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# MPLA Newsletter

A Publication of the Mountain Plains Library Association

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[jedelen@usd.edu](mailto:jedelen@usd.edu)



## Big Winners for MPLA!



Receiving awards at the MPLA Tri-Conference in Fargo were (L-R) Charles Levandosky, Tracie Partridge, the Wichita Eagle newspaper, Mona Carmack, Tricia Suellentrop, and Kathy McLellan (not pictured Elizabeth Cook-Lynn).

At the joint MPLA/NDLA/SDLA Tri-Conference in Fargo, ND, Oct. 2-5, 2002, the following individuals and organizations were selected as the 2002 award recipients for MPLA. They were honored at the joint awards banquet held Friday, Oct. 4 at the Ramada Plaza Suites.

### ***MPLA Literary Contribution Award*** **Elizabeth Cook-Lynn**

The MPLA Literary Contribution Award is given to an author whose published writings are most successfully furthering an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region.

For over 25 years Professor Cook-Lynn has been a forceful voice for Indian tribes in the Dakotas and for Indians throughout

(Continued on page 3)

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North Dakota

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South Dakota

Suzanne Miller

Utah

Jean Jensen

Wyoming

Ara Anderson

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(Continued from page 1)



America. She is the prolific author of three books of essays and non-fiction, five novels and short story collections, and numerous articles, reviews and commentary in the *Wicazo Sa Review*

that she co-founded in 1985 and continues to edit. Professor Cook-Lynn was awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities and has received the Gustavus Myers Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights in North America for her 1996 book, *Why I Can't Read Wallace Stegner*. Her most recent work is *Anti-Indianism in Modern America*. Elizabeth Cook-Lynn is Professor Emerita of Eastern Washington University.

***MPLA Beginning Professional Award***  
**Tracie Partridge, Library Specialist & Children's Section Manager, Wichita Public Library.**

The MPLA Beginning Professional Award is given to a librarian or media specialist who has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service within the last five years after receiving a library/media specialist degree.

Tracie Partridge has been with the Wichita Public Library since 1999 when she started as a part time clerical aide. Her talents and abilities were immediately apparent to her supervisors and she was quickly promoted through the organization. Like many library students, Tracie juggled her job with her pursuit of a library degree from Emporia State Univer-

sity. Before she completed her MLS in May 2001, Tracie was appointed to a professional supervisory position as the Manager of the WPL Central Library Children's Section. Tracie Partridge is a member of the WPL "Librarian-in-Charge" corps, the WPL electronic resources committee, the co-chair of the WPL children's programming committee and a regular instructor in the WPL Technology Training Center.

***MPLA Youth Services Award***  
**Johnson County Library's Read to Succeed program, Kathy McLellan, Youth Outreach Librarian, and Tricia Suellentrop, Young Adult Librarian, Johnson County Library**

The MPLA Youth Services Award is given to a library that exemplifies excellence in library services to youth through reading promotion, youth participation, and programs and services that address special needs.

The Johnson County Library *Read to Succeed* program serves teens at risk in the Johnson County (KS) Juvenile Detention Center. It began in 1998 when a local judge sentenced a teenager to read a book. The program blossomed from that point. Kathy and Tricia provide issues-driven literature discussion, facilitating booktalk and read-aloud sessions with the residents of JDC. Kathy and Tricia make visits twice per month during the school year and once per week during the summer for a 45-minute session which includes book reviews, booktalks and reading aloud. About 10-15 teen residents participate in each session and with a shifting clientele, Kathy and Tricia serve about 1,200 residents per year.

***MPLA News Media Support Award***  
**The Wichita Eagle, Wichita, Kansas**

The MPLA News Media Support Award recognizes a news media organization which makes a strong effort to promote libraries and library services to the community.



*The Wichita Eagle* has always been a supporter of the Wichita Public Library, but even more so in the last year. In six of the past 12 months, stories have been written and printed about the library's weeding plans and processes; two library building projects; a pilot project to support a joint digital library involving the library, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum and the Special Collections of Wichita State University; a profile of a traveling Smithsonian exhibit; a recognition of a branch manager's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with WPL and numerous other articles promoting library programs, the library's Website or librarianship as a career. A series of articles closely examined the Children's Internet Protection Act and other Internet access issues at WPL. *The Wichita Eagle* takes pride in presenting all sides of library issues with balance, clarity, and respect.

***MPLA Distinguished Service Award***  
**Mona Carmack, County Librarian,**  
**Johnson County Library**

The MPLA Distinguished Service Award is presented to an individual who has performed exemplary service in the field of librarianship for an extended period of time.

For the more than 30 years Mona Carmack has been working in libraries, she has spent over 25 of those years as a director—from small towns to a regional library system to a large urban library. Mona has been president of two state library associations, has served on the Legislation Committee for both the Kansas Library Association and the Northeast Kansas Library System and has held seats on the Kansas Library Network Board, the Kansas City Metropolitan Library Network, and numerous committees for the American Library Association. During Mona's directorship, the Johnson County Library conducted a decade-long building campaign that included three new branches and a new Central Resource Library, and replaced three existing small branches with much larger ones. In 2001, JCL circulated five million items for the first time.

For three successive years, the Johnson County Library has been a runner-up for *Library Journal's* Library of the Year. Mona's lifelong pursuit of excellence in librarianship have impacted libraries and residents in every state in which she has worked.

***MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award***  
**Charles Levendosky, editor of the OP-ED**  
**page, *Casper Star Tribune***

The MPLA Intellectual Freedom Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the enhancement of First Amendment rights.

Charles Levendosky has worked on the local, regional, and national levels promoting understanding of the First Amendment. His writings have assisted librarians in nearly every MPLA member state to promote intellectual freedom, the right to read, the right to speak freely and to make choices. Charles is a recent board member of the ALA Freedom to Read Foundation and in 1999 earned the Wyoming Library Association/SIRSI Intellectual Freedom Award. The winner of almost 20 journalism awards, Charles is also the creator of the FACT, the First Amendment Cyber-Tribune Website. His columns have appeared in more than 225 newspapers and Charles has traveled to the Supreme Court to cover numerous First Amendment cases including those concerning flag burning, graduation prayer, federal arts funding, and the Communications Decency Act. Charles continues to present and lecture on First Amendment issues and freelances for the *Casper Star Tribune*.

## Letter from the President

Dear MPLA Colleagues,

When I came into office ten months ago, the responsibilities of the position loomed large in front of me. Luckily, there are lots of members with experience in the various elected and appointed positions who help with MPLA

activities; there are excellent paid staff who manage the daily activities of the association, prepare the bi-monthly newsletter and keep the Webpages up-to-date. All of these people were able to provide me the details and background I needed as I encountered various questions about procedures and precedents.

