ideas can be sown and nurtured to create something great and of benefit to many. I have learned a great deal from many MPLA members, and have left MPLA conferences feeling "recharged" and proud of our profession.

I have one year remaining as an MPLA State Representative. I look forward to it, and to meeting members (new and not-so-new) of this wonderful organization!

See you down the road,  
Paul S. Hoffman



*"...Elsewhere the sky is the roof of the world; but here the earth was the floor of the sky."* Willa Cather referring to Nebraska

### **Visit beautiful Lincoln!**

The Nebraska Library Association and the Nebraska Educational Media Association cordially invite you to join us for "Nebraska Libraries: Leading, Linking, and Learning" October 23-25, 2002, at the joint NLA/NEMA Fall Conference to be held at the Cornhusker Hotel and Convention Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Visit the following conference Website for conference planning committee contacts, exhibitor, and pre-conference information, and NLA award information:

[www.nol.org/home/NLA/conference/index.html](http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/conference/index.html)

## Some Things You Might Like To Know About Nebraska And Nebraska Libraries

- Nebraska's population is growing. (Folks must be fleeing the coasts). 2000 Census figures place the state population at 1,711,263.
- Nebraska — the state that gave us Arbor Day — was the first state in the nation to adopt both an official grass and soil, designating little bluestem in 1969, and Holdrege soil in 1979. Walk out the door of one of our libraries and perhaps you will see a garden of goldenrod (the state plant), a towering eastern cottonwood (the state tree), or a western meadowlark (the state bird) taking wing.
- Lincoln, Nebraska's capital, is celebrating 125 years of service to readers with a variety of city-wide events.
- In 2002, LSTA Grants and local funds totaling \$400,340 were distributed to almost 50 Nebraska public libraries.
- Nebraska has more than 270 public libraries (accredited and non-accredited) administered by six regional systems. More than 40 public libraries meet Advanced Accreditation Guidelines.
- Currently, the Nebraska Library Association has 754 members. This includes personal, subscription, and institutional members.
- Nebraska has 19 college and universities.
- The mission of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission is to “make the State of Nebraska's information technology infrastructure more accessible and responsive to the needs of its citizens, regardless of location, while making investments in government, education, health care and other services more efficient and cost effective.”
- In 2002, more than \$362,000 was distributed in the form of state aid to over 160 Nebraska libraries.
- In 2001, the Nebraska Library Commission awarded Training and Continuing Education Grants to 17 libraries in the amount of \$41,731.
- We are young and we are old: Approximately 6.9% of the total population of Nebraska is preschool age children, and approximately 15,706 residents are nursing home residents (6.9% of those are 65 and older).
- Notable Nebraska Authors:  
Bess Streeter Aldrich  
Mari Sandoz  
John Neihardt  
Loren Eiseley



- Some notable Native Americans:  
Red Cloud  
Standing Bear
- Nebraska public libraries provide more than 13,000 children's programs each year and lend over 4,649,000 items to youth.
- Nebraska public libraries provide more than 1,400 programs a year and lend over 5,929,000 items to adults.
- We are a diverse group of library users: At least 77 home languages were identified by a statewide public survey. Spanish language ranks first. Asian languages are second.
- Nebraska library customers have access to over 160,000 audiotapes.
- The Nebraska Public Library Commission was established by an act of the Legislature on March 27, 1901. The Commission was charged to "encourage the establishment of libraries where none existed and the improvement of those already established."
- Together, the Libraries of the University of Nebraska System (Univ. of NE-Lincoln, Univ. of NE-Omaha, Univ. of NE-Kearney, and Univ. of NE Medical Center) and Creighton University filled 43,525 ILL requests and borrowed 35,081 items during the 2001-2002 year.
- 94 Nebraska public library directors serve populations less than 1,000. 73 Nebraska library directors serve populations of 1,000 to 2,499.
- Nebraska has an active Community–Library Advocacy Project in place whose goal it is to provide "affordable, reliable, progressive, and equitable library service for all Nebraskans regardless of their economic status and geographic location." This is being accomplished through activities such as increasing citizen support for public libraries; developing citizen library advocates; promoting and developing partnership networks and coalitions; and building local library support in communities with low local per capita library income.
- Love Library (located at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln) is Nebraska's largest research library. It and the UNL branch libraries contain more than 2,374,000 volumes...one of which is a Shakespeare first folio. (This does not circulate.) During the academic year 2001-2002, Love Library librarians handled 55,557 reference questions.

