PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It has been a pleasure to serve as your President for the past year. I have had the opportunity to speak to and become better acquainted with many members during my tenure. As always, you have kept me abreast of your concerns and suggested ways I could help to make your MLA more responsive to your needs and desires. Thank you to all of you!

We enter our next year with new officers—president, vice-president, secretary, and executive director, who will readily welcome your thoughts and suggestions to make your MLA more responsive to the profession and welcome your ideas to move the organization forward. I hope that all of you have taken the opportunity to vote in our election for new officers.

I heartily welcome our new executive director, Ilene Casey, who recently retired as the Director of the Belgrade Public Library. Ilene also served as a librarian in several Great Falls middle schools and high schools. She has been a member of MLA since 1988. Thank you for accepting this position Ilene!

In the same breath I wish to extend our appreciation to the years of service that Karen Hatcher has given us as MLA Executive Director. She has worked overtime to get along with the different personalities who have passed through the executive board during her years of tenure. Once again, thank you Karen!

As I touched upon during my State of the Association address at the recent MLA Conference in Billings, in consultation with Milla Cummins, our upcoming President, and others I will appoint a task force to examine and report on compensation levels for librarians and library staff in comparison to like positions in government, education, and industry. With this study, I hope to provide the necessary data for our members to negotiate/argue for better compensation during negotiation periods. We must consider our members and join the fight for a living wage, beginning in this small way. If any of you would like to participate in this effort, please contact me at richw@montana.edu. I will also join this task force as a member.

As many of you may recall, the above idea for a wage/salary task force was inspired by our keynote speaker at this year’s conference. Mitch Freedman encouraged us not to compare our salaries/wages just to other library workers, but also to comparable positions in industry, education, and government.

Your U.S. Senators and Congressman will soon be making decisions concerning the reauthorization of the USA Patriot Act. Please bring yourself up to date on the latest attempts to make many parts of the act permanent and make new intrusive powers available to various government agencies. Some resources can be found at www.ala.org/ala/oif/fissues/usapatriotact.htm and the ACLU site at www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=12126&c=207 for information and opportunities to act.

During the year, also keep in mind the availability of travel grants and professional development grants through MLA. For further details, please see mtlib.org/grantinfo.html or contact Honore Bray hbray@mtlib.org. We know that organizational and personal budgets are often tight and this is MLA’s way of offering some assistance. Please apply.

On a related issue, please encourage your friends and acquaintances to join your MLA and tell them what a grand time we have at our annual conferences. Please show them the Informational and Membership Brochures at mtlib.org/prmaterials/mla%20brochure.pdf and mtlib.org/prmaterials/MLAmem.pdf respectively.

I look forward to the upcoming reign of your next President, Milla Cummins, Director of the Livingston-Park County Public Library. I trust we will all be pleased with her leadership and ideas for the coming year.

In August, your MLA leadership will meet on the Boulder River for its annual leadership retreat. If you have any particular issues you would like us to address, please drop us a note. Most emails and other contact information for your Board and other representatives can be found at the MLA website www.mtlib.org. Remember that Milla will be seeking volunteers for various committees as she enters office. Let’s make this year a really active and fruitful one.

I want to thank the MLA Board, Division and committee heads and members, and interest groups for making this a successful year for me and the Association. Thank you!

Richard Wojtowicz
President,
Montana Library Association
richw@montana.edu
**Discussion List: WIRED-MT Information**

Wired-Mt, our listserv, is open to members and non-members. Not all MLA members subscribe to Wired, and not every member of Wired is a member of MLA. MLA members would do well to remember that it is open to anyone with any interest (not necessarily sympathetic to our issues) in libraries. This is a place where people can get quick feedback to ideas and questions. It is a public forum centered on topics of interest to those interested in libraries. Its guidelines are available on our website [www.mtlib.org](http://www.mtlib.org).