I have enjoyed my time in office. I have been blessed to work with many who generously volunteer their time on committees or as officers and board members. With the hard work of the board and the paid staff, we have made steady progress on the activities and schedules enumerated in the LongRange Plan. Notable among those efforts this year has been the planning and the launching of the Leadership Institute; the first Leadership Institute will be held in November at the spectacular Ghost Ranch in New Mexico. We have had the services of MPLA Webmaster converted from a volunteer to a paid position and

have retained Dan Chaney in that new role; please review the many improvements Dan has made in the last few months at [www.usd.edu/mpla](http://www.usd.edu/mpla). And Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson has completed her first full year as newsletter editor; those of you who are long-term readers of the newsletter have noticed the many positive changes Lisa has initiated.

In October at the end of the conference in Fargo, I'll ease into my third year of elected work with the association as Past President. Please support the incoming officers and committee people as they take up the tasks assigned them; consider signing up for a committee or volunteering your time for the association in some capacity. Make a difference for yourself professionally and for your colleagues in the mountains plains region.

With best regards,  
Debbie

## *Ghost Ranch--here we come!*



After three years of planning the MPLA Leadership Institute is launched. Thirty participants and six mentors will arrive @ Ghost Ranch in northern New Mexico on Sunday, Nov. 10 for 3 ½ days of intensive training and memorable scenic experiences.

A committee chaired by Marilyn Hinshaw of Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, and consisting of Susan Awe of University of New Mexico; Patti Butcher of Northeast Kansas Library System; Carol Connor of Lincoln City Libraries, NE; and Donna Morris of Arkansas Valley Regional Library Service System, CO and ably assisted by Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary, worked long and hard to research models and develop the plan for the Institute.

The event is co-sponsored by EBSCO Information Services who are providing a generous grant to help offset expenses. This enables the participants to attend at a very reasonable cost.

The committee has chosen Maureen Sullivan to facilitate the Institute. Ms Sullivan provides consulting and training services to a number and variety of library and information service organizations, including library networks and professional associations. Her experience includes 12 years as the human resources administrator in the library at the University of Maryland (1977-1980) and at Yale University (1983-1991). She received her B.A. degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Maryland in 1974 and her M.A. degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland in 1976. She is widely considered a top notch library thinker, especially skilled in the arena of how libraries manage their human resources – the people who are a 60% share of most library budgets.

The six mentors chosen for the charter class are:  
**Mary Bushing**, Resources Development Librarian at Montana State University, retired  
(Continued on page 7)

The sound becomes unbearable. It growls and screams as it bears down on the migrants. The woman hands her two-year-old to the man as she hurries up the ladder. Just as she grabs for the girl, the water smashes into the man

Celebrated environmental writer and National Public Radio Commentator Craig Childs submerges you in the sudden tumult of desert flash floods. See how a desert's peace turns into instant terror, and meet those — the survivors and the lost — who faced this violence. As Child writes:

"The water rose around us as we swam . . . the stream picked up speed, turning dark, shoving at us."

"If the Colorado River itself were to flood, it would rise slowly from mountain snowmelt . . . If Havasu Canyon floods, there will be a compressed maelstrom bursting into this corridor like an angry giant unleashed, pounding from wall to wall."

"No one plans on dying this way, so suddenly. They run, but down-canyon holds no escape for them . . . The water is rising."

Available through your library, distributor or call 800-543-5432 and ask for the Sales Department. In Arizona call direct 602-712-2046.

Other titles by Craig Childs:

*The Southwest's Contrary Land* (ISBN 1-893860-19-1) \$39.95

*Grand Canyon: Time Below the Rim* (ISBN 0-916179-78-8) \$48.95

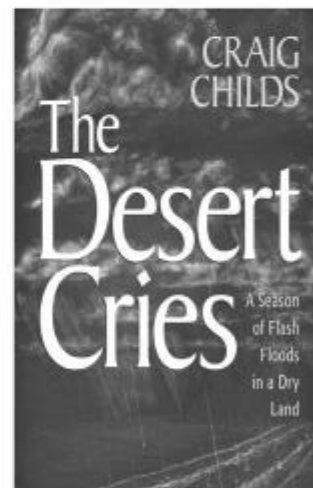
*Grand Canyon Stories: Then & Now* (ISBN 0-916179-79-6) \$10.95

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in a Dry Land*

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black and white illustrations.

\$14.95

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**ARIZONA HIGHWAYS**  
BOOKS



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**Lesley Boughton**, Director,  
Wyoming State Library  
**Mona Carmack**, County Librarian,  
Johnson County Library, KS  
**Dorothy Liegl**, Deputy State Librarian,  
South Dakota State Library  
**Randy Olsen**, Deputy University Librarian,  
Brigham Young University, UT  
**Marilyn Hinshaw**, Committee Chair

The Committee received 80 applications. 53% were from academic libraries, 35% from public libraries, 9% from "special" libraries, 3% were from school libraries. The MPLA State Representatives and state association presidents made the first 24 selections. They had some tough decisions since there were so many highly qualified applicants. The Institute Committee selected another five from alternates submitted by the States. EBSCO will send one participant.

The 2002 participants are:

**Amber D. Mathewson**, Tucson-Pima Public Library System, Tucson, AZ  
**Dan Stanton**, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
**Patricia A. Watkins**, Thunderbird American Grad School, Phoenix, AZ  
**Barbara Kawecki**, EBSCO Information Services, Golden, CO  
**Claudine Perrault**, Lone Tree Library, Douglas Pub. Lib. Dist., Lone Tree, CO  
**Martin Garnar**, Dayton Memorial Library, Regis University, Denver, CO  
**Jane Palmer**, Pueblo-City County Library District, Pueblo, CO  
**Laurel Littrell**, Kansas State University Libraries, Manhattan, KS  
**Dennis S. Wilson**, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, Topeka, KS  
**Michelle R. Swain**, Arkansas City Public Library, Arkansas City, KS  
**Jan Fandrich**, Montana State University-Billings Library, Billings, MT  
**Sally Schmidt**, Flathead County Library District, Kalispell, MT

**Melissa Heckard**, University of Montana-Western, Dillon, MT  
**Suzanne Morrison**, U. S. Court of Appeals, Fargo, ND  
**Karen Marie Chobot**, Mildred Johnson Library, NDSCS, Wahpeton, ND  
**Debora Robertson**, Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE  
**Stephanie Gerding**, New Mexico State Library, Santa Fe, NM  
**Susan Pinkerton**, New Mexico State University-DABCC, Las Cruces, NM  
**Brad Eden**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV  
**Debra Lynn McGuire**, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, Las Vegas, NV  
**Anna Moore**, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Norman, OK  
**David Oberhelman**, Oklahoma State University Library, Stillwater, OK  
**Cokie Anderson**, Oklahoma State University Library, Stillwater, OK  
**Lea Simon**, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD  
**Judith Howard**, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD  
**Julie K. Erickson**, Rapid City Public Library, Rapid City, SD  
**Peter Kraus**, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT  
**Marcia Cheney**, Utah State University, Merrill Library, Hyde Park, UT  
**Diana Oedekoven**, Northern Wyoming Community College District, Gillette, WY  
**Betsy Bernfeld**, Teton County Library, Jackson, WY

Ghost Ranch, well known as artist Georgia O'Keefe's home and inspiration, was originally part of a Spanish land grant, deeded to Spanish noble families in the 1600-1700s. Through a long, long period it was an integral part of the feudal links between Spain, Mexico and the eventual American Southwest. From the 1930s it was privately owned, later functioning as a dude ranch. During WWII it served as the location of a top secret rest

(Continued on page 9)



# Business Sense

Jean Anderson  
Business Librarian  
Fort Collins Public Library, CO

## Performance Appraisals

(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).)