Sources: Nebraska Library Commission Website [<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/>]  
NITC Website [<http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/nitc/>]  
Nebraska Community-Library Advocacy Project Webpage [<http://www.state.ne.us/home/NLA/advocacy/visionfindhapne.html>]  
Cataloging and ILL Departments of UNL

## Nebraska Library Association offers retail discounts to members

The year the Nebraska Library Association Committee is hard at work seeking discounts for card-carrying members of NLA at various bookstores, restaurants, and hotels across the state. These are the establishments people prefer, according to a questionnaire on the NLAALL listserv. NLA mem-

bers enjoy other important benefits including professional development, scholarship and awards, and legislative advocacy. More information on this benefits effort will appear on the NLA Website: [www.nol.org/home/NLA](http://www.nol.org/home/NLA).

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## Olivigni chosen as Nebraska Board Choice Winner

Paul Hoffman recently announced his Board Choice Award Winner from the State of Nebraska: **Lisa Olivigni**, Director of Crete Public Library.

Lisa was born and raised in Lewellen, NE, which is located on the edge of the panhandle. She graduated from UNL with a BA in English in 1989. She later earned her MLS from Emporia State University's first Nebraska program in 1994. From 1988 to 1994, Lisa was employed as a paraprofessional at both Lincoln City Libraries and UNL's Binding Department.

From 1995 to 1996, Lisa was employed by CEGA Services in Lincoln. There, she worked with the National Literacy and GED hotlines, and edited the bi-monthly newsletter *The Written Word*. She also provided information resources for various members of the non-governmental associations of the United Nations.

Lisa has been in her current position as Director of Crete Public Library for nearly seven years. During that time, she has worked with the library board and staff to continue and further develop the library's commitment to serving an increasingly diverse community.

Lisa has been fortunate to work in various types of libraries, but the public library setting has become her preferred choice for her career.

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## Around the MPLA Region

(Continued from page 9)

time and three part-time Denver Public Library (DPL) staff members were laid off to help offset the budget cuts. DPL will also reduce spending for books and materials and will trim statewide services. Another impact is the depletion of the Colorado Resource Center's funding that allows DPL to provide statewide services to Colorado

residents. Last year, under the Colorado Resource Center contract, DPL loaned 70,000 books to other libraries and reference librarians answered 160,000 questions from non-Denver residents. These cuts took place on July 1.

*"Hats Off to Libraries"* -- The first conference of the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL) will be held Oct. 17-20, 2002 in Keystone, Colorado. Among the speakers will be Ann Seidl of Florida presenting *The Hollywood Librarian*, a dynamic presentation that examines the librarian image and includes film clips and humorous analysis; Marjorie Heins giving the Julie Boucher Memorial Lecture as the keynote address; and Reggie Rivers, radio host, newspaper columnist, author, and former Denver Broncos running back. Registration materials will be posted to the CAL Website soon. For more information, contact Judy Zelenski: [jzelenski@earthlink.net](mailto:jzelenski@earthlink.net) or Kim Meyer: [kmeyer@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:kmeyer@jeffco.k12.co.us).

*Award goes to the Tattered Cover Owner* -- Joyce Meskis and the Tattered Cover Bookstore were recognized for their defense of Intellectual Freedom at the Annual ALA Conference. The bookstore employees and management resisted pressure to disclose information about their patrons. They recently won the court case against them.

*OCLC to design a public access computing portal with CSL* -- OCLC is the recipient of a \$9 million, three-year grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to build a portal for public libraries and other institutions whose mission includes "open access to authoritative knowledge resources." The Colorado State Library, the Benton Foundation, Isoph, and TechSoup are partner organizations that will design, develop, and operate the portal. The portal will host various digital services such as online tutorials, training modules, Web casting message boards, and expert assistance. Planned release of the portal is April 2003.

