

COLORADO REPORT TO MPLA OCT. 2009

Colorado Association of Libraries Conference update
November 19 - 21, 2009 at the Denver Tech Center Marriott

Excitement is building about this year's conference. The theme is all about looking to the future of libraries. It will be full of supportive information and exciting new trends for Libraries -- all kinds of libraries. Two of the hottest topics are 2.0 technology resources and fundraising strategies. Economics and fundraising are the featured topics in many of the programs and workshops.

A new feature to the conference is the "Technology Petting Zoo" where you can get an introduction to many of the latest trends in online resources and software for your library. Check out the schedule of workshops and look for the Technology Petting Zoo Schedule near the exhibits area at the conference.

For all the latest conference information, visit <http://cal-webs.org/conference.html>

CAL Leadership Development Update

(paraphrased from the summer edition of the CAL newsletter. The original article was submitted by Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Kelsen Huber and Nikki Van Thiel)

In July, the CAL Leadership Institute, participants gathered at the Embassy Suites in Loveland for a full day session that included, attending part of the CAL Board Retreat. Participants observed the CAL Board in action and learn about the Association and the various divisions and committees. The remainder of the day was devoted to a session on Ethics. CAL Past President Martin Garnar led the group in a lively discussion of ethical principles. The group also learned how to create a code of ethics through a fun learning exercise. In the coming months, the participants will be exploring their final learning topics; facilitation, project management, and future casting. The final session for the 2008-09 CAL Leadership Institute will occur on Thursday, November 19, at the CAL Conference.

CAL's Colorado Library Instruction Interest Group held its August Brown Bag at the University of Denver's Penrose Library. The meeting began with lunch and a meet and greet with librarians from around the state. Attendees were treated to a tour of Penrose Library; the tour highlighted the rare book collection and the Research Center. The August Brown Bag was another great opportunity for instruction librarians to come together and share best practices!

Nance Nassar of the Colorado Department of Education / Colorado State Library will be presenting the first of her "Standards Galore!" series of workshops in Alamosa on Thursday, October 22, and in Greeley on Tuesday, October 27. She will also present workshops in 13 additional cities around the state.

CLiC (Colorado Library Consortium) offers a variety of workshops throughout the year and across the state. The dates for the Spring Workshops are March 1-2, 2010 in Grand Junction, April 8, 2010 in Fort Collins, and April 15-16, 2010 in Pueblo.

New director hired for the Marmot Library Network

As the hibernation season approaches for our furry mascot the marmot (also known as *Marmota flaviventris* or whistle-pig or rock chuck,) the Marmot Library Network is far from sleepy. Marmot and western Colorado welcomes Jimmy Thomas as the new Executive Director. He brings a wealth of experience from a variety of corporate positions and has many exciting plans for the future of Marmot. Jimmy says...

"I've done practically every job involved in software & systems for libraries. As a Strategist at TLC, I helped set priorities for developing new software, positioning current products, and optimizing business partnerships. As Director of Strategic Products (2004-2007), I worked with TLC business partners to integrate appropriate components in TLC Solutions. Our most strategic product for 2 years, AquaBrowser, led me to a job at Medialab just after it was acquired by Bowker (2007). That "sabbatical" lasted 6 months.

TLC purchased CARL Corporation in 2000, where I continued representing CARL•Solution, then switched to selling Library•Solution (2001-2003) in the western US. CARL had hired me in 1992 as Circulation Team Leader, after which I worked as Manager of Product Support, Project Manager, and Singapore Project Director.

Unisys Corporation (1989-92) employed me as a Systems Analyst then Customer Support Manager, working with PALS software originally developed by Mankato State University.

OCLC (1979-89) hired me as a Programmer on the Acquisitions Subsystem. I was best known there as Development Manager in the Local Systems Division, working on LS/2000 software originally developed at the National Library of Medicine."

Jimmy is fluent in Spanish and speaks a smattering of several other languages. His degrees include an MLS from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA from Oberlin College.

Submitted by
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CO rep to MPLA

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