Second only to firing an employee, managers cite giving performance appraisals as the task they dislike the most. It smacks of an old-fashioned, paternalistic, top down, autocratic mode of management that treats employees as possessions of the company. Many managers are uncomfortable in the role of judge, so uncomfortable, in fact, that performance appraisals are often months overdue. The following articles discuss the pros and cons of performance appraisals and new ways to address employee evaluation.

### How to Do an Employee Appraisal

[www.visitorinfo.com/gallery/howapp.htm](http://www.visitorinfo.com/gallery/howapp.htm)

Most supervisors do not have formal human resources training. This site offers a simple process for developing and preparing for a performance appraisal. Tips are given for how to conduct the employee evaluation and set expectations and objectives. An easy-to-follow outline is included with standard topics to be covered in the appraisal session.

### Why Ratings Based Appraisals Fail

[www.work911.com/performance/particles/rating.htm](http://www.work911.com/performance/particles/rating.htm)

Objectivity? Supervisors make pay and promotion decisions on information that is at best quite subjective. They forget that any rating is only an indication of how one person applies a fuzzy criterion. In terms of legal consequences, a poorly and badly designed set of criteria is probably not sufficient to protect an employer. Fairness and development issues are also discussed.

## Say Goodbye to the Annual Performance Review

[www.businessknowhow.com/manage/abolish/goodbye.htm](http://www.businessknowhow.com/manage/abolish/goodbye.htm)

Few employees react positively to the annual performance review experience. Most employees politely go through the process with little enthusiasm, and a smaller number get defensive and embittered. Only about 5% of organizations requiring appraisal are satisfied with its results. So, what are the alternatives?

## Measuring the Hard Stuff: Teams and Other Hard-to-Measure Work

[www.zigonperf.com/articles/hardstuff.html](http://www.zigonperf.com/articles/hardstuff.html)

Because there are many types of teams and individuals with different measurement challenges, the measurement process presented is not a linear one. This detailed article gives a step-by-step plan to make choices along the way to find the most efficient path to your goal. A worksheet is available.

## Evaluating the Evaluators

[www.shrm.org/hrmagazine/articles/10cover.html](http://www.shrm.org/hrmagazine/articles/10cover.html)

As a general rule, supervisors give their subordinates inflated performance appraisals. Poor employees are evaluated as marginally competent, marginal employees as satisfactory, satisfactory employees as above standard and good employees as deserving a throne next to God. This article from HR magazine discusses ways to keep appraisals consistent and fair.

## Extreme Review for Extreme Project Management

[www.refresher.com!/extremereview.html](http://www.refresher.com!/extremereview.html)

This author presents a different approach to appraisals. He believes the solution is to review the employee in the employee's environment. The answer is called RABOHA (Review and Appraisal Based on Human Attributes). The manager must observe the employee, then act upon that observation by giving certain advice to the employee,



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or take action to change the environment. A list of attributes for the basis of evaluation is given.

### **The Action Dimension: Which Employee is truly Effective?**

[www.hrzone.com/articles/action\\_dimension.html](http://www.hrzone.com/articles/action_dimension.html)

If supervisors really want to zero in on finding those employees who are the most productive they must look for all three of the abilities that make up a truly action oriented employee— initiation toward a goal, concentration, and persistence. Aside from just taking action, is the employee able to use their cognitive skills to solve the problem and persistent in making sure projects are done well? This author presents a discussion of the three characteristics necessary for productivity.

### **The Power of Performance Profiling**

[gbr.pepperdine.edu/011/performance.html](http://gbr.pepperdine.edu/011/performance.html)

A performance profile is a short index (one to three pages) of what it takes to be a high performer in a specific job or position. It is different from a traditional job description in that it emphasizes key results or outcomes and not simply activities.

### **Alternative Performance Reviews**

[www.toolpack.com/performance.html](http://www.toolpack.com/performance.html)

The best performance reviews let managers and employees communicate — share ideas, opinions, and information. Several alternatives to traditional reviews are presented: peer reviews, self-reviews, upward assessments, and 360-degree feedbacks.

### **How to Measure White Collar Employee Performance**

[www.zigonperf.com/articles/whitecollar.html](http://www.zigonperf.com/articles/whitecollar.html)

The nature of white-collar work makes it difficult to measure. White-collar work is different than assembly line work. It is less tangible and often more service-oriented with fewer, easily defined outcomes. Quality service is more difficult to measure than quality widgets. The author tells how to

create performance standards and gives examples of his model.

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).

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## *Ghost Ranch cont.*

(Continued from page 7)

and relaxation (R &R) center for scientists from Los Alamos who were then involved in work on the atomic bomb. The ranch was donated to the Presbyterian Church in 1955 and has served as a conference center since that time. In the “vast and other-worldly landscape” of northern New Mexico it is “a fertile green oasis, ... a meeting place where people gather to learn, to share ideas, search for inspiration and find inner strength.” In the spirit of this legendary place, the Leadership Institute will blend a new tradition with the adventure and creative energy encouraged within the MPLA organization to produce a memorable event in the lives of participants. Welcome to Ghost Ranch!

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### *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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Cutting the ribbon on the new library lobby are (L-R) Glenda DuBoise, David L. Leamon, and Roger Underwood, Chair of the Library Foundation.

## TSCPL Lobby Dedicated in Honor of Executive Director

Glenda DuBoise, Chair of the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Board of Trustees, announced the naming of the library's circulation lobby in honor of its executive director, David L. Leamon. The area was dedicated with a ribbon cutting and presentation of a Board of Trustees resolution on Wednesday, Aug. 28 at the library.

Leamon has served as the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Executive Director since 1992. As executive director, he oversees all operations of the library, including the popular renovation and expansion project completed earlier this year. The library gained national attention with the appearance of Laura W. Bush, First Lady of the United States, and world-renowned architect Michael Graves appearing at grand opening activities.

Leamon earned his Masters of Library Science and Public Library Administration from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

## MPLA Election Results 2002

*Vice-President/President-Elect*  
**CAROL HAMMOND**

*Recording Secretary*  
**DAVID OBERHELMAN**

*Academic Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**MARY CASPERS-GRAPER**

*Technical Services Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**SANDRA BARSTOW**  
Secretary  
**KIRA BARNES**

*State Agencies, Cooperative and  
Systems Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**JIM MINGES**

*Public Library/Trustees Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**PAM BOHMFALK**

*New Members Roundtable*  
Chair-Elect  
**MICHELLE ARMSTRONG**

*Children's and School Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**KRISTI HANSON**

*Preservation Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**DIANE B. LUNDE**

*Government Documents Section*  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
**VENICE BESKE**

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## Board Choice Award Winners from Wyoming and Nevada

**Robert Staley** is Wyoming Representative Ara Anderson's selection for the board choice award for 2002.

Bob has an MA in anthropology from the University of Manitoba, and an MLS and Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies from the University of Pittsburgh. His previous experience is in both reference and documents at the University of Maryland and, while at UM he was also the Latin American section editor for the American Historical Association's *Recently Published Articles*. More recently, he worked as a reference/documents librarian for the University of Vermont. Currently, he is a documents/reference librarian at the University of Wyoming.



