Message from the President

As 2013 draws to a close and the holidays approach, we have much to be thankful for and many of us look for gifts and presents. This is a gentle reminder of the ‘gifts’ MLA can provide for you, its members and main source of funding.

For new members, we are offering the opportunity to facilitate sessions at the MLA Annual conference in Billings, April 2014. Facilitators will introduce the presenter/speaker, help the session run smoothly, and thank everyone for their participation at the session’s end. MLA will contact new members to determine interest soon.

For members with three years of consecutive membership, the MLA Professional Development Committee has grants available for attending conferences like Offline, the Public Library Association semi-annual conference, or the ALA conference. These grants are for members interested in furthering their professional development by attending a regional or national event. See: http://mtlib.org/Handbook/grant_guidelines.asp#2 for a full list of grant opportunities.

For all members (and non-members), the Offline conference in Helena, Montana at Carroll College on February 7 & 8, 2014 offers challenging programs and two tracts based on interest. Track One focuses on innovative technologies that scale for collaborative resource sharing statewide. Track Two focuses on the library’s engagement with its local community, online and offline.

Your conference co-chairs, Jan Zauha (MSU-Bozeman) and Lyn McKinney (Billings Schools) whittled down dozens of program proposals for the MLA 2014 annual conference. There are a certain number of slots available, and they have filled them with challenging programs. Look for a dynamic keynote from author Deidre Combs. Ms. Combs is the author of three books on cross-cultural approaches to resolving conflict and overcoming challenges that integrate common wisdom from the world’s lasting cultural traditions with systems theory and brain research. She is a Ted Talks presenter and moderator.

Last, a new fundraiser is coming from MLA, a calendar full of beautiful pictures of Montana Libraries. We hope to see you and your library soon. For now, from all of the Montana Library Association Board of Directors to all of the members, happy holidays and a happy new year.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Beth Boyson, President
Montana State Library Vimeo Channel Stocks Anytime Anywhere Learning Opportunities
By Jo Flick, MS Ed.,
Continuing Education Coordinator
Montana State Library
http://vimeo.com/channels/403784

You’ve heard of YouTube, but do you know about Vimeo? Like YouTube, Vimeo is an online repository of videos; but unlike YouTube, Vimeo does not have ads. For this reason, and since Vimeo is not blocked as much as YouTube, the State Library chose Vimeo to host its growing collection of archived webinars, video tutorials, and video courses.

The Montana State Library launched its online Vimeo Channel during the Summer of 2012. In the past year, the state library training staff, with input from other library trainers and partners from around the state, have posted dozens of archived recordings of webinars, a 3-part video documentary introducing the Montana library community to trustees, and lots of short video tutorials. This resource is available for librarians throughout the Treasure State or from anywhere to expand their professional development. New content is added every month. Content addresses all four Montana State Library CE categories and much of the content is specifically designed to address the particular needs of Montana library staff.

To find the webinars of most value, use the links in the Montana State Library Learning portal: learning.montanastatelibrary.org, scroll down and look for the “Archived Webinars” menu widget on the lower left. This widget links to the MSL Vimeo Channel to facilitate browsing either by MSL program or by CE category. There are also links to the recently posted WorldShare ILL archived webinars.

The MSL Vimeo Channel’s full list of videos can be accessed by scrolling to the bottom of any page in the learning portal and clicking on the V in the lower right corner. If you choose, you can “follow” the MSL channel by creating an account in Vimeo or linking an existing Facebook account. You must log in to your account before you can post comments or rate a particular video. Logging in also permits viewers to create their own organization of online archived webinars. If you find a particular video is something you like to refer to more than once, then you will want to create an account in Vimeo, but it is not necessary to have an account in Vimeo to view videos.

A recent review of statistics by MSL training staff indicate that during a typical month, 200 or so videos are accessed and played from the channel. Most of the plays come from the United States, though we have noticed that some of our viewers hail from around the globe.

