Greetings Montana library community and Happy Winter! I’m a gal who truly loves winter and I must say mother nature is definitely putting on a good show this year. I’m going to keep the message short so I can get back out and enjoy the snow.

First of all, congratulations to Maggie Meredith, who was the first person to submit a picture of her vehicle with the new MLA license plate on it.

Offline will be held February 19-20 in Billings at the MSU Billings College of Technology. Information and registration are available on the MLA website. The organizers have brought together some interesting speakers so I hope to see lots of you there.

The 2010 MLA Annual Conference is quickly approaching and registration is now available online at www.mtlib.org or tandteventsite.com. My thanks goes out to everyone on the conference planning committee, the subcommittees and Janel and Mark (and Audrey) from T & T Event Management, for putting together such a great conference.

Our Keynote speaker will be Dr. Loriene Roy, Professor in the School of Information, University to Texas Austin and ALA-Allied Professional Association President-elect. Loriene will also be putting on a pre-conference workshop on Wednesday, April 7. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Jack Horner, Regent Professor of Paleontology, Museum of the Rockies and Regents’ Professor of Paleontology, Montana State University. This year’s Author Luncheon speaker will be Christopher Paolini. Each year, in addition to the programs being offered, conference gives us the opportunity to renew friendships and network with folks we have yet to meet. Conference also serves as one of MLA’s primary sources of revenue, so you are helping your association simply by attending.

Please check out the conference website to take a look at the programs being offered, and register to join us in Bozeman, April 7-10 for Opening Minds, Expanding Horizons! Keep in mind, if you register before March 7, you will receive a reduced rate.

Thank you to each and every one of you who has helped out the association in any way this past year - volunteering to be on a committee, helping with conference, agreeing to run for an office or anything else. It is with everyone’s cooperation that the Montana Library Association remains a valuable asset to Montana libraries, librarians and their supporters.

Until next time,

Eva English
MLA President
Fort Belknap College Library Director
Vocalist David Anderson
To Sing at North Valley Public Library

By Amy Ling,
Library Assistant
North Valley Public Library

February is the traditional month of love. Stevensville Main Street Association theme for this month is “I Love Stevensville.” David Anderson is a regular performer at local theatres specializing in vocals. Interestingly, David also serves on the Board of Trustees for the North Valley Public Library. Combine the two interests and you will find David singing at the Library on First Friday, February 5th, from 6:30 – 7:30pm. In accordance with the Main Street theme of the month, David will perform several favorite love songs. The performance is open to the public at no cost. Light refreshments will be served. For information, call 777-5061. The North Valley Public Library is located at 208 Main Street, Stevensville.
State Library News

By Sue Jackson,
Montana State Library

New Certification Program Launched

On January 1st, the new Montana Certification Program for Library Directors, Staff, and Trustees was officially launched. The program was developed during the past year by the State Library with assistance from a volunteer Focus Group and input from librarians and trustees across the state. It features new certification requirements and less paperwork. The manual and forms are on the MSL website: http://www.msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Training/certification/default.asp

One major change is that there will no longer be continuing education forms requiring presenter signatures. Starting in January, participants in the certification program will work with their supervisor to determine training needs and to plan for ce activities that meet those needs. Individuals will track their ce credits on an Excel form (located on the website given above). Then, when applying for a certificate, the supervisor will sign the application to verify the credits. This reduces paperwork and provides for more local input on continuing education for library staff.

CE credits you earned before the launch of the new program can be used for certification as long as they were earned in the appropriate time period. If you have questions about the status of your certificate, please contact Sue Jackson at MSL (sujackson@mt.gov).

Fall Workshop Coming in September

Dates and location for the 2010 Fall Workshop have been set. The 2-day continuing education event hosted by Montana State Library will be in Great Falls on Friday and Saturday, September 24th and 25th. As always, there is no registration fee and lunch is provided. Topics and speakers are being developed. If there is a topic you’d like to see offered, contact Sue Jackson (sujackson@mt.gov). Please plan to join us in Great Falls!

SWIM Scholarship Program

Just a final reminder to Montanans interested in the SWIM library education scholarships: deadline for scholarship applications is March 15, 2010. SWIM will award 6 scholarships for the MLIS degree program at the University of North Texas and 4 scholarships for the Library Media Endorsement program at the University of Montana or Montana State University. Applications to the universities for admission should already have been submitted. Details about SWIM are at www.msl.mt.gov/swim.
It’s that time of year again when the Montana State Library is accepting applications from libraries that wish to join the Montana Shared Catalog. The MSC has grown to 102 multi-type libraries located across Montana, serving patrons, students and faculty, medical professionals and state agency staff. These libraries work together in areas of collection development, resource sharing, best cataloging practices and the delivery of electronic and digital materials. The strength of sharing a system allows the consortium to consider group purchases and eases implementation with other statewide projects. Joining forces, this group is ready to tackle the technological challenges and changes ahead for all of us. Other advantages include: A robust integrated library system, monthly OCLC uploads of holdings, centralized system administration including daily tape backup and unlimited 24x7 system technical support by the indomitable MSC admin team in Helena. The 2010 MSC application deadline is February 26, 2010. This will be the only application period for 2010.