There are two ways to subscribe:

1. **a.** send an e-mail message to
   majordomo@bcr.org
   
   **b.** leave the subject line blank
   
   **c.** in the body of the message type:
   subscribe wired-mt
   
   **d.** include nothing else; do not attach a signature file
   
   OR
   
2. **a.** go to the web site:
   [www.bcr.org/cgi-bin/MailServ/majordomo](http://www.bcr.org/cgi-bin/MailServ/majordomo)
   
   **b.** follow the instructions on the page

For additional information, or if you have problems subscribing, contact Margaret Webster, List Manager (on behalf of MLA) at: mwebster@crowleylaw.com or 406-255-7201

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**School Library Media Division Election Results**

SLMD is happy to announce it has elected Margy Kernan and Suzi Watne as the the 2006-2007 SLMD Co-Chairs.

Yvette Majerus
SLMD Chair
Moore Public Schools
ymajerus@moore.k12.mt.us

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**MLA Webmaster Sought**

It is sad for me to report that my friend Suzanne Reymer wishes to step down as MLA's Webmaster. Suzanne has done an amazing job of rejuvenating and maintaining our Association's excellent web presence for the past several years. The Montana Library Association has been lucky to have her at the helm.

This news comes at a time of possible change for the future of the MLA website. Last year the MLA Board of Directors created a Web Task Force to look into the future of the MLA web presence. They were charged with finding out what the Membership wanted their website to be. To this end, in the coming year their will be a survey conducted to find out what kind of information the website should and will present. A new Webmaster would be closely involved in this decision making process and most importantly, would be the one to implement the changes.

For those who might be interested in web development that have been looking for a way to serve the Montana Library Association, now is your chance! If you might be interested in this fun and rewarding challenge, please contact me at jfinn@mtlib.org. Suzanne would also be very happy to talk to those interested in the position. She can be reached via email at sreym@mtlib.org

A detailed position description will soon be released on Wired-Mt.

John Finn
Focus Editor,
MLA Communications Committee Chair
jfinn@mtlib.org

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**A Word From the Membership Committee**

Thank you to the conference chairs and their conference committee members for daring to dream, and make real, a great annual gathering of Montana’s librarians. Be sure to mark your calendar for the annual conference in Missoula during MLA’s 100th anniversary May 2-7, 2006, especially you, Bette Ammon. You were missed in Billings.

It’s June, so it must be time to renew your membership. Renewing during conference is convenient, but your association will make the most of your membership dollars when you renew by July and then you can ignore in ease the nagging reminders to renew, renew, renew.

Have a great summer, and if you are coming to Glacier National Park, please stop by and say hello.

Magi Malone
Director at Large, West
Director, George C. Ruhle Library
Glacier National Park
magi_malone@nps.gov
News from the Montana Center for the Book/Montana Committee for the Humanities

Montana Festival of the Book
September 23-24, Missoula, Montana

For the sixth year in a row, Montanans will celebrate the written word at the Montana Festival of the Book. The Festival will take place September 23rd-24th, in historic downtown Missoula.

The Montana Festival of the Book will feature scores of the region’s writers in a variety of readings, panels, exhibits, demonstrations, a literary contest, signings, entertainment, receptions, and other events. More than 5,000 visitors from across the state, the nation, and Europe are expected to attend. The Festival is presented by the Montana Center for the Book and the Montana Committee for the Humanities, in association with numerous other national, state and local organizations and businesses.

This year’s Festival also will feature several programs celebrating this year’s One Book Montana selection, Letters From Yellowstone, with the author Diane Smith, a celebration of the state’s first Poet Laureate, a children’s panel on children’s literature, a look at new works on Lewis and Clark, writing and publishing workshops for children and adults, book appraisals, exhibits, and much, much more. And, the winning entry to the fifth annual “Happy Tales” literary contest will be announced, with appropriate fanfare.

The Montana Festival of the Book has become the state’s largest-ever literary celebration. Major 2005 Festival sponsors already include the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Montana Arts Council, and The Missoulian.