BOARD  
CHOICE  
SELECTIONS

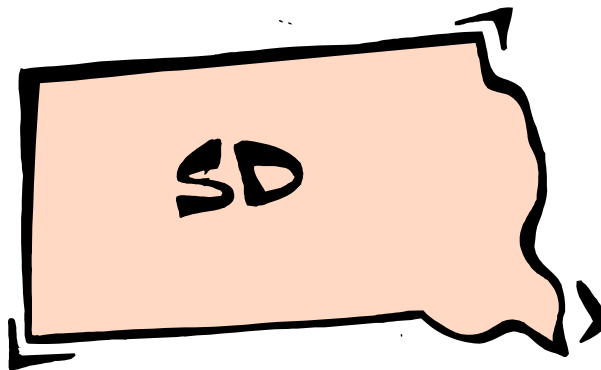
In Nevada, MPLA Representative Linda Deacy nominated Nevada Literacy Coordinator **Susan Graf**, Nevada State Library and Archives, to receive a one-year free membership in the Mountain Plains Library Association as part of its Board Choice invitational membership promotion. Susan Graf was selected based on her professional qualities and potential for contributions to MPLA.

Ms. Graf, former Family Services Librarian at the North Las Vegas Library District, has an inexhaustible list of ideas for literacy programs and projects around the state. She has expanded and supported literacy activities in public libraries, especially the rural areas of Nevada, expanded prison literacy projects and brought additional services to Nevada tribal organizations. The immediate Past President of Nevada Library Association, Graf holds a MLS from Texas Woman's University and a bachelor's degree in English from Utah State University, with a teaching certification in secondary education.

Ebsco Ad

## Facts about South Dakota

- Population - 754,844 as of the 2000 census.
- While the average population density is 9.9 persons per square mile, some counties laughingly say they have more deer and antelope than people with only 0.5 people per square mile.
- 73% of SD households have two wage earners
- 13.2% live in poverty
- 14.3% are age 65 or over.
- SD has nine recognized tribes with six organized reservations
- SD has the top three counties nationwide with the highest percentage of children living in poverty and eight of the top 38 counties.
- SD ranks third in the estimated prevalence of vision impairment and blindness, second only to North Dakota and Iowa.



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## South Dakota Library Association hits the mark



The South Dakota Library Association (SDLA) promotes a strong, supportive community for libraries. Membership in SDLA is 423. The organization sponsors the annual South Dakota Library Conference the first week of October each year. This year, they collaborated with MPLA and NDLA to offer the Tri-Conference in Fargo, ND, October 2-5, *Exploring New Pathways to Information*. As Lewis and Clark states, we have always been at the forefront of exploration and discovery – come explore with us!

South Dakota is a member of a tri-state consortium, Minitex, which combines the strengths of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota to facilitate access to resources at an affordable cost.

### Libraries in South Dakota

- ✍ Public libraries – 142
- ✍ Post-secondary libraries – 29
- ✍ School libraries - 425
- ✍ Special - 15

South Dakota Library Network (SDLN) is multi-type library consortium with academic, public, school, and special libraries sharing one software package for library activities including acquisitions, serials, circulation, cataloging, interlibrary loan. There are three levels of membership and jointly they represent 5.2 million items, over 200 libraries and 226,000 patrons. SDLN is currently in the process of selecting a new software package and

(Continued on page 14)



MPLA Featured State  
South dakota







## Greetings from South Dakota

I am Suzanne Miller, South Dakota Library Association Representative for MPLA. I am a native South Dakotan, born and raised in Sioux Falls. My ancestors hail from Germany, Luxembourg and the former Czechoslovakia (on the Czech Republic side). I started my independent life at South Dakota State University, sure that I wanted to be a physical therapist – until I went to physics! Suddenly, I was an English major. Unsure of my future, I worked my first summer home at the bookmobile and found my career. It was a natural extension of my love for libraries, books and reading, and the desire to share this with others. So, I transferred to the University of South Dakota only to find I could not get what I needed there – an MLS. I obviously did not ask the right questions or do enough research before I moved! Undeterred, I completed my degree in Literature and immediately went to library school at the University of Denver. Upon completing my MLS, I suddenly found I was too young to be employed as a librarian – how shocking. But, I persevered and eventually did begin to practice my profession at the University of South Dakota Law School as a Librarian I. After an extremely bad winter, I ran away to southern California, University of LaVerne Law School where I started as Assistant Law Library Director. I also continued my education and studied political science and eventually went to law school, although I quit 15 units shy of completing it due to professional and family demands. By this time I had become Director of the law library and was teaching legal research classes in two locations.

Eventually, I migrated to Sacramento and UOP McGeorge School of Law where I accepted the po-

sition of Assistant Librarian, Technical Services. In addition to administrative responsibilities, I worked reference, selected materials, checked in serials, grudgingly cataloged, installed and administered an integrated library system, wrote and managed budgets and supervised many different people. I also taught advanced legal research while there.

Now, my travels have brought me home to South Dakota and closer to family. I am the South Dakota State Librarian and occupy my days with all that entails.

I continue to follow my avocation (my passion is musical theatre) by sitting on the local arts council board of which I am beginning my second year as president. I also am on the Black Hills Playhouse Board and will be joining the newly developed Center for the Book Board.

I have always been very active with many professional organizations, local, regional and national. I served as both Secretary and President for the Western Pacific Association of Law Libraries. I also served as president of the CLA Northern California Technical Processing Group. I empathize with our conference planners as I have mounted several of these myself. I am just beginning my second year as MPLA representative. I look forward to working with the board, developing new programs and strengthening friendships which will help us all insure the quality of our personnel, the availability of resources, and secure the future of dynamic and responsive libraries.



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## SDLA Election Results

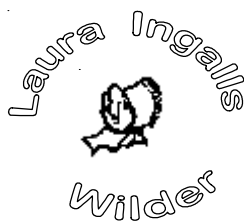
For 2002/03, Dennis Nath, Media Specialist, Mitchell School District, was elected Vice President/President Elect. Pam Lingor, Director, Alexander Mitchell Public Library, Aberdeen, was elected Secretary. The continuing officers are Jeanne Connor, President and Elizabeth Fox, Treasurer, with Ann Smith serving as Immediate Past President.