Librarians are encouraged to consider presenting a webinar with the MSL staff. If you have a topic in mind to present or want to suggest a presenter/topic, please contact the MSL staff. We are eager to continue to expand this resource to meet the professional development needs of Montana’s librarians.
The PNLA 2014 Conference will be August 13, 14 and 15 in historic downtown Helena at the Premier Great Northern Hotel. All will be within walking distance – conference sessions, evening events, tours, restaurants, and shopping. Along with the notorious “Corks & Cans”, we plan to highlight other tours, evening events, and receptions to make your conference attendance memorable. A simplification of PNLA membership fees will hopefully allow more folks to attend. Membership is now $50 for personal memberships and $150 for institutional memberships. Unlimited attendees can attend on an institutional membership.

We encourage librarians from Montana to share their expertise and ideas with those in Alberta, Washington, Idaho and Alaska.

Call for Program Proposals - 2014 PNLA Conference in Helena, MT
“Mining the Past to Plan for the Future”

The PNLA conference planning committee is seeking program proposals for one hour presentations at the conference. Please submit your proposal to Della Dubbe at dubbePNLA14@gmail.com by January 31, 2014. Submissions will receive a response from the planning committee by March 15, 2013. Be sure to include the following information with your submission:

About you:
- Name
- Affiliation
- Position/title
- Contact information: including mailing address, phone number and e-mail address
- PNLA member?

About your program:
- Program title
- Program description (no more than 100 words)
- Three Program goals or objectives
- Program Format (single or double speaker, panel, hands-on, etc.)

Program Logistics:
- Speaker needs (if any)
- Equipment needs
- Any other special requirements or additional information

Questions? Contact Della Dubbe at dubbePNLA14@gmail.com or (406)460-0130.

Want free money? You can apply for a MLA Professional Development Grant to pay for your next professional development endeavor! The next deadline is January 1, 2014. Please visit http://mtlib.org/Handbook/grant_guidelines.asp or email samantha.hines@umontana.edu for more information.
The MSC Welcomes New Members and New Logo
By Ken Adams, Montana Shared Catalog Director

After several months of preparation and a rigorous 2-day training session, the Fort Peck Tribal Library in Poplar, Judith Basin County Free Library in Stanford, and Hobson Community Library began using the MSC system on November 15. The George M McCones Memorial County Library in Circle will begin using the system on December 2. This brings the total number of Montana libraries sharing the MSC integrated library system, its bibliographic database, and peer expertise to 167.

Amy Marchwick presents MSC system training to library staff and volunteers of Fort Peck Tribal Library and George M McCones Memorial County Library.

The MSC unveils its new logo!

The logo was presented to the membership during the Fall Members meeting held in Helena on September 26. The concept, design, and style guide were created by Luke Duran of Element L Designs after several months of work and meetings with MSC staff and member library representatives. The logo symbolizes what the MSC is all about; resource sharing and working together, represented by colorful open books (or laptops) touching edges to form a circle and a star. The four colors represent the 4 basic library types of MSC members: Public, School, Academic, and Special. The logo is just starting to make its appearance on the MSC web pages and blog and will soon be available for member libraries’ use.

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

OFFLINE 2014 – February 7-8, 2014 at the Campus Center at Carroll College in Helena. Registration opens in December; rooms are available at the State rate ($83-$88 single) – make your room reservation early, as rates begin to expire after January 5. See http://mtlib.org/Conferences/default.asp for more information.

Trustee Training ONLINE Winter 2014 - Happily Ever After: From Interview to Action—Board-Director Relationships that Work! Weekly January 27-February 17, 6-7:30 p.m. Register at:
https://student.gototraining.com/r/843841444122444032

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Montana State University Billings Library received a Civil War 150 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library of America, and the Gilder Lehman Institute of American History. The grant commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, lending support nationwide for programming from 2011 through 2015. The MSU Billings Library organized a series of seven programs over a wide range of disciplines, including history, music, communication, allied health, medicine, film and poetry. MSU Billings sits on top of a gold mine of faculty wisdom so it was easy to collaborate with the very knowledgeable faculty at MSU Billings to put together an amazing series of programs.

**Sept. 17, 2013 - Dr. Jen Lynn: Photographs of the