There are 3 potential implementation schedules, dependent on migration choices and library type. LSTA funds will be made available to cover most, if not all, the vendor startup costs. The amount of LSTA funding available for this purpose will depend upon the number, type and size of the libraries selected to join during this application period.

More information, answers to FAQ’s, and new library applications are available for download from the MSC web page at www.msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Montana_Shared_Catalog/default.asp. Contact Ken Adams at 406-444-3004 or kadams@mt.gov to get a cost estimate and answers to any questions you may have. You are also cordially invited to visit any current MSC member public, school, academic or special library to view the system in action and get first-hand opinions from those using it.

The MSC recently hired a new addition to the admin staff in Helena, Mary Fouts. Mary is a graduate of Syracuse University where she obtained her MS/LIS degree. She was previously employed with the Washington State Department of Transportation. Mary moved to Helena from Vancouver, WA and began working for MSC on Jan 19. The MSC staff is currently in the application screening process to fill a new position that had been authorized by the MSC membership. When this new position is filled, MSC admin will have a total staff of 4.

The past few months have seen the following libraries go-live with the MSC system: Billings Catholic Schools (4 school libraries), Glasgow City-County Library, Parmly Billings Library (with 2 branches), Manhattan Community School Library and Philipsburg Public Library. Lincoln County High School Library in Eureka will go live on Feb 4. Later in February we will begin the migration process for Joliet Public Library and Red Lodge Carnegie Library.
Missoula Public offers home delivery

The new year means new services at Missoula Public Library. We reinstated Home Delivery. For a $3 per package fee, patrons can request the library ship materials straight to their homes. Users who fall within the federal poverty guidelines and are mentally or physically handicapped can apply to receive free home delivery service. Missoula took part in the pilot Home Delivery Program funded by OCLC, during which we filled an average of 80 Home Delivery holds each day, close to 25 percent of our total weekly patron holds. At the completion of that project in March of 2008, we polled our home delivery users to determine if the service was useful and warranted continuation. The answer was yes. And now the program is back on a permanent basis. Library card holders interested in using the Home Delivery service have to put up to $50 in a pre-paid account prior to using the delivery service. The account is then charged as each package is sent. Patrons are responsible for returning the materials on their own. Anyone with a Missoula Public Library card can take part. Information on the program can be found on our website at www.missoulapubliclibrary.org. Home Delivery is funded by the Missoula Public Library Foundation and Friends of Missoula Public Library.

Winter Reading Club returns to Missoula

Missoula Public Library’s Winter Reading Club is back. Now through March 15, participants ages 18 and older can fill out a Reader Form with the three titles they read or listened to, and a brief review, and earn a prize. If they keep reading, we enter their name into monthly prize drawings. To celebrate our winter reading, local celebrities are lined up to share favorite short stories at our “Adult Story Times.” Thursday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m., Mayor John Engen, KECI’s Mark Heyka, and Zed from MTPR will read at an evening of humorous short stories. On Thursday, March 11, at 7 p.m., we’ll hear delectable tales from Garden City Harvest’s Josh Slotnick, KPAX’s Angela Marshall, and Missoulian food writer Lori Grannis. Special thanks to Winter Reading sponsors Montana Tea & Spice, eddie’s coffeeshop @ the Missoula Public Library, Grizzly Claw Trading Company, and artist Kayla Romberg. Follow the link on our home page at www.missoulapubliclibrary.org for details.

Here is a photo of some of the newcomers to the awesome collection of Snowpeople at the Whitefish Library. The collection was just written up in the December 31, 2009 issue of the Whitefish Pilot. “Hundreds of Snowpeople appear in the library just after Thanksgiving and leave sometime after the Winter Carnival in February. If you can stop by and visit, they’ll make it worth your while!”
The Bozeman Public Library will be transitioning to a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system, which will involve adhering tags to materials for check out/in and inventory purposes. The Library chose 3M as their vendor. The process is scheduled to start February 1st and possibly go as long as mid-March. We have rented two mobile tagging stations plus purchased 5 staff workstations for tagging purposes.

The Library is also adding 658 stack lights, thanks to funding from the Library Foundation. The lights are Lucalights from Cascade Lighting. Next time you visit Bozeman, our stacks of books and materials will be glowing!