## State Offers Inaugural Leadership Training Institute

SDLA sponsored their first Leadership Training Institute Sept. 13-14. It was held at Cheyenne Ridge Lodge near Pierre. Two facilitators, Mary Bushing and Bill Cochran, guided the 18 participants through the basic characteristics of leadership and how they can be reflected in the life and work of every librarian even if he/she is in a very small library and community. Small groups discussed possible plans of action to move forward on shared goals and were asked to make a personal commitment to do something to accomplish a goal after leaving the Institute.

## New Center For The Book Established

On May 14, 2002, the Library of Congress accepted the SD Humanities Council proposal to establish the SD Center for the Book. SD was one of only four states remaining without a Center for the Book so this helps to meet national goals. The purpose of the Center is to promote books, reading, and libraries in South Dakota. They will participate in the National Festival for the Book to be held in Washington DC on Oct. 12, 2002. Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve will be South Dakota's guest author at this event where she will make a presentation and be available for book signing. The state libraries are also sponsoring a children's activity consisting of a map of the United States with spaces in each state for children to stamp a logo or representation of a children's book representing their state.



The SD State Library selected Laura Ingalls Wilder this year.

## Redfield Carnegie Library Celebrates 100 Years!

Redfield Public Library is the oldest Carnegie library in continuous use as a library in the state of South Dakota. On Sept. 20, 2002, they celebrated their hundredth birthday. The original Carnegie grant was for \$10,000. The city built a majestic red brick library with tan sandstone foundation and sills. The building was crowned with a domed cupola. The interior was designed with oak columns and woodwork. In recent years, several renovations have been required to maintain the building, including replacement of the subfloor, tuckpointing, and cement repair. The beauty of the building has been retained while developing spaces for a computer and a fully refurbished children's department in the lower level. The celebration included remarks by Library Board Chair, Dale Fiedler, Mayor Duane Sanger, Governor William Janklow, representatives of Senators Daschle and Johnson, a representative of the State Historical Society and Suzanne Miller, State Librarian. The ceremonies were complemented with the wonderful crooning of the local men's Chanters group who sang several songs, one of which was "Angels Among Us" – something all libraries need – and, of course, birthday cake and lemonade.



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(Continued from page 12)

everyone is eagerly waiting for the migration into the twenty-first century.

SDLN, SDLA, and the State Library have all written new strategic plans in the last two years. When laid side by side, they reflect common themes including Communication, Cooperation and Mutual Support, Advocacy, Marketing of Libraries, Continuing Education and Training, Lifelong Learning, and Access To Resources.



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**Notable Living Authors:**

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve  
Paul Gobels  
Kathleen Norris  
Allison Hedge Coke  
Candy Hamilton  
Mark St. Pierre



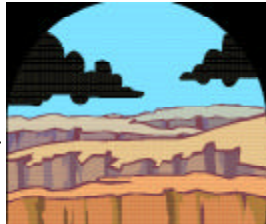
**Important Websites:**

SDLA [www.usd.edu/sdla](http://www.usd.edu/sdla)  
SD State Library [www.sdstatelibrary.com](http://www.sdstatelibrary.com)  
SDLN [www.sdln.net](http://www.sdln.net)



## Around the MPLA Region

ARIZONA



*Culture, Connections & Community happening Dec. 4-6, 2002* -- AzLA has nearly 100 programs scheduled for its annual conference including a wide range of programs about the state's diverse cultures and communities with lots of opportunities for connecting to colleagues. The Museum Association of Arizona members are invited to join their library partners at this conference. An opening reception will be at Pueblo Grande, the only National Historic Landmark site in Phoenix. Robert Martin, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services will be participating as will Keith Fiels, Executive Director, American Library Association.

All conference information is available at [www.azla.org](http://www.azla.org).

*We Came. We Planned. We Reorganized* -- Forty-five AzLA members attended the May planning forum, raring and ready to embrace change! After a presentation and breakfast by Hispanic Books, they discussed the new AzLA organization set to begin in 2003, and especially its impact on AzLA members. The most challenging will be the transition from 11 roundtables to 8 special interest groups

(SIGS). The SIGS are designed to be flexible to the changing needs of the field, and new groups will be created whenever 50 or more people need to work together for a common cause or interest. In addition, AzLA members will be able to participate in more than one special interest group without paying additional fees.

*Special programs available* -- Arizona Humanities Council has created a "Parched Arizona" program package, which includes an exhibit and three public programs. "Arizona September 11<sup>th</sup> Community Conversations, A Resource for Libraries and Schools" is also available from the Arizona Humanities Council. Both have details at [www.azhumanities.org](http://www.azhumanities.org).

## COLORADO

*Colorado's @ your library advocacy campaign* -- The Colorado Association of Libraries is promoting an opportunity to learn first-hand, with colleagues, how to plan and implement advocacy on behalf of your library. This project will be conducted under the purview of the Colorado Association of Libraries. It is a three-pronged, statewide advocacy campaign, including elements of public relations, marketing, community relations, and related areas, to build visibility and support for Colorado libraries within the state. LSTA is providing the financial support for the campaign. Colorado's @ your library campaign will enhance awareness of, and support for, libraries by increasing their visibility and bringing renewed energy to the promotion of libraries. This will be achieved by building within the Colorado library community, sustainable marketing and public relations expertise through three projects—an Initiative (Coach/Player) Project, Public Relations Training, and a statewide Positioning and Visibility Project—under the leadership of the Colorado Association of Libraries, and with the involvement of an Advisory Committee with members from all types and locations of libraries. More information about this campaign can be found at [www.cal-webs.org/atyl.html](http://www.cal-webs.org/atyl.html).

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*Page devoted to state cuts* -- The CAL Legislative Committee has a Webpage devoted to information and resources related to state cuts to library programs. The page ([www.cal-webs.org/leg.html](http://www.cal-webs.org/leg.html)) includes resources such as bookmarks, posters, quotable facts, how to call your legislator, and vital links.

*Not in the business of violating civil rights of patrons* -- Colorado librarians became the subject of a recent news article in the *Rocky Mountain News* on the national Patriot Act. In the article "Patriot Act gives libraries pause," journalist Sue Lindsay reports "'Cloak of secrecy' doesn't mesh with free access." Douglas County Librarian Jamie LaRue; Eloise May, director of the Arapahoe Library District; Jefferson County Librarian Bill Knott; and Martin Garnar, chair of the intellectual freedom committee for the Colorado Association of Libraries, were interviewed. "We're not in the business of breaking the law," May said, "so when a federal agent comes, we need to comply with the law. But we're also not in the business of violating the civil rights of our patrons. I'm hoping that the judicial arm of our government will help us with this."

*Searching the Nexus* -- The Colorado Nexus database is now available on the Colorado Virtual Library (CVL). With this tool, you can search the databases of 30 southeastern Colorado school and public libraries. Colorado Nexus provides access to 142,670 titles and 199,531 copies through the union catalog, individually by library, or through interlibrary loan.

## KANSAS

*Goble hired as first executive director* -- The Kansas Library Association has hired its first-ever paid executive director to oversee the operation of the organization. Roseanne Goble has served as the Director of the Dodge City Public Library and the Southwest Kansas Library System since 1998. She has also worked as the consultant for that system as well as a children's librarian. She will direct KLA from their new office in the Topeka/Shawnee

County Public Library. Prior to this, the organization's administrative functions were handled by contract with the Hutchinson Public Library.