(Continued on page 19)

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# Welcome to MPLA

## New Members



ARIZONA  
Ann Dutton  
Cholla Middle School

Melanie Edens  
Glendale Public Library

Ellen Fallon  
Pinal County Library District

Patricia Gould  
Congress Public Library

Patricia Gurule  
Wilson Elementary School

Celeste Langellier  
Palomino Library (Scottsdale)

Anna Leon  
Scottsdale Public Library

Kathleen Sullivan  
Phoenix Public Library

COLORADO  
Rebecca Fenn  
Bemis Public Library

Jane Groves  
Weld Library District

Cynthia Hashert  
Auraria Library

Cindy Jaye  
Denver Public Library

Judy Mitchell  
Colorado State University

Melody Sullivan

KANSAS  
Atchinson Library

Michaela Ayers  
Coffeyville Comm. College

Kathleen Byrd  
Johnson County Library

Sharon Cochran  
Hutchinson Public Library

Cathy Fish  
Hillsboro Public Library

Toni Harrell  
Kansas Talking Book Service

Lynn Haggard  
Fort Hays State University

Terry Hime  
Holton Middle School

Cecilia Huddleston  
Augusta Public Library

Jackie Lakin  
Kansas State Dept. of Ed.

Richard Matthews  
Wichita State University

Sharon Morris  
Emporia State University

Catherine Newland  
Morrill Public Library

Deb Southerland  
Topeka/Shawnee Cty. Public

Annette Smith  
Hutchinson Public Library

Michelle Swain  
Arkansas City Public Library

MONTANA  
Janis Bruwelheide  
Montana State University

Susan Costle  
Dwyer Intermediate School

Milla Cummins  
Livingston/Park Cty. Library

Trudi Downer  
Laurel High School

Norma Glock  
Columbus High School

Melissa Heckard  
U. of Montana-Western

Bridgett Johnson  
Lewistown Public Library

Jim Kammerer  
Montana State Library

Lauren McMullen  
Carnegie Library, Big Timber

Gene Robson  
Parmly Billings Library

Bonnie Williamson  
Havre-Hill County Library

NEBRASKA  
Gayle Poirer  
Wayne State College

Lisa Olivigni  
Crete Public Library

NEVADA  
Jean Adams  
Amargosa Valley Public Lib.

C.L. Cameron  
West Charleston Lib., Vegas

Thom Cummins  
Nevada State Library &  
Archives

Karen Dannehl  
Great Basin College

Luisse Davis  
Douglas County Public Library

Brenda Gibbons  
Pahrump Community Library

Anita Guymon  
Wells Combined School

Eileen Horn  
Clark County School District

Kathleen Martin  
Las Vegas County Library

Susan Williams  
Las Vegas County Library

Lyn Wren  
North Las Vegas Library Dist.

NEW MEXICO  
Alison Almquist  
Wherry Elementary School

Kathy Barco  
New Mexico State Library

Rogers Barde  
Bloomfield High School

Toni Beatty  
Rio Rancho Public Library

Stephanie Gerding  
New Mexico State Library

Linda Heckes  
Eisenhower Middle School

Judy Hooks  
Inez Elementary School

Judy Hulsey  
St. Francis Cathedral School

Betty Long  
Roswell Public Library

Jennifer Marquart  
Monte Vista Elem. School

Earl Phillips  
Las Cruces Public Schools

NORTH DAKOTA  
Donna James  
Valley City State University

Sally Jenkins  
Trustee, Minot Public Library

Alfred Peterson  
North Dakota State Library

Janet Rex  
University of North Dakota

Judith Toelle  
Minot Air Force Base

Kathy VanEckhout

Rachel White  
North Dakota State Library

OKLAHOMA  
Don Klein  
Newkirk Public School

Anna Moore  
Pioneer Library System

Earlene Piercy  
Chickasaw Regional Lib. Sys.

Pat Williams  
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries

SOUTH DAKOTA  
Annie Brunskill  
South Dakota State Library

Nancy Eckert  
Alexander Mitchell Public Lib.