Bozeman is happy to be hosting Jim Heckel in February for a program about his latest adventures. “Laughing With Buddha: Teaching in a Tibetan Monastery, Trekking to Annapurna Base Camp” will be held on Friday, February 19 at 7pm, presented by Jim Heckel and Pam Smith. In late 2009, Jim Heckel, former Great Falls Public Library director, and his wife Pam traveled to Kathmandu, Nepal to teach English in a Tibetan monastery. They also completed an 8-day trek to Annapurna Base Camp. They will share their experiences in stunning photography of the monastery, the Himalayas, as well as visits to Swayambhunath, Pashupatinath, Boudha, and Patan. Everyone welcome!

MPLA
By Pam Henley, Technology Assistant
Bozeman Public Library, MPLA Representative

Join MPLA and the Oklahoma Library Association for the upcoming joint conference in Oklahoma City April 19 – 21. Speakers include ALA President Camila Alire, Nancy Miller, creator of the TNT series Saving Grace, and University of Oklahoma professor Dr. Rufus Fears as keynote speaker. Check the website (www.oklibs.org/modx/assets/files/Conferences/2010ConferencePreview2.pdf) for all the great programs scheduled. Looking for something different? Attend the conference event Stacked: Fashion Off the Shelf at the downtown Ronald J. Norick library, a fundraiser for OLA, consisting of a silent auction of home and fashion accessories, and a live fashion show of creations made from library materials and modeled by their creators. Remember – next year’s joint conference is with MLA in Billings!
Great Falls Public Library Updates

Budding Babies

It’s never too early to begin reading with your baby. The engagement of parent to child, even at ages as early as four and six months, can bear positive fruit for the child as she develops later language and reading skills. The Great Falls Public Library has carried this word of literacy into the community this past fall thanks to a generous contribution from The Ronald and Helen Lapee Family Foundation. This contribution was used to finance a pilot literacy project named Budding Babies.

Lime green bags branded with the Budding Baby logo and containing a board book, a brochure on building your baby’s brain the first five years, and an informational flyer, went out to the City/County Health Department and the Native American Health Clinic for distribution to parents who bring their babies in for their four and six-month check-ups. The City/County Health Department is on their second batch, reporting positive feedback from parents who have received the packets thus far. This pilot project covers 200 such giveaways. The goal is to expand the program and supply more goody bags to more locations in the future.

The logo for this campaign was designed by staff member and artist Jessie Damyanovich, who delivered her first baby, Stella, January 13.

Food for Fines

The Great Falls Public Library kicks off Amnesty Week, on Saturday, February 6. During this week the library will collect food for fines, donations going to the Great Falls Community Food Bank. These donations will be used to reduce or erase library fines from patrons’ accounts.

For every can of food donated $5 in fines will be deducted from a library account, with a maximum of $50 deducted per account. This amnesty will not apply to fees associated with lost or damaged items, nor towards accounts that have already gone to collection.

Foundation Book-A-Thon

The Great Falls Public Library’s Foundation holds their annual book-a-thon each November, and has been doing so for 20 years, as a way to raise donations to purchase, whose investment earnings are used to help the library in perpetuity. As of December 31, the Foundation had received a whopping $35,624, the most ever given to this fundraiser by that date. Historically, donations keep coming in for several more months, which means this year’s totals could set a new record, making many Great Falls children very happy.
Let us introduce ourselves: Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco. We are compiling a book for ALA Publications with the working title True Stories of Censorship Battles in American Libraries. The proposal for this book arose out of a presentation called “Banned Books Exposed” that we have been giving for several years. We are looking forward to speaking at a session at the upcoming MPLA/OLA conference.

We are seeking essays by and about librarians in public, school, and academic libraries who have experienced challenges to remove material from library collections.

These essays should be no more than 2500 words in length, and should provide details of a full challenge experience, from initial contact through ultimate resolution. Essays can be a first person narrative or a case study description. We will also welcome short descriptions of interactions that may not have ended in a formal challenge or request for reconsideration. These anecdotes should reflect the concerns of either the patron or the librarian or both. Sad, funny, scary, confusing, misunderstood, groundless, highly-charged, low-key – somehow, the reader should be able to identify with the event.

Tips on writing: Explain the situation and how you were involved. How was the issue resolved? What lessons were learned? If you experienced this situation again, what would you do differently? What resources did you draw upon (don’t list resources; tell us about the resources and why they were helpful)? Had you received any training on handling challenges prior to the situation you describe? Have you received any since? Did your library have a procedure in place? If not, does it have one now?

Writers should include the facts of the challenge. If this is information based on a personal experience, please share your thoughts and feelings about the confrontation, dealing with administrators, and dealing with the public.

Email submissions to: nyebarco@gmail.com Your submissions should be submitted with the following information:
1. Title your essay.
2. Include a 100 word biographical statement.