For more information on the Montana Festival of the Book, contact Kim Anderson, Festival Coordinator, kim.anderson@umontana.edu, or Mark Sherouse, Executive Director, Montana Committee for the Humanities/Montana Center for the Book, 243-6022 (in Montana 800-624-6001), mark.sherouse@umontana.edu. The Montana Festival of the Book website is at www.bookfest-mt.org.

The Montana Committee for the Humanities is Montana’s independent nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. MCH grants, Speakers Bureau, Media Collection, and other programs have served Montanans since 1972. The Montana Center for the Book, a program of MCH, is Montana’s affiliate of the national Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Montana Center For The Book Honored With The Library Of Congress Boorstin Award

On May 3, Library of Congress Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole announced that Montana was one of the five affiliated state centers awarded the 2005 Boorstin Award for “innovative and creative reading promotion projects.” The award, which includes a $1,000 stipend, is funded by Ruth F. Boorstin, wife of the late Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, who established the Center for the Book in 1977. The other four states honored this year were Massachusetts, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

“The annual Montana Festival of the Book, begun in 2000, successfully highlights the center’s mission of promoting Montana literature, libraries, and literacy,” Dr. Cole said in announcing the award. “The Montana center is a program of the Montana Committee for the Humanities, and the award also recognizes the successful transition of the center from the state library to the Lewis and Clark Public Library and finally to Montana Committee for the Humanities.”

“We are delighted with the national recognition brought to our Montana Center for the Book by the Boorstin Award,” said Montana Committee for the Humanities executive director Mark Sherouse. “Dr. Boorstin was not only a visionary and innovative Librarian of Congress but a great humanities scholar in his own right.”

Boorstin, who served as Librarian of Congress from 1975-1987, created the Center for the Book to use the influence and resources of the Library of Congress “to stimulate public interest in books and reading.” The center was created as a public-private partnership. All fifty states have created statewide Center for the Book affiliates that work with the Library of Congress in promoting books and reading. State affiliates provide their own financial and in-kind support. Boorstin also was the author of numerous works on American history, including The Discoverers, The Creators, The Americans, and numerous other best-sellers.

The Boorstin Award is MCH’s second national award in recent months. In November MCH was honored with the Federation of State Humanities Council’s Schwartz Prize for Excellence in Public Programming. It was the fourth time MCH has won the annual Schwartz Prize, which was established in 1982.

MCB/MCH News Continued on Page 5...
State Library News

For Your Calendar:
Trustee Workshops Coming

Montana State Library will continue its series of leadership workshops for public library trustees and directors. This year’s workshops, “Evaluation at Your Library,” will be presented by Dr. Debra Wilcox Johnson, a professor at the University of Illinois library school and a partner in Johnson & Johnson Consulting, a firm specializing in library management issues and training. Many of you have probably seen Debra’s practical and humorous presentations for the College of DuPage “Soaring to Excellence” teleconference series. Debra will present the workshop in two Montana locations: Billings on Saturday, October 22 (tentative) and Missoula on Saturday, November 5 (confirmed).

Gates Training for Public Library Staff

Eight computer troubleshooting workshops are being planned for public library staff during July and August. These one-day workshops are available through a Staying Connected Grant project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Montana’s public libraries. Topics to be covered include how to approach troubleshooting in general; what tools are available to isolate and fix problems; how to troubleshoot library networks, cables and ports; learning what threats are out there and how to provide effective security for the library's network, router and server. Locations and dates for the workshops are given below. Registration information will be sent out in mid-June.