Dustin Larmore  
Dakota State University

Vickie Salonen  
South Dakota State University

UTAH  
Karen Griggs  
Brigham Young University

WYOMING  
Gloria Hicks  
University of Wyoming

Glenda Williams  
Natrona County Public Library

## KANSAS



At left, Shelley Morehead of Pizza Hut and Carol Nazar of the Wichita Public Library discuss plans for a reading corner honoring Eunice Ellis, retired director of Pizza Hut's BOOK-IT! Reading Incentive Program.

*Pizza Hut pledges support for library* -- On July 27, Director of Libraries, Cynthia Berner Harris, and Wichita Public Library Foundation Executive Director, Carol Nazar, met with Pizza Hut employees from Kansas, Texas, and Pennsylvania at the Evergreen Branch Library. Eunice Ellis, former director of Pizza Hut's BOOK IT! National Reading Incentive Program, has recently retired after 18 years of administration of this well-known and important literacy project. To recognize her many years of service, Pizza Hut has made a financial commitment to the library to create "The Eunice Ellis Reading Corner" within the Evergreen branch currently under construction. The donated funds will be used to provide some special library shelving and a collection of some of Ms. Ellis' favorite children's books.

## MONTANA

*New leadership and focus for 2002-2003* -- Coby Johnson, catalog librarian at the University of Montana in Missoula, is the new president of MLA, and she led a board retreat at the end of July covering such topics as library advocacy to boards, the legislature's coming session and community political entities, and leadership training. The remainder of the retreat at a remote camp in south central Montana was used to familiarize board members and committee chairmen with the organization and their duties and charges for the coming year. Coby is a weaving enthusiast, and her 2003 MLA Conference theme is "Libraries Woven Together: Collaboration + Cooperation = Strength."

*Leadership training* -- The Montana Library Association has a particular concern with leadership training to enhance the work of the association as well as to increase the strength of library awareness throughout the state. We are one of the states most concerned about lack of leadership training, particularly for paraprofessionals since such a large portion of our librarians do not have MLS degrees. MLA will be taking a look at the MPLA and PNLA Leadership Institutes now in their beginning stages and will discuss Montana's needs, possibly considering a leadership training course of its own.

*Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Task Force* -- With the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial fast approaching, the Task Force is recruiting members and designing projects for the benefit of Montana's libraries and patrons as well as visitors during 2003-2006. A principal project of the chairman is the partnership with the National Park Service Corps of Discovery II, which will bring a major education exhibit and activities to Montana towns as well as towns in the many "trail states." Other projects include Montana Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Passports with places for stamps and sticker from libraries, and a children's activity book for the Bicentennial.

## NEVADA

*Web on Wheels (WOW)!* -- WOW is a new program providing free assemblies for K-5 students in community schools. These interactive assemblies promote the library, the services it provides and on-line resources available through the Website. At the time of the visit, each student receives special incentives to use library resources. Assembly themes are available year-round featuring: African American history; Hispanic heritage; Asian Pacific American heritage; math; Native American heritage; science projects; Nevada young readers' award; storytelling; Webilicious! (classroom presentation of library Websites, databases and resources).

Each theme is designed to be presented to K-2, 3-5 or individual grades. K-2 presentations empha-

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size storytelling and puppetry, and include a brief introduction to the Website. 3-5 presentations use storytelling and puppetry with a strong focus on Website and electronic resources.

*Library association announces scholarships* -- The NLA Scholarship Committee, announces the following scholarship recipients for 2002: SIRSI Scholarship Winner (\$1000): Ann LaGumina; James S. McPhee Memorial Scholarship Winners (\$850 each): Deanna Cause, Carolyn Cameron, Brenda Elkins, Michele Lucero, Julie Ullman, Sidney Watson, and Rachelle Weigel.

Of our eight scholarship recipients, four of them currently work for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (one in health sciences, one in adult reference, and two in youth services). There is also one recipient from the Henderson District Public Libraries (youth services), one from the Washoe County Library District (youth services), one from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas libraries, and one who is an elementary school librarian in the Clark County School District.

## **NEW MEXICO**

*Tribal Libraries Program unique in nation* -- The New Mexico State Library's Tribal Libraries Program is the first of its kind in the nation to provide specialized library development services to tribal communities on a statewide basis. Initiated in 1994 when Senator Leonard Tsosie introduced legislation for \$500,000 to establish a technology access project on New Mexico's Indian reservations using tribal libraries and information centers, the New Mexico State Library was given the responsibility of carrying out the legislative intent. In 1998 when state funding of \$270,000 per year was added to the state library's budget for the Tribal Libraries Program, the continuation and growth of the program was ensured.