Your submissions should follow these formatting rules:
1. Text should be attached as a .doc or .rtf (please do not send .docx documents).
2. Your Name should be the document label (example JaneSmith.doc)
3. If you have questions about style, please consult The Chicago Manual of Style, 15th edition, as your general guide to punctuation, capitalization, quotation, abbreviation, source citation, use of italic, etc.

Submitting an essay does not guarantee publication. If you have questions about your essay and/or topic, please contact us.

Contributors will be asked to sign an ALA Writer Agreement before publication. Compensation: a complimentary copy of the final publication and a discount on additional copies.

Montana Place Names Companion

Jennie Stapp, Digital Library Director/CIO
Montana State Library

The Montana State Library and the Montana Historical Society announce the launch of the Montana Place Names Companion.

Among Montana’s most enduring legacies are the names assigned to its geographic features and places found on the state map. As long as humans have inhabited Montana they have named places. And Montana place names are as varied as its terrain.

If you’ve ever wondered who named Alzada or if you’ve ever pondered about the origin of Zortman, the Montana Historical Society and the Montana State Library have developed the perfect Website for you. “The Montana Place Names Companion” is available via the Internet at: http://mtplacenames.org on January 27, 2010.

“The Place Names Companion” is the online application based on the book, Montana Place Names from Alzada to Zortman, which was recently published by the Montana Historical Society press. Thoroughly researched and written by staff of the Montana Historical Society, the book details the origin of place names for over 1,200 geographic locations in Montana and is filled with history and anecdotes for places throughout the state. Web users can search the online “Companion” application to find information about the same places that are highlighted in the book.

The “Place Names Companion” Web site is easy to use. People can explore Montana via the Web by searching for specific place names, key words, phrases or personal names that might be found in the descriptions of the actual place names. Search results display in an online mapped application. Users can view the place name location on the Montana highway map, a state topographic map, or with aerial photos.

The details that are displayed for each of the more than 1,200 place names include:

- Complete text and any images from the book
- All related geographic information
- Latitude and longitude of each location

The online “Place Names Companion” is an excellent resource for people who want ready access to information at their online finger tips. It also offers a means for people to provide comments and feedback to the authors as well as suggestions for place names to include in future editions of the book.

Through its statewide programs, the Montana State Library empowers Montanans; enhances learning in families and communities; builds 21st Century skills; and provides opportunities for civic participation. For more information, visit http://msl.mt.gov.
The 2010 conference is being held August 11-14 in beautiful Victoria, BC. The theme for the 2010 conference is “No Library is an Island” and speaks to the need to collaborate effectively in difficult economic times. The theme is also a celebration of the cooperative spirit that libraries have in their “DNA”. The joint PNLA/WLA conference is a chance to learn and share with colleagues in one of the library community’s few international conferences.

The joint conference will bring together library staff from five states and two provinces at the Victoria Conference Centre and the Fairmont Empress. Those of you that have attended PNLA conferences in the past will know the delicate balance of fun and learning that they are famous for. Having our colleagues from the WLA join us makes the 2010 conference a once in a lifetime opportunity. Top-notch session speakers will mix with events such as “Corks and Cans” and tours that take advantage of the wonders of Victoria in the summer to guarantee a conference experience nonpareil.

Lodging at the Fairmont Empress
https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=1461450

For more Conference information go to the PNLA website @:
http://www.pnla.org/events/conference10/index.html
At our November Board Meeting, talk of the Oregon Library Association’s surprising decision to leave PNLA dominated our time. We are still attempting to figure out what this means for PNLA and for our valued members in the state of Oregon. We are trying to define how this affects providing our services such as the Young Readers’ Choice Award, the Leadership Institute, and our conference to our members in Oregon and to the library community in that state. I anticipate that our upcoming meeting will once again be colored by reaction to OLA’s abrupt decision, which was based on the current financial crisis.

PNLA is and continues to be a strong association with good financial health, a well-defined and important mission, and a provider of beloved programs such as YRCA and Leads. We know that we offer great resources and services to the Pacific Northwest and have been reawakened to the need to better show our value—something that many library associations struggle with in these hard economic times.

You will be hearing from us! We are in the final stages of a transfer to new membership software that will make contacting members, paying dues, and registering for conferences easier than ever. And our upcoming joint conference with WLA in Victoria is shaping up to be one of the best ever. We are investigating a move to peer-review for the Quarterly, an action that will only improve its usefulness as a journal of librarianship for the Pacific Northwest. And we will continue to help sponsor programs at our state and provincial conferences.

We hope to hear more from you, too. Last year PNLA President Kathy Watson went on a bit of a listening tour around the states and provinces of PNLA. We asked a few questions of you. What can we do for you? What can we do for each other? What do you see as your PNLA membership benefits? We are building on the strengths that you identified and working to make that worth more apparent. Please don’t hesitate to let us know what more we can do.

