

ST-9

Oklahoma Report  
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In mid August our Oklahoma Library Association director, Kay Boies' fall resulted in hip surgery. After surgery she had physical therapy for 6 weeks and is doing well. Her presence has been sorely missed at committee meetings and events. She has done a remarkable job staying in touch and working via technology! We knew Kay did a lot on behalf of OLA but probably did not appreciate all her efforts as much until she could not be present.

I sent an email to Nicole Crethar, new MPLA member from the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University, welcoming her and reminding her of the conference in Wichita, Kansas.

At the request of the nominating committee, I sent them names of all of the current MPLA members in Oklahoma. The search feature on our directory is a life saver!

The State Department of Education fall workshop, Encyclomedia, was held in Oklahoma City September 18th and 19th. It was an excellent time to advocate for libraries! OLA had a booth for membership and Northeastern State University had a booth to recruit new school librarians. The efforts to stay in touch with graduates who are now librarians in the state encourages membership in our professional organizations. I conducted a focus group with national board certified school librarians to discover what they value in professional organizations. There was a mix of those who were members of OLA and ALA and those who were not members of either organization. I hope to have a summary of the findings in our next MPLA newsletter.

At Encyclomedia I attended a session on collaboration between Moore Public library and the Moore School District. It was very informative and entertaining. Cathy Adams would like to be considered for the conference in Wichita so I have submitted a proposal.

David Oberhelman had a presentation entitled "From Student Volunteers to Librarians" to highlight the Matrix Camps held in the summer. Another great advocate for libraries!