The focus for 2002-03 will be expanded technology training for all tribal communities in New Mexico. Thanks to a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Native American Access to

Technology Program, the Tribal Libraries Program will be able to extend its computer training outreach to tribal program staff and community members in all of New Mexico's tribal communities. Previous training was able to focus on providing software training and hardware troubleshooting workshops for tribal library staff and Navajo chapter staff only.

*Latte libraries* -- As a part of the general fund budget that was approved in May, Albuquerque City officials are called for a pilot program that would offer space in the Albuquerque public libraries for coffee shops, according to a report in the *Albuquerque Journal* by Jim Ludwick on May 25. "Look at what's happening in the private sector," the report quoted Councilor Greg Payne as saying. "Having a place for folks to unwind could actually make the city money. We're going to pick a library and give it a shot. If it works, I'd like to see us give libraries throughout the city the same chance."



*NM directory of libraries online* -- After years of development, State Librarian Ben Wakashige announced that the library directory (a combination of public, academic, school, and special libraries directories) is available through the New Mexico State Library Webpage [www.stlib.state.nm.us/libraryservices/lsmain.html](http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/libraryservices/lsmain.html).

*READiculous Webpage* -- Jeepers, Creepers ... look at those rotating Peepers! The expanded "Punch Lines," the manual for READiculous/leer el ridiculo, New Mexico's statewide summer reading program 2002, is now up on the New Mexico State Library Website ([www.stlib.state.nm.us/libraryservices/youthservices/youth.html](http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/libraryservices/youthservices/youth.html)). Kathy Barco, youth services coordinator and manual writer, solicited ideas for programming, crafts, decorations, celebrations, riddles, Websites, sources, etc., from youth services librarians around the state.

*Libraries on the November ballot* -- Governor Gary Johnson signed the Library GO Bond bill. His signature allows the bill to be included on the No-

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vember 2002 ballot, when the voters of New Mexico will decide if they are willing to support public, school, and academic libraries. The Library Bond actual appropriation is for \$16,080,000. \$100,000 has been set aside for administration/processing of the bonds. This leaves \$15,980,000. The distribution of this amount is as follows: \$4,852,000 for public libraries; \$7,704,000 for public school libraries; \$3,424,000 for academic libraries.

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

*Native author celebrated* -- Bismarck Public Library celebrated the anniversary of the 100th year since the birth of author John Steinbeck with programs on Steinbeck's impact on American culture and film, with discussions on his short novels. Members of Jamestown's Louis L'Amour Heritage Committee celebrated the author and North Dakota native's birthday at the Alfred Dickey Public Library. Donations for the celebration came from L'Amour nephew Richard Waldo, mayor of Danville, CA.

*Award-winning library staff* -- Byrnes-Quanbeck Library staff at Mayville State University were given the Comet West Teamwork Award, an all-employee recognition award given at Mayville State U's annual employee recognition dinner. These staff members are Edith Anderson, Doreen Rosevold, Sarah Batesel, Shannon Hofer, and Marge Fugleberg.

*North Dakota, Arizona connection* -- Fargo Public Library sponsored a session for public and school librarians in Fargo and Moorhead on youth collection development and programming. Dr. Timothy Wadham, children's coordinator at Maricopa County Library, Phoenix, AZ gave the program sessions. He has written on children's programming, fantasy literature for children, and services to Spanish-language youth. Instruction, demonstrations, Q&A, and work in the library's online training lab all were featured.

*Library starting new program for homebound* -- Williston Community Library, in partnership with Leader-

ship Williston, is beginning a new program for homebound people in its service area. Volunteers will deliver materials for shut-ins and will visit with them every three weeks. Materials available from this service include large-print books, videos, music audiocassettes, and CDs.