I will be visiting with many of our states and provinces during your annual conferences this spring and I also hope to see you at the upcoming PNLA conference in Victoria, BC, from August 11-14. Corks and Cans will take place at the Canoe Restaurant and Brewpub on Thursday night, and there will be much to do and more to learn. You can find out more at the conference website, http://pnla.org/events/conference10/index.html.
The Sheila Cates Raffle Committee Needs You!

Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian of Montana
Montana State Library

The Sheila Cates Raffle committee needs your baskets and items for the Cates Scholarship Fund. If you’re feeling creative, generous, or just want to donate to a good cause please email Tracy Cook at tcook@mtlib.org to let her know what you would like to donate to the Cates’ Raffle.

The Sheila Cates Librarian of Year Award and the Scholarship Fund was named after Sheila Alexander Cates. Some facts for you to know about Sheila:

Sheila originally came to Montana in 1981. She accepted the position of the Library Media Specialist for the Montana Office of Public Instruction in April 1981.

Sheila became the Coordinator of Library Development for the Montana State Library in September 1985 and served in that position until her death in August 1993.

Sheila Cates was named Montana Librarian of the year by the Montana Library Association in April 1993.

When libraries suffered budget cuts, political threats, censorship attacks and any of the thousand other calamities, Sheila took it personally. She got involved, she tried to make a difference and usually did!

Sheila traveled Montana and knew every nook, cranny and librarian. Some people work in libraries, some people are advocates for libraries, some people love libraries, Sheila Cates did all of the above all the time.

The Cates Scholarship Fund has provided scholarships to about a dozen of our Montana library community colleagues.

As your remember or get to know the heritage of Sheila Cates please support the Sheila Cates Scholarship Fund. Provide a basket, handmade project, book(s), or other fine gifts for the Sheila Cates Scholarship Fund Raffle event at Montana Library Association. Email Tracy Cook at tcook@mtlib.org to let her know what you would like to donate to the Cates’ Raffle.

Thank you for your contributions and/or don’t forget to come and buy a raffle ticket or two or a hundred.

Here is how the Raffle works: Raffle items will be available for viewing in the Tamarack room in the GranTree Inn (check the program for hours). Raffle tickets for the items will be $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00, and you need not be present to win. The drawings will be held at 5:00 pm on Friday afternoon in the Tamarack room. All items to be raffled will be numbered and a small box with that number will be placed near the time. If you want to win item #5 (We don’t know what item #5 will be yet!), you write your name on a raffle ticket and place it in Box #5. And even though they say not to put all your eggs in one basket, if you really want item #5, you can place all your tickets in Box #5. Buy enough raffle tickets and you can stuff the box. If you don’t want to write your name on raffle tickets hundreds of times, use some of those unsolicited address labels that appear in your mailbox from time to time. If you are not coming to MLA but still want to participate in the Cates Raffle, send money with a friend and have them enter you in the Raffle.
Wedsworth Memorial Library awarded Libri Foundation Grant

By Jackie Strandell, Librarian
Wedsworth Memorial Library, Cascade, MT

Recently during Story Hour at Wedsworth Memorial Library in Cascade, Montana, the children were treated to a preview of the new books acquired by the library from the Libri Foundation.

The Libri Foundation awarded Wedsworth Memorial Library a GRANT FOR CHILDREN which amounted to 79 books with the total retail value of $1,417.20.

The Cascade General Federation of Women’s Club agreed to sponsor the library with a match of $350.00. This is the third time the club has sponsored Wedsworth Memorial Library to obtain the Libri Foundation grant.

Lewis & Clark Library Lincoln Branch Expansion Nearing Completion!

Construction is nearly complete on the 1,008 square foot addition to the Lincoln Branch Library. This new space will allow the branch to expand programming opportunities for all ages, while better serving the needs of the Lincoln community. “The addition is long overdue,” explained Lewis & Clark Library Director Judy Hart. “Programming activities at the Lincoln Branch have expanded dramatically in recent years and the existing building cannot accommodate the ever increasing numbers who attend Library programs.”

In addition to needing extra programming space, Lincoln has a need for a community meeting room. “Community groups will be able to reserve the meeting space at no cost when the space is not being utilized by the Library for Library events. There will be a separate access door so groups can use the room outside of regular Library hours,” explained Hart.