*Library services to seniors* -- The Kansas State Library has launched a new project on library services to seniors. It will target those in their 50s-70s who are still active and vigorous as well as those who have had their health and lifestyle affected by old age. Tentative plans call for the project to canvass libraries for existing services geared toward older patrons and to create a Website that will include active links to information and resources that librarians can access to better serve seniors. Plans also call for a preconference at Tri-conference 2004 as well as other training events as requested by individual libraries and systems.

*Pursuing statewide virtual reference project* -- The Kansas Library Network Board recently received approval to pursue a statewide virtual reference pilot project. The goals of the project are to test whether a sustainable, statewide consortium for real-time, online reference service via the Internet can be successfully created among Kansas libraries and other institutions and to assess the effectiveness of such a service in meeting the informational needs of online patrons. The plan is available at [www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/KLNBapprovedVRplanweb.htm](http://www.skyways.org/KSL/KLNB/KLNBapprovedVRplanweb.htm).

## MONTANA

*Strategically planning* -- The Strategic Planning Task Force for the Montana Library Association has spent six months designing survey instruments and getting data. They have done focus groups in each Federation across Montana and at some regional meetings, and also have sent out and collected surveys. They are now working to analyze the data to present as a preliminary report to the MLA Board. Challenges include vision and mission statements to revise and recommendations for structural changes, priorities, services, and programs. Chairs of this committee are Debbie

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Schlesinger of Helena and Bette Ammon of Missoula, two award-winning librarians in MLA.

*Statewide library marketing campaign initiated* -- The Marketing and Public Relations Committee of MLA is having joint meetings with the State Library in order to implement a statewide marketing campaign which will enhance libraries and public awareness at all levels. The campaign will begin in 2003 and will hit all types of media.

*Lewis & Clark were here* -- The MLA Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Task Force is working on the children's activity booklet based on Lewis & Clark themes (rivers, Indians, etc.) which will be distributed to Montana libraries for their own use or sale to the public beginning in June 2003. The Children and Young Adult Interest Group of MLA is providing bibliographies on each theme for children in grades 2-8, and that will be a very positive part of the booklet, which also includes artwork to color, a variety of activities, and some narrative. Other current projects include distributing MLA Lewis & Clark Bicentennial passports to the legislators at a special "Legislative Day" hosted by the Montana State Library in January and working on

a publicity campaign of "It All Started in a Library."

## NEBRASKA

*Summer Reading Program 2003* -- *Laugh It Up @ your library™* -- Orders and manuals for Laugh It Up @ your library™ were mailed to all Nebraska public libraries on Sept. 13. Nebraska public libraries will receive one copy of the manual without charge. This year there will also be a limited number of young adult manuals for public libraries that request one, as well as a line of young adult materials offered on the order blank.

Another special new feature this year are the "library bucks" individuals will receive when they order other Highsmith products. These coupons will help defray the cost of summer reading materials. For each \$100 of Highsmith products purchased, librarians will receive "bucks" worth \$10 toward their summer reading order.

*Public Library Administration course offered* -- The Public Library Administration Basic Skills course, sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and Nebraska's Regional Library System is set for November 2002 at sites across the state. This course, one of four Basic Skills courses required for certification of librarians, addresses Governance and Cooperation; Planning; Policies and Procedures; and Personnel.

*Fundraising training* -- Fundraising training, sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission in cooperation with Nebraska's six Regional Library Systems, for public library staff and supports took place Sept. 16 - Oct. 29. Staff of the Nebraska Community Foundation will serve as trainers on fundraising issues related to public libraries.

*Nebraska Rural Poll* -- According to the 2002 Nebraska Rural Poll results, 76% of those responding stated that they were "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with local library services. Moreover, 41% reported that they were "very satisfied" with library services. This was the highest percentage accorded to all services, including Education (K-12), Basic Medical, Parks & Recreation, Law Enforcement, Housing, Senior Centers...a total of 26 services.

*Willis promoted to chair* -- The University of Nebraska at Omaha Library announces that Dorothy Willis has been promoted to Department Chair of Public Services. Willis began her new duties Oct. 1, 2002. Willis served as Access Services Librarian at the UNO Library since June 18, 2001. Willis served as Director of Library Services at Dana College, Blair, NE from August 1997 to June 2000.

*New and Improved Services for UNL's Love Library* -- A wireless network, new laptop computers for check out, and additional study areas are just a few of the



new and improved services the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Love Library has to offer starting this fall. Technicians spent the summer installing the wireless network in the book stacks of Love Library. Wireless access is available in the book stacks as well as some surrounding areas. To connect to the wireless network, students need laptop computers that have an ethernet card.

## NEVADA

*Library will ask voters for help* -- Current library facilities in Henderson were designed to serve a population of under 100,000, but the latest population count is double that, nearly 200,000. Although the new Paseo Verde Library opened its doors in August, Henderson is not keeping up with the growth of its community. The Paseo Verde Library is the first free-standing library built in Henderson since the James I. Gibson Library opened 13 years ago in 1989.

This November, the Henderson Library District will ask voters to approve a tax initiative that will use an increase in property tax to finance much needed local libraries. Henderson residents currently pay the lowest tax rate for libraries of any other county residents. The proposed increase will mean an additional \$21 per year for the owner of a \$150,000 house. This small amount per family will add six new libraries over the next ten years in Henderson neighborhoods.

*The Vegas Valley Book Festival* -- The first major public event to celebrate and promote literature and reading in southern Nevada took place Nov. 1 and 2, 2002.

The Festival -- which featured renowned novelists John Irving and Tom Robbins as keynote speakers -- will be an annual community program of readings, lectures, and panel discussions with programming for all ages, and will include an outdoor book fair with over 50 booksellers. Programming took place at multiple venues, including the new



City of Henderson Promenade at Liberty Point and Paseo Verde library complex, currently under construction.

*A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines has been selected for the Washoe County Community Read -- What is a community read? Read. Washoe. Read. is designed to energize an appreciation of literature and discussion in the greater Washoe County community. Modeled after successful programs in other cities, this project seeks to bring the community together around a single great book. The book chosen is Ernest Gaines' *A Lesson Before Dying*. Set in the south of the 1940s, this simple yet powerful book tells a story about the lives of two families and their small community; a story about right and wrong and family bonds; a story about power, struggle, dignity, honor, and redemption; a story that's hard to put down.

## NEW MEXICO

*Tribal newsletter* -- A new online newsletter, *Tribal Health Connections*, promotes health activities, events, projects, and programs in the Four Corners area and throughout Indian Country. *Tribal Health Connections*, to be published quarterly, is an Internet-based health information and education project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in collaboration with the University of Washington Regional Medical Library and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine health science libraries in the Four Corners states: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.