*MPLA members promoted* -- MPLA member Marlene Anderson, former Technical Services Librarian at Bismarck State College Library and its Interim Director, was named Director of Library Services effective July 1. Former director Marcella Schmaltz retired in December 2001. Karen Chobot, MPLA member, and Reference and Serials Librarian at the Mildred Johnson Library at North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, was promoted to Director of the library upon the retirement of its director, Jerald Stewart.

## **OKLAHOMA**

*2002-2003 Leadership Retreat* -- The Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) Leadership Retreat is held each year to provide leadership skills to OLA leaders including past, present and future executive board members, roundtable, committee and division chairs. Sixty-six people attended the retreat which was held June 6, 2002 in Ardmore at the Noble Foundation Conference Center. The retreat was a great learning experience for everyone, the setting was gorgeous, the food was fabulous and the camaraderie was great!

Presentations at the leadership retreat included: Workshop Planning, Marketing and Implementation; Reviewing the OLA Long Range Plan and the OLA Mission; Effective Leadership, Cooperative Processing and Team Building; and State Legislation for Libraries. Oklahoma Senator, Johnny Crutchfield, joined OLA leaders for first-hand insight and pointers on contacting legislators.

*Oklahoma Library Association Centennial 2007* -- The OLA Centennial Committee is developing plans and programs for the upcoming convergence of the combined Centennial in 2007. This is an exciting time for Oklahoma libraries as they approach their hundred year landmark.

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*OLA Workshops held -- 5/15/02* **“Help Wanted: Librarians! How to Successfully Recruit and be Recruited in a Time of Librarian Shortage.”** This workshop was designed to give people in hiring positions ideas on better recruitment and hiring, as well as give potential employees an opportunity to express what they are looking for and what their potential employers actually need. *8/7/02* **“Way Cool Programming for YA’s.”** A great opportunity for public and school librarians who work with teens to meet and network with colleagues, share ideas, learn a new framework for setting goals and evaluating teen services, and learn about successful teen library programs. **2002 Oklahoma Summer Reading Theme.** “Books Ahoy, Sail through the Summer with Stories!” is Oklahoma’s successful summer reading theme for public libraries this summer, developed by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

*Online reference service becomes reality --* The Dakota State University Karl Mundt Library, the Northern State University Williams Library and the South Dakota State Library Hiram Briggs Library received a LSTA grant to purchase necessary software and equipment to start a cooperative online chat (synchronous) reference service. This service will compliment the other services provided, such as e-mail (asynchronous) reference. This is a pilot project for South Dakota and the primary goal is to serve patrons and evaluate the service and its usage. Librarians from each university will participate in helping the students from all three universities. The service will premiere to students and faculty this fall. Once the policies have been established and the “bugs” are worked out, other South Dakota libraries will be invited to join the service.

*Lots of kids read with Arthur --* The “Read Across South Dakota With Arthur” program was a joint collaboration between South Dakota Public Broadcasting and the South Dakota State Library who created this program as a means to promote summer reading and read-



ing enjoyment in general. From June 3 to June 7, Elaine Larson, Director of Education and Outreach at SDPB, Pamela Chamberlain, Children’s Services Development Coordinator at the South Dakota State Library, and Aimee Everett, South Dakota State Library summer intern, traveled the state with Arthur. Arthur is the beloved character creation of popular children’s book author, Marc Brown.

The program featured the sharing of Arthur stories, Arthur related games and activities and an appearance by Arthur himself. In addition, information concerning the importance of summer reading and South Dakota Public Broadcasting’s Ready To Learn Program were made available for parents.

The “Read Across South Dakota With Arthur” program was implemented at 10 libraries around the state. Two libraries were visited a day. The total attendance at all of the programs was 664 kids (ages 0-16 years) and 260 adults. The libraries were selected based on a competitive grant application system. The libraries that received the program demonstrated a community commitment to it, as well as a limited summer reading program budget. A total of 46 school and public libraries applied for the program statewide.

## **UTAH**

*Willey begins term as ULA President --* The Utah Library Association held its annual conference May 1-3 in Sandy, a suburb of Salt Lake City. Keynote speakers were Amy Owen, Director, Utah State Library Division, and Beverly Evans, State Senator. They presented an overview of the 21st Century Library Initiative and the recently-completed statewide needs assessment. Kayla Willey, of the Lee Library at Brigham Young University, began her term as ULA President for 2002-2003.