Target completion date is the end of February but landscaping will have to wait until the snow melts. A grand opening ceremony is being planned for later in the Spring. “The Lewis & Clark Library looks forward to providing this additional space to Lincoln and appreciates the overwhelming support of the community,” stated Hart.
Sherman Alexie

Without Reservations:
An Urban Indian’s Comic, Poetic & Highly Irreverent Look at the World

7 P.M. Thursday, February 18, 2010
Helena Middle School Auditorium

Free
Open to the public
Book Signing to follow

Books for sale courtesy of Montana Book Co.
Brought to you by Your Lewis & Clark Library
This is an article that can be summed up in two parables—one offered here at the beginning and one at the end.

Parable #1 - The Parable of the Frog:
If you place a frog in a pot of boiling water, the frog will quickly react and jump out. But, if you place a frog in a pot of cold water and slowly heat it up, you will eventually wind up with boiled frog. Replace “frog” with “school library programs,” and that’s what I think has happened. No, there hasn’t been a sudden, widespread decimation of school library programs and teacher-librarian positions in the North-west. Rather, there’s been a slow but continuous cutting of teacher-librarians and budgets until we wind up with states such as Oregon having less than 20% of schools with certified teacher-librarians, and deep cuts in school districts across Washington including Bellevue, one of the top ranked districts in the country. Each time there’s a threat, we become outraged, marshal the troops, and descend on school boards, administrators, and the press. We are fortunate when the fight is taken up by the community—such as the 3 mom’s from Spokane. The result, most of the time, is partial success—with some of the cuts rescinded or reduced. But, in the long run, we are still on the way to “boiled frog”—to schools across the region without teacher-librarians and quality library programs.

When we reflect on the causes of the problems—why teacher-librarians and school library programs are not valued as core and essential—we come up with answers such as:
• They just don’t get it (they = administrators, school board members, classroom teachers, parents).
• We aren’t doing a good job of explaining what we do.
• They are putting these expensive library facilities and resources at risk.
• With all the cuts, I can’t deliver any kind of meaningful program because, after all, I don’t even have time to get the books back on the shelves or handle basic clerical tasks.

At the same time, our national organizations and leaders seem to ignore the crisis, downplaying information literacy, reading advocacy, and other basics of school library programs, while promoting new initiatives and challenges such as multiple (21st Century) literacies, inquiry-based learning, and collaboration. These are certainly worthy initiatives, but really—shouldn’t we be focusing on articulating and delivering a clear set of essential library program functions that make the program and teacher-librarian essential?

The problem isn’t one of doing a better job in “selling” what library programs have to offer. This isn’t a marketing issue. It’s that school library programs aren’t consistent and reliable in terms of nature and levels of functions and services. Even within the same district, can classroom teachers expect to have access to quality library programs that offer similar, consistent, systematic, and quality services and instruc-
tion? Certainly, we have some terrific, active, curriculum- and learning-focused library programs, but we also have too many that are passive, isolated, and unapproachable. And, even in the best of situations, it’s rare to find library programs that are systematic (with clear goals, objectives, and plans), involving the faculty in decision-making (in terms of setting priorities and levels of services and instruction), and comprehensive (in terms of ensuring and documenting that services and instruction reach every student). Now, I know there are some very good reasons contributing to this inconsistency and lack of high quality programs (including lack of support and meager budgets), but it doesn’t matter. It doesn’t matter because we aren’t going to stem the tide or improve programs by pointing fingers and complaining. In my opinion, the only way that we can avoid “boiled frog” is:

- To be super-strategic and systematic.
- To insist on the highest level of performance—from ourselves and our school library colleagues.
- To deliver essential, comprehensive instruction and services targeted directly to school-wide goals and teacher/classroom-centered curriculum and assessments.
- To document the targeted instruction and services as well as the impact on the school and classroom.

We also need to band together and take these steps in concert. We need teacher-librarians across the region to take up this challenge—with urgency—and determine what they need to make this happen. We’ve already got the basics of the vision, agenda, and strategy in place. Building from the original Information Power mission statement (with some edits by Mike Eisenberg and Joyce Valenza): The mission of the school library program is to ensure that students are effective users and producers of information and ideas.

We fulfill the mission through 4 functions:

- Information literacy learning
- Reading advocacy
- Information services
- Information management.

The school library program priorities and scope of functions in each school should be determined by the school leadership team. The priorities and scope of functions should be reviewed and revised regularly to make sure that the program is doing its best to meet the needs of students, teachers, and community and that funding, staff, and resources are being used most effectively and efficiently. Above all, the program should be predictable and comprehensive: teachers and administrators should be able to rely on their school library program for consistent, across-the-board instruction and services. If the program is not fulfilling its potential, the school leadership team should determine why and help to remedy the situation.