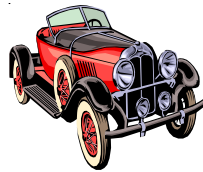
For more information, contact to [mmcget@u.washington.edu](mailto:mmcget@u.washington.edu) or contact Molly McGetrick and Lillie Peterman, Tribal Health Connections, Dine College, Shiprock, NM; (505) 368-2984.

*Libraries vie in Great Race* -- Two New Mexico libraries went head-to-head when the Great American Race came through their towns. Clovis-Carver Public Library and Rio Rancho Public Library each hoped to win \$5,000 when racers in the timed endurance rally for vintage cars voted for their favorite stops in the eight-day trek from San Anto-



nio, TX, to Anaheim, CA. The race stayed in Clovis and went to Rio Rancho on the Tuesday, June 18. Clovis won, chosen by the racers as the Best Overnight Stop. Eastland, TX, won the prize for Best Pit Stop, and Prescott, AZ, for Best Lunch Stop, each winning \$2,500 for their libraries.

One hundred and five classic cars, from a 1916 Chevrolet Speedster to a 1954 Corvette, participated in the race. In its 19 years, The Great Race has visited more than 700 cities and given the libraries of the winning cities nearly \$185,000. Host cities compete in rolling out the red carpet to racers and their shows of enthusiasm.



*Federal depository library plan* -- New Mexico's federal depository librarians have worked together over the past several years to draft the State of New Mexico Federal Depository Library Plan. The Council is a governing body with rotating membership established in November 2001, with the initial charge of completing the final draft of a state plan, which was completed in late spring of 2002. The final draft was submitted to the New Mexico depository librarians for review and comment. With minor editing, the assessment of the plan was positive, and a clear majority of New Mexico's federal depository librarians voted to recommend that the plan be adopted.

The State Plan provides goals and objectives to guide libraries in working together to assure the optimum availability of federal government information to the citizens of New Mexico. The plan establishes a framework for the discussion of a range of issues including the transition to electronic information in the Federal Depository Library Program. It is to be viewed as a flexible, living document that will be expanded and amended as needs dictate. The final step in the adoption of the State Plan involves the approval of the directors of New Mexico's depository libraries.

For more information about the State of New Mexico Federal Depository Library Plan and to see the text of the Plan as sent to librarians in May of

2002, go to the State Library Website at [www.stlib.state.nm.us](http://www.stlib.state.nm.us).

## NORTH DAKOTA

*Sacagawea is featured character* -- The North Dakota State Library is partnering with the Department of Commerce-Tourism Division and the Interpretive Center in Washburn, ND to represent North Dakota at the Pavilion of States event in Washington D.C. this October. Two representatives from North Dakota will attend the event to help promote the importance of reading by children.

Each state will feature a children's book character that depicts their state. North Dakota's featured character will be Sacagawea. A booth will be set up in the U.S. Capitol Mall featuring brochures, books and other material about North Dakota. This event is sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

*Canoe Kudos* -- North Dakota Library Association has a new vehicle for recognizing individuals who have shown support or done something special for libraries, or for those who do a wonderful job of making your day at the library. Any member of NDLA can honor a deserving individual by submitting a nomination form along with a \$10 donation to the Professional Developments Grant Fund. NDLA will present the honoree with a Canoe Kudos pin, and if appropriate, submit a press release to the local newspaper. Canoe Kudos honorees will also be listed in North Dakota's library Magazine, *The Good Stuff*.



*New software for 56 libraries* -- The Online Dakota Information Network is completing the evaluation and selection process for new library software and hardware to support the 56 libraries in the ODIN consortium. ODIN will be replacing current PALS software and Unysis hardware. The PALS software has served the ODIN consortium for over ten years, but must be replaced because maintenance support for the software is being phased out over the next few years. A year ago a steering com-

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mittee was appointed to create an evaluation process for selection of a new system and give recommendations.

## OKLAHOMA

*OLA President 2002-2003* -- The new Oklahoma Library Association President, Kathryn Roots Lewis, has hit the ground running to make this a great year for OLA. Kathryn's theme this year is "Building Library Communities" because "not only do all of you live your passion for building library communities within our own organizations, but you exhibit that passion as you work with your students, patrons, clients, colleagues and local communities," she said. Kathryn is Director of Media Services and Instructional Technology for the Norman Public Schools. The "Building Library Communities" Conference will be March 26-28, 2003 in Oklahoma City at the Cox Communications Convention Center. Check out the Oklahoma Library Association's Website at [www.oklibs.org](http://www.oklibs.org) for continuing updates.

*Report from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries* -- All state budgets have been cut in Oklahoma as the legislature has struggled with a \$214 million budget shortfall for FY2003. ODL's budget was cut 5% in January and again cut 5.5% in July. The Department has not filled open positions and cut out all out-of-state travel for employees. Materials for all state library collections have been cut 5.5%. State aid for libraries has been cut 5.5%. Other state agencies have had to make more drastic cuts (the Department of Corrections employees will be taking 23 (unpaid) furlough days this fiscal year), and ODL is hopeful that they can avoid any similar drastic cost cutting measures.

*University of Oklahoma Athletics Department, University Libraries Create Historic Partnership* -- According to OU Athletic Media Relations, "the University of Oklahoma's Athletics Department and University Libraries have formed a new partnership that is believed to be the first of its kind in the United States. Athletics will assist the Libraries in establishing a \$1 million endowment by making a lead-



ership gift of \$250,000 toward the endowment, using royalties derived from the sale of athletics merchandise.

To begin the venture, the two entities are co-presenting the 2nd Annual "Books That Inspire" exhibit on the OU campus. The exhibit will feature 52 books recommended by OU faculty, coaches, and staff.

*University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies* -- The OUSLIS enrollment in the MLIS program this year is between 170 and 180 students, reports Maggie Ryan, university student program specialist from the school. In addition, OUSLIS is offering a new program, a Bachelor of Arts in Information Studies designed to meet the growing needs for information workers.

## UTAH

*Gates Foundation strikes again* -- The Gates Foundation awarded over \$804,000 in grants to Utah public libraries for public access Internet computers. In addition, the Gates Foundation funded training labs consisting of computers and support technology at Weber County Library, Salt Lake City Public Library, Provo City Library, and the Washington County Library.

*New director at BYU* -- Randy Olsen became the new University Librarian at the Lee Library at Brigham Young University in Provo on Sept. 1, replacing Sterling Albrecht who retired. Randy has served in various capacities at the Lee Library and in leadership positions in MPLA and the Utah Library Association.

*New library building in Payson* -- The Payson City Library moved into the old J.C. Penney building in the middle of downtown Payson. The building under-went extensive remodeling, and the city





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fathers hope the library move will help revitalize downtown.

*Health information in multiple languages* -- The Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library received LSTA grant money to make available health educational brochures in many languages, including Arabic, Armenian, Cambodian, Chinese, Croatian, Farsi, French, German, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Samoan, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Tongan, and Vietnamese. The brochures will provide a much-needed service to Utah's ever growing ethnic population.