*First new bookmobile in 25 years --* The state has its first new bookmobile to be built in a quarter century. Last fall, a company received a \$1.5 million contract to manufacture 13 bookmobiles over the

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next six years. The new units will replace seriously aging bookmobiles that have served rural county library patrons for an average of nearly 30 years. The Sanpete County Bookmobile Library moved to the old post office building, next door to city hall, on the main street in Fairview. The new facility has better lighting and better protection from the elements than did the old facility. The library is open to the public, and serves all rural areas of Sanpete County, in central Utah.

*Sit with Twain* -- A life-size sculpture of Mark Twain now sits outside the Delta City Library, a community in the state's western desert. The bronze sculpture sits on a bronze park bench, reading, and inviting a library patron to join him on the bench. Gary Price of Springville, UT, designed the sculpture, one of an edition of 60 released in 2001.

*New libraries* -- The newly-formed Eagle Mountain Public Library in Utah County was formally recognized and certified by the Utah State Library Board. The library was started in 1998 by a Friends group which secured a small room at the fire station and acquired books through local donations and a grant from the Le Libre Foundation. The library has now moved into a larger facility, with a salaried librarian. The South Salt Lake Library moved into a newly-renovated building, three times larger than the old library. The Lehi City Library in Utah County expanded into a vacant building next door. The two buildings were so professionally melded as to appear seamless.

## WYOMING

*Now officially Go WYLD!* -- Wyoming State Librarian, Lesley Boughton, is happy to announce that the WYLD library system is "going live." Library users can use the new statewide system iBistro software to search a library's catalog, visit other libraries, peruse high-quality Websites, read book reviews, summaries and other book information, all from a single, simple interface at [wyldweb.state.wy.us](http://wyldweb.state.wy.us). Through joint funding by state, local, and federal entities, the WYLD Network purchased Sirsi's Unicorn Consortia collec-

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## UPCOMING EVENTS-2002

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Sept. 9-13  | <b>Nevada</b> Library Institute, Carson City  |
| Sept. 19-21 | <b>Wyoming</b> Library Association, Casper  |
| Oct. 2-5    | <b>MPLA/North Dakota</b> Library Association/ <b>South Dakota</b> Library Association Tri-Conference, Fargo |
| Oct. 3-5    | <b>Nevada</b> Library Association Conference, Ely   |
| Oct. 16-20  | First Annual <b>Colorado</b> Association of Libraries Conference, Keystone                                  |
| Oct. 23-25  | <b>Nebraska</b> Library Association Convention, Lincoln   |
| Dec. 4-6    | <b>Arizona</b> Library Association Annual Conference, Phoenix   |
- 

tion management software. The iBistro access portal is provided by federal funding to assure that WYLD resources are available to all residents.

*Joe French Day* -- Joe French, state library business manager, received a proclamation for his skill and perseverance in managing WYLD accounts so that hardware, software, and training was accomplished without additional cost from the member libraries or the legislature. April 5 was declared "Joe French Day."

*Historical material to be available via Web* -- Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), 16 Wyoming institutions will be able to make historic materials in their care available to anyone with access to a computer connected to the Internet. Wyoming partners in the project include the Coe Library and American Heritage Center, at the University of Wyoming; Casper College Library and Fort Casper Museum, Casper; the Platte County Library; the Chugwater Museum; the Glendo Museum; the Guernsey Visitor Center; the Laramie Peak Museum; the Wyoming State Historical Society; the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office; the Wyoming Arts Council; the Wyoming State Archaeologist; the Wyoming State Archives; and the Wyoming State Museum. The project has a completion date of December 2003.

# MPLA Newsletter

I.D. Weeks Library  
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Vermillion, SD 57069-2390

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## Librarians Benefit with MPLA

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

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

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

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

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

Sections(s)  Academic  Technical Services  State Agencies, Systems, & Cooperative  Public Library/Trustee  
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It is important to indicate section preferences if you would like to vote for section officers!

I am interested in serving on the following committee(s)  Awards  Finance  Bylaws & Procedures  Continuing Education  
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For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website at [www.usd.edu/mpla](http://www.usd.edu/mpla)

Mail to: Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary  
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