Our regional professional associations can help. So can our professional educator preparation programs and state education agencies. Their role is to help us to speak with one voice, to aim for a common agenda, and to support each other through common strategies and approaches. I urge the school library and technology organizations and institutions in each Northwest state to take up this challenge.
As a first effort, we are very fortunate to have NCCE – the Northwest Council for Computer Education – to embrace this cause. At the March NCCE conference in Seattle, there will be an entire day – Wed, March 3, 2010 – dedicated as a Teacher Librarian Summit. We hope this TL Summit will serve as a “call to action” for teacher-librarians and school leaders to define and deliver transformative school library programs through a clear vision, defined responsibilities, and actionable plans. The Summit will emphasize on essential and attainable ICT standards, learning-centered program standards, and implementation strategies and resources to support teacher-librarians and other educators determined to provide systematic and comprehensive school library programs that are widely recognized as essential for all students in all schools. I’ll be at the TL Summit, along with the 3 Moms from Spokane, representatives from the Library of Congress, and library and education leaders from all Northwest states. We see this Summit as a highly-visible kick-off to actions and activities across the region to take up the challenge and work together to transform programs and perceptions. We certainly hope you can join us, but if you can’t, we will provide further information through NCCE, WLMA and other state school library organizations.

To close, here’s the second parable:
Parable #2 – The Parable of the Fish:
If you give a person a fish, you feed them for a day. If you teach a person how to fish, you feed them for a lifetime. BUT…if you help a person learn how to find and use information about fishing, they can teach themselves how to fish – or to do anything else they want to in life. This is what we have to offer to students, teachers, and parents. We – teacher-librarians – know how to find and use information about fishing or about anything else! We can help students to learn how to find and use information. We can help their classroom teachers to help them find and use information about fishing or anything else. That is our role in education, and it is as, if not more important as any role of any other educator. Let’s do it—together! Let’s ensure that students are effective users and producers of information and ideas.

Mike Eisenberg, well-known school library educator and author, is Dean Emeritus and Professor at the Information School of the University of Washington. He received WLMA awards in 2002 and 2005 for efforts to promote teacher-librarians and school library programs. Mike is best know for his Big6 model of information literacy.

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NCCE 2010: Teacher Librarian Summit
MARCH 3, 2010 * 9 AM – 4 PM * SEATTLE, WASHINGTON * $210

Make Your Own Magic:
TRANSFORMATIVE SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMS

This day-long summit is a call to action for Teacher Librarians. Even though the role and need for school library and information services and functions are more essential than ever, many school library programs are being cut or scaled back. It's time for dynamic and targeted actions.

This NCCE Teacher Librarian summit will provide participants with a clear vision, defined responsibilities, and an action plan for teacher librarians as they work with school administration and information technology leaders. Mike Eisenberg, and other leaders in the field of information literacy and technology education, will engage participants with ICT standards, program standards, and resources to assist teacher librarians in preserving and strengthening school libraries.

Featuring:
Michael Eisenberg
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Gail Petri and Sherrie Galloway
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Highlights
• Defining our role for 21st Century Schools
• Leading the implementation of standards for our schools
• Building partnership for Information Literacy and Technology
• Coordinating with Administrators and IT teams

Lunch will be provided!
Exclusive Prizes and Give-a-ways!
Space is Limited

NCCE Welcomes: Library of Congress
The Research Library of the United States
MARCH 4-5, 2010 * MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS
ONE-HOUR SESSIONS

PRESENTERS:
Sherrie Galloway
Educational Outreach Specialist

Gail Petri
Education Resource Specialist

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SESSIONS
• Teaching With Primary Sources: Audio and Video
• Teaching With Primary Sources: Maps
• Teaching With Primary Sources: Photos
• Using Books as Hooks to Primary Sources
• Differentiation Using Primary Sources
• Showcasing the NEW Teaching With Primary Sources Professional Development System
Society of Southwest Archivists
Archives at the Crossroads
2010 Annual Meeting
Workshops

Preservation of Photographic Material
**Instructor:** Rebecca Elder, AMIGOS Library Services
**Description:** Preserving the visual record is one of the most important roles of a cultural heritage institution. This workshop deals with the unique challenges of preserving and caring for a photograph collection.
**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., April 28, 2010
**Place:** Chavez Room, New Mexico History Museum
**Fee:** $100
**Maximum Attendees:** 20

Fundraising 101: Success in Starting a Fundraising Program for your Repository
**Instructors:** Steve Hussman, Dept. Head for Archives and Special Collections, NMSU Library
Kristina Martinez, Library Development Officer, NMSU Library
**Description:** Fundraising is rapidly growing as a major responsibility and a greatly demanded skill set for archivists. The goals of this workshop are to: provide basic fundraising and development strategies; enable archivists to educate and cultivate donors and encourage them to support the overall programmatic needs of the repository and institution; and empower archivists for future fundraising challenges of the profession.
**Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., April 28, 2010
**Place:** Meem Room, New Mexico History Museum
**Fee:** $75
**Maximum Attendees:** 20