- Darby - July 27
- Harlowton - August 5
- Polson - July 29
- Winnett - August 8
- Three Forks - August 1
- Wolf Point - August 10
- Conrad - August 3
- Colstrip - August 12

Library Technology Class at HCT Next Fall

This fall the University of Montana - Helena College of Technology will be offering a 2-credit class entitled Introduction to Library Technology. This will be an online course (students must have access to the Internet) with two Saturdays scheduled for in-class time in Helena. The course will be taught by Jennie Stapp, Technical Services Supervisor at Montana Historical Society, and will provide an overview of library technology as a career. Students will learn core values practiced by library professionals and paraprofessionals and will become familiar with reference resources, acquiring and processing library materials, circulation procedures, and using automated library systems. Cost for the class will be approximately $320 (includes a $50 online fee) plus a one-time $30 fee for new students. For more information call HCT Admissions at 444-6826 or email Jennie at jstapp@mt.gov.

More Librarians @ Your Library

Imagine what your library could offer with more professional staff. The list of possibilities of what one more trained, full-time body could do for your library is probably endless. Well, Montana State Library is in the happy position of having $60,000 available for Montana’s public, school (K-12), and tribal libraries to hire librarians.

The Professional Education and Employment for Librarians (PEEL) grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will help fund full time professional level positions for two years at two Montana libraries. Details and application materials for the PEEL Library Stipend Program are available at msl.state.mt.us/greatcareer/stipendapp05.pdf. All public, school (K-12), and tribal libraries are eligible to apply for the stipends, which are for $30,000 each. Libraries receiving the stipend are required to provide a cash match for the same amount.

7th Annual Fall Workshop to be Held in Great Falls

Montana State Library’s 7th annual Fall Workshop is scheduled for September 30-October 1 in Great Falls at the Hampton Inn. All librarians and trustees are invited to attend the 2-day workshop. As always, there is no registration fee and lunch is provided both days. This year’s workshop topics will include: getting teachers and principals to understand the value of the school library and librarian; emotional intelligence in the workplace; providing great readers’ advisory services at your library; what it takes to build a strong team; how to survey library patrons; ideas for exciting adult programs; understanding subject headings; using blogs; etc. Registration materials for the Fall Workshop will be available on the MSL web page in late August.

Sue Jackson
Montana State Library
sujackson@mt.gov
MCB/MCH News Continued from page 3...

Letters From Yellowstone by Diane Smith
Chosen as 2005 One Book Montana

The Montana Center for the Book and the Montana Committee for the Humanities announce the 2005 One Book Montana selection, Letters From Yellowstone, Diane Smith’s 1999 novel about naturalists and nature in Yellowstone at the turn of the century.

The One Book Montana program offers an invitation to all Montanans to read Letters From Yellowstone over the summer and fall. MCB will provide reading and discussion guides, suggestions for library, school and book group projects, and opportunities for reader comments and other tools on its website, www.montanabook.org/onebook.htm. A limited number of copies will be available from MCB for short-term loans to book groups. Additional programming on the work will include programs on Montana’s public radio stations, events with the author at the Montana Festival of the Book, September 23 and 24, and much more.

Last year’s One Book Montana selection was Fools Crow by James Welch, and the 2003 selection, Mildred Walker’s Winter Wheat.

Diane Smith has lived most of her adult life in Montana. She studied western and environmental history at the University of Montana, and is currently pursuing a doctorate in history at MSU-Bozeman. Before publishing Letters From Yellowstone and her second novel, Pictures from an Expedition, she worked as a science and travel writer. She lives in Livingston.

Please join us in reading, or re-reading, Letters from Yellowstone in the coming months, and take advantage of some of the programming and suggestions we will be offering. One of the core beliefs underlying the Montana Center for the Book is that literature—stories, words, poetry, history—can bring us closer together, can give us deeper understanding of each other. We believe the One Book Montana program can be a valuable part of that process.

The Montana Center for the Book is indebted to its advisory committee for assistance in selecting this year’s One Book Montana. Advisory committee members include William Bickle III, John Clayton, Bill Cochran, Walter Fleming, Penny Hughes-Briant, William Marcus, Rick Newby, Kathy Springmeyer, Barbara Theroux, and Niki Whearty.