*Emporia State's MLS program in Utah graduates 33* -- The School of Library and Information Management, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS awarded the Master of Library Science degree to 33 graduates from Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming during a commencement ceremony held August 17 in Salt Lake City. The graduates earned the degree through the distance education program of the Kansas school by attending weekend classes held at the Utah State Library Division in Salt Lake City. Classes were held approximately fourteen weekends per year from January of 2000 through August 2002.

Ms. Lynnda Wansgard, Director of the Weber County Libraries, delivered the commencement

address. Adriane Juarez, soon to be the assistant manager of the Sweet Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library, and Susan Romney-Spicer, Youth Services Librarian of the Sandy Branch of the Salt Lake County Library System, were recognized for academic excellence and professional promise with the Beta Phi Mu Achievement of Excellence Award.

Dr. John Schwenn, Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Emporia State University, Dr. Robert Grover, Dean of the School of Library and Information Management, Dr. Martha Hale, and Dr. Nancy Thomas, faculty, represented the Kansas school. Mark Grover, BYU, and Victoria York, Montana State University, also participated in the commencement exercises as adjunct faculty members who have taught classes in the distance education program.

This was the second group of students to graduate from the distance education program in Utah and the school is currently recruiting students for new classes to start in the summer of 2003. The School of Library and Information Management has offered its Master of Library Science degree program since 1988 in various locations throughout the western half of the country and more than 700 students have graduated from the program without ever needing to attend classes in Kansas. The program is especially de-

signed for non-traditional students who are unable to relocate to the main campus in Kansas.

For more information about the school and to obtain an application packet for the next Master of Library Science program in Utah, call 1-800-552-4770 extension 5064.

## WYOMING

*Convention was popular* -- The Wyoming Library Association (WLA) met in Casper Sept.18-21. There were many well-attended programs. Over all, there were 304 registered, a large number by comparison to past WLA conventions.

*Wyoming Library Leadership Institute* -- Library Leadership Institute (LLI) provides an opportunity for librarians and others associated with libraries to learn about leadership potential. The program was developed because there was a recognized need to cultivate library leaders, which prompted the Wyoming State Library to seek funding for the Institute.

In early 2001, the State Library received a two-year McMurray Library Endowment grant to create a Leadership Institute with the goal of developing leaders within the library community.

Through a competitive application process, 16 individuals were selected for the first Institute. Those attendees represented a

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# Welcome to MPLA

## New Members



### ARIZONA

Jan Elliot  
Arizona State Library

Smita Parkhe  
Arizona State University

### COLORADO

Ann Schwab  
Bibliographical Center for  
Research

Linda Reardon  
US EPA Superfunds Record  
Center

### KANSAS

Joyce Armstrong  
Hamilton County Library

Emily Baker  
Olathe Public Library

Kimberly Baker  
Leavenworth Public Library

Lea Currie  
University of Kansas

Joyce Davis  
Emporia State University

Laura Debaun  
Northeast Kansas Library  
System

Tammy Dickey  
Kearny County Library

Kristi Hansen  
Salina Public Library

Anne Liebst  
Baker University

Tracie Partridge  
Wichita Public Library

Arlene Wiler  
Johnson County Library

MONTANA  
Mitzi Gligorea  
Lakeview Elementary School

Mary Jo Stanisloa  
Bozeman Public Library

NEBRASKA  
Becky Baker  
Seward Public Library

NEW MEXICO  
Stephanie West  
University of New Mexico

OKLAHOMA  
Cathy Adams  
Norman Public Library

Cokie Anderson  
Oklahoma State University

Tori Gregory  
Oklahoma State University

SOUTH DAKOTA  
Jeanne Conner  
Lennox High School

Dawn Edwards  
East/West Elementary

Margaret Shields  
Siouxland Libraries

UTAH  
Nancy Lombardo  
University of Utah

Gene Nelson  
Provo City Library

WYOMING  
Shari Haskins  
Riverton Branch Library

Paul Holland  
Sweetwater County Library  
System

Larry Schmidt  
University of Wyoming

Bob Staley  
University of Wyoming

Steve Whisenand  
Teton County Library

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cross section of employees including paraprofessionals, directors, support staff, library media specialists, and special librarians. Topics for the Institute included a personality inventory, leadership skill building, teambuilding principles, communication skills, leadership and decision-making styles, and conflict exploration.

*Last county to go "WYLD"* -- The Uinta County Public Library recently converted to the Wyoming State Library WYLD Cat System, becoming the last county in the state to "go WYLD." By the end of the summer, all 23 county libraries will be using the WYLD System. Check it out [www.gowylidnet](http://www.gowylidnet).

*Director retires* -- Mary Lynn Corbett, Lincoln County Library Director, retired after serving as director for the past 11 years. Before that, she spent 12 years working for Natrona County Public Library, where she held a variety of positions. Her main responsibility, however, has always been public service.

*Handbook for new library directors developed* -- A Wyoming Public Library Directors' Handbook will soon be sent to public library directors. A committee was organized to create a handbook that would serve as a reference tool for new library directors.

Patty Myers, Platte County; Isabel Hoy, Goshen County; Lucie Osborn, Laramie County; Susan Simpson, Albany County; Jill Mackey, Crook



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 4-6 **Arizona** Library Association Annual Conference, Phoenix

## UPCOMING MPLA CONFERENCES

**2003:** Nov. 4-7 North Lake Tahoe  
(joint with Nevada Lib Association)

**2004:** Oct. TBA  
(joint with Colorado Lib Association)

**2005:** TBA  
(joint with Wyoming Lib Association)

**2007:** TBA  
(joint with New Mexico Lib Association)

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County; Marcia Wright, Campbell County; and Jerry Krois and Joe French, Wyoming State Library are members of the committee.

*New MPLA rep. from Wyoming* -- Please welcome Patricia Patterson; she is the Youth Services Coordinator from Park County Public Library in Cody Wyoming, and Wyoming's new state representative.

*Teton County celebrates birthday* -- On Wednesday, Sept. 4 the Teton County Library celebrated its 5th Birthday with the launch of the library's redesigned Website, a display of historical scrapbooks, complimentary cookies, free pencils, and birthday cake for patrons and staff.

"The birthday celebration was a great opportunity for library staff to say thank you to the community and we encouraged everyone to come by and see what's new," said Kirsten Corbett, Outreach Supervisor. "This year we honored the past with a Friends of the Library scrapbook display, and highlighting technology by unveiling our redesigned Website."



# 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

## Special! 1/2 Price New Member Offer

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

### MPLA Dues Schedule (Membership year is calendar year)

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

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

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

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

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

Sections(s)  Academic  Technical Services  State Agencies, Systems, & Cooperative  Public Library/Trustee  
 New Members Roundtable  Children's & School  Preservation, Archives & Special Collection  Government Documents  
It is important to indicate section preferences if you would like to vote for section officers!

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

I would be willing to be nominated for an MPLA office

For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website at [www.usd.edu/mpla](http://www.usd.edu/mpla)

Mail to: Joe Edelen, MPLA Executive Secretary  
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Please add me to MPLA's listserv

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