Caring for Native American Archival Collections in a Culturally Responsive Way
**Instructors:** Karen Underhill, Jolene Dezbah Manus, Ann Massmann, Diana Bird, Eunice Kahn, Stewart Koyiyumptewa and Jonathan Pringle
**Description:** Please join colleagues and a group of Southwest archivists who work in tribal and non-tribal settings to explore how best to care for Native American archival collections in a culturally responsive way, especially collections with culturally sensitive materials. Designed to be highly interactive, the workshop will address sovereignty and associated rights of Native American communities; building relationships and balancing different approaches to knowledge management; issues in the collection, ownership, preservation, handling, access, and use of American Indian archival resources; and ways to share and/or repatriate some material.
**Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., April 28, 2010
**Place:** NMHM Classroom/Learning Center, New Mexico History Museum
**Fee:** $75
**Maximum Attendees:** 30

Please mail registration form with payment to:
Twyla Reinig, CSWR MSC 05-3020, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Society of Southwest Archivists  
Archives at the Crossroads 
2010 Annual Meeting 
Conference Hotel

Inn and Spa at Loretto  
211 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
1-800-727-5531 
www.innatloretto.com

Room rate $110/single, double (15.063%.tax). 
Daily $10.00 Service Fee added.  
Roll away beds will be offered at no charge based on availability. 

Special group rates will be offered three days pre and post event dates. 
Rates apply April 25-May 4. Reservation due date for the SSA conference rate is March 1, 2010. 
Valet Parking: $12.00 per day for overnight guests. $6.00 per day for day parking only.

To make online reservation visit http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Hotel.htm and select the link: CLICK TO MAKE ONLINE RESERVATIONS 
The link above automatically gives you the conference price. If you make reservations via the hotel website use the group code "NM State".

The Inn and Spa at Loretto embodies the culture of the region, utilizing adobe-style architecture that reflects the true spirit and history of genuine Santa Fe. Inspired by the famed Taos Pueblo, the Inn incorporates the style of 13th century pueblos into nearly every design detail, from handcrafted doors, windows and fixtures to petroglyphs, weavings and a warm kiva hearth. A vibrant earth-toned palette and the work of local artisans complete this soulfully elegant retreat.

Surrounded by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and nestled in the heart of Santa Fe, the Inn and Spa at Loretto resides at the end of the historic Old Santa Fe Trail and is one of the most photographed buildings in the city.

This boutique hotel is centrally located within walking distance of Canyon Road's "Artists' Row," the Plaza and the Palace of the Governors, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, boutiques, shops and restaurants.
Society of Southwest Archivists 2010 Meeting Registration
Santa Fe, NM - Inn and Spa at Loretto
April 28-May 1, 2010

Full Name: __________________________________________ Institution _______________________
Address: ___________________________ City __________________________ State ________ Zip _______
Telephone (with area code): __________________________ Email: __________________________

1. Pre-Conference Workshops, Wednesday April 28, 2010

   Preservation of Photographic Materials __________________________ $100
   8:00 AM - 12 NOON  Chavez Room, New Mexico History Museum

   Fund Raising 101: Success in Starting a Fund-Raising Program for your Repository ______ $75
   1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  Meem Room, New Mexico History Museum

   Caring for Native American Archival Collections in a Culturally Responsive Way _____ $75
   1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  NMHM Classroom/Learning Center, New Mexico History Museum

Workshop registration/payment must be postmarked by 4/15
Total from section 1___________

2. Conference Registration (Please circle appropriate categories)

   Members:               $150 Early bird (by 3/19)  $175 Regular (after 3/19)
   Non-Members:           $165 Early bird (by 3/19)  $190 Regular (after 3/19)
   Students (Valid student ID required): $80 Early bird (by 3/19)  $100 Regular (after 3/19)

   Day Registration:      $100   (Please circle: Thursday or Friday)
Total from section 2___________

3. Receptions (Non-conference registrants, Please indicate how many people)

   ____ $35 Opening Reception     ____ $50 Closing Reception
Total from section 3___________

4. Tours, Saturday May 1 (Please indicate how many people)

   ____ $75 Bandelier     ____ $65 NM Sampler     ____ $65 Rancho de las Golondrinas
Total from section 4___________

*DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SATURDAY BREAKFAST? YES   NO

Total Fees Enclosed: $__________

Registration and payment postmarked by 4/15 or please register on-site.
Checks only, payable to SSA2010. $25.00 returned check fee.

Please mail registration form with payment to:
Twyla Reinig
CSWR MSC 05-3020
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

For information or questions regarding registration:
Twyla Reinig @ 505-277-7173 or email t19483@unm.edu or
Beth Silbergleit @ 505.277.0060 or email bsil@unm.edu

For complete details visit the website at http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Meeting.htm