Mark A. Sherouse, Executive Director
Montana Committee for the Humanities,
Montana Center for the Book,
Montana Festival of the Book,
mark.sherouse@umontana.edu

Great Falls Public Library
Explores the Big Sky

As a part of the Explore! The Big Sky Signature Events being celebrated in Great Falls this June, the Great Falls Public Library will host a Lewis & Clark lecture series. Included are nationally known speakers Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs, Hal Stearns and Landon Jones. Also, local historian Don Peterson will speak. The series will feature a Noon and evening lecture. The Noon lectures will be held at the library. The first two evening lectures will be in Fort Benton and Belt, respectively. The final two will be held at the library. For information and/or schedules call 406 453-0349, or check www.greatfallslibrary.org.

Great Falls Festival of the Book

The Great Falls Public Library’s Great Falls Festival of the Book returns June 24 –25, with full emphasis on the Lewis & Clark Expedition. The festival features local and regional authors, as well as nationally known Lewis and Clark authorities. This year’s offerings range from readings, book discussions, a botanist discussing plants of the Expedition, an ice-cream social with Sacagawea ice cream, a doctor presenting the medical perspective, a Native American artist discussing how the Expedition altered life for the Indian, and the duo Manifest Scrutiny, who enlarge our perspective through comedy and history.

Jude Smith
Public Relations Coordinator
Great Falls Public Library
jusmith@mtlib.org

L&C Activity Books Still On Sale

Summer is a great time to use the MLA Lewis & Clark Activity Books! While it’s a stretch to fit them in with the “Dragons, Dreams, & Daring Deeds” theme, there is still a place for them. We’re finding that the books are very popular with home schools. Many libraries are earning money by selling them to the public. Take advantage of all the tourists stopping by and offer the books for sale. If you have an event in your town, the library could offer the books for sale.

To order the books, just email me at: jherdina@manhattan.k12.mt.us. The books sell for $2.00 each. We will ship books and invoice your library or school.

Also, if your library has a Lewis & Clark event coming up this summer, email me the info and we’ll help you publicize it.

Julia Herdina
Lewis & Clark Task Force
Manhattan Community Library
Montana Library Association Awards for 2005

The Montana Library Association (MLA) is pleased to announce the winners of its 2005 awards for important contributions to library services in Montana libraries. All winners and their guests will be honored at the Association’s annual award luncheon, scheduled this year for Monday, April 25, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Grand in Billings.

MLA’s choice for Librarian of the Year Award is Carole Monlux, currently library media specialist at Paxson Elementary School in Missoula. Ms. Monlux has worked in the Missoula elementary school libraries for twenty-five years; she has further shared this obvious commitment and dedication to Montana’s youngest readers through her involvement in numerous library organizations and activities at every conceivable level—school district, city, state (including a visiting professorship at the University of Montana) and national.

Library of the Year honors go to the Darby Community Public Library for the superb planning and completion (September 2004) of its new 5,000 square foot facility. Funding for the new library was innovative, ingenious and community-minded; notably it included partnerships between the Library, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bitterroot Resource Conservation and Development Program, and the Montana Community Development Corporation. Amy Lee Fannin, Director of the Darby Community Library, will accept the award on behalf of the library and its numerous avid supporters.

MLA this year makes an Honorary Life Membership award to Karen Strege, Montana State Librarian for nearly nine years, until October, 2004. Ms. Strege is enormously respected in the Montana library community for her initiative and success in developing statewide and national networking for the enhanced sharing of library resources among Montana libraries. Ms. Strege is also noted for her energetic and effective work with the Montana state legislature in preserving state funding for libraries. There is no library user in Montana who has not felt the positive effects of her service. Ms. Strege continues her vigorous advocacy for libraries in her current work as project director for the Western Council of State Libraries.

This year’s recipient of the Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award is Helena School District No.1 for their demonstration of an exemplary policy and process for addressing public challenges to classroom educational materials. The district’s established policy, brought to bear upon a 2004 challenge to the book Horse, by Jane Clutten-Brock, showed its commitment to the principles of intellectual freedom; the right of dissent in a free society, and the respectful, timely and unbiased discussion of differences. District representatives honored specifically for their work are Dr. Bruce Messinger, superintendent of schools; Dr. Susan Watne, Libraries and Instructional Media Centers Coordinator; former school board member, Brenda Nordlund; Barbara Ridgway, Technology Information Services Administrator; and Andree Anderberg, former librarian at Smith Elementary school, now at Hawthorne Elementary.

This year’s School Administrator of the Year is Dennis Parman, Assistant Superintendent of the Havre Public Schools. Mr. Parman is recognized for his vigorous, multi-faceted and fruitful support of libraries. His work includes management of the district’s wide area network linking the libraries of the five Havre school and five regional public libraries, and he also serves as a member of the Havre Hill County Library Board.

For the public library Trustee of the Year Award, Janel Tindall, trustee of the Belgrade Community Library, is this year’s winner. Ms. Tindall, owner of the Belgrade business Financial EKG, is recognized for her leadership in furthering library services in Belgrade. Among other accomplishments, she was instrumental in forming the partnership with Bozeman Public Library that allowed the Belgrade Community Library to become an automated library, and she has worked extensively and in many capacities in the library’s recent expansion of facilities.

MLA’s Special Friend to Libraries Award goes to Kathleen Ralph of the Stillwater County Library. As a ten-year member and current co-president of the Friends of the Stillwater County Library Ms. Ralph has taken a lead in bringing new services to the library;

MLA Awards, Continued on Page 7...
**MLA Awards Continued...**

among these are several children’s programs that serve both the public library and the Columbus school libraries. She was instrumental in obtaining non-profit status for the Friends, and she has been an active, regular and successful fundraiser for the library.

MLA in partnership with the Montana Heritage Project presents a new award this year, the Montana Heritage Project Distinguished Librarian of the Year. This award recognizes a school librarian’s contribution to the original research conducted by Montana school children on historical topics of concern to their immediate communities. The first recipient is Dale Alger, librarian at the Roundup Community Library, a combined school and public library housed at Roundup High School. Mr. Alger, a librarian in the Roundup schools since 1980 has assisted district teachers and students in their research project, one of the 29 projects fostered and initiated by the Montana Heritage Project since its creation in 1995.

_Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson_
*Marketing and Public Relations Committee Chair*  
*Montana Legislative Reference Center*  
*Ljackson@mt.gov*

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**Dragons & Dreams PSA Across State**

Thanks to help from the Montana State Library, copies of the public service announcement produced for the summer reading program, “Dragons, Dreams, & Daring Deeds,” has been distributed to television stations statewide. If you happen to see it in your community, please give your local TV station a call and tell them thanks! We encourage librarians to post some of your great programming ideas on Wired-MT. It should be a royally fun summer at our libraries!

_Cindy Christin_  
*Children's Librarian*  
*Bozeman Public Library*  
*christin@mtlib.org*

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**ALA Legislative Day**

The American Library Association’s Legislative Day was held on May 4th, 2005. Both Darlene Staffeldt and I attended the briefing day (5/3) and the Legislative Day activities. This year seemed to have more attendees than past years. There were many first timers at the events and it was fun talking with them about their experiences.

Once again, ALA held a briefing day to give us talking points about the topics and how to talk to your legislator. ALA also supplied numerous fact sheets to the attendees that could be changed to reflect the legislators’ own state. Both Darlene and I worked on Montana’s fact sheets on the issues that impact us the most: Appropriations; LSTA; Patriot Act; E-Rate; Privacy, to name a few.

Even though the Senate was out of session when we were in DC, Darlene and I did meet with the Senators’ staff. We had a great meeting with both staff members. Darlene and I also had information from the state such as how many libraries receive E-Rate and the amounts paid; and I had copies of SJ019, the Patriot Act Resolution that was past by the Montana Legislature and the votes. In fact Senator Burns has just appointed a staff member to be the point person on the Patriot Act in his office and she was the person we were meeting with that day. We had lots of great questions from the staff members.

Representative Rehberg greeted us but did not meet with us. We met with one of his staff members. It was a very rushed meeting because we had been pushed back for another group. We were able to speak on all the issues with her. One issue that is a hot button is the Patriot Act. I am not sure that this staff member “gets” it. I remember having the same discussion with her last year. But I think we made some good points on this and the other issues.

I think the association’s support of Legislative Day is extremely important. The legislators do like to hear from their states and look forward to seeing or at least hearing that someone from their state was there to discuss library issues. Both the Senator’s staff members were happy to see me again. It was like visiting someone you hadn’t seen in a while, a chance to catch up and to bring news from home. Also the staff already has a relationship with the association and that assists in getting the message across. I hope MLA continues to send a representative to DC for Legislative Day. I hope that MLA could send more than one. It is a great learning experience.

_Lois A. Fitzpatrick_  
*MLA Legislative Committee Chair*  
*Corette Library*  
*Carroll College*  
*lfitzpat@carroll.edu*
Groundbreaking for the New Bozeman Public Library!

Local officials, schoolchildren, and community leaders helped celebrate the official groundbreaking for the new Bozeman Public Library on Thursday, April 14 at its new location at 636 East Main. The ceremony, which took place during National Library Week, marks the official start of a project that will benefit all residents of our community. “Today’s ceremony is the culmination of hard work from Gallatin County residents,” said Library Director Alice Meister.

Meister was joined at the ceremony by Bozeman Mayor Andrew Cetraro, State Librarian Darlene Staffeldt, Library Trustee Chair Ron Farmer, and Building Committee Chair JB Bancroft.

Angela Zimmerly, the recently named “Bozeman Idol,” sang the National Anthem and the Hawthorne Children’s Choir performed and then joined in the groundbreaking tradition of turning the first shovel.

“We’re eager to start work,” said Tony Martel of Martel Construction, Construction Manager for the building. The entire library project – from land purchase, clean-up, to final construction – will cost $17 million. Next time you’re in Bozeman, drive by the site on East Main and check it out!

Cindy Christin  
Children’s Librarian  
Bozeman Public Library  
christin@mtlib.org

News From Glacier National Park

I am adding new books into the collection and catalog (library.nps.gov) on a regular basis, but I also weeded about 70 boxes of books out of the collection, and they are ready and waiting for a new home. I will post a list of discards on the library’s webpage (see the Just for librarians link at (www.nps.gov/glac/research/library.htm) each month, as I go through each box, but if your summer vacation plans take you to Glacier National Park, please consider taking a little time to mix business with pleasure, and perhaps take some books home to your library.

If you haven’t read White death: tragedy and heroism in the avalanche zone, by McKay Jenkins (2000), I am recommending it for your list of next books to read. It tells the story of five young (18 - 22 years old) Montana climbers who attempted to summit Mt. Cleveland, the highest peak in Glacier National Park in December 1969, and details the unsuccessful attempt to rescue them after they were buried in an avalanche. The bodies were eventually located in the summer of 1970. It is especially interesting to read in light of the successful summit of Mt. Cleveland by two local climbers, Issac and Josh Mohler, on March 24, 2005. I usually don’t read books like this, but the story was so compelling, and the writing very good.

The National Park Service’s Planning, Environment and Public Comment site (parkplanning.nps.gov/publicHome.cfm) is a new internet resource that may be of interest to your patrons. This site provides access to current plans, environmental impact analyses, and related documents on public review. Users of the site can submit comments for documents available for public review. The National Park Service prepares a variety of planning and environmental documents to help guide it in managing park resources. These documents can range from site-specific impact analyses on facility locations to broader park-wide plans for future use and management of a park. This site contains all of the currently active plans and environmental documents for the National Park Service.

Stop by when you’re visiting Glacier.

Magi Malone  
Director, George C. Ruhle Library  
Glacier National Park  
magi_malone@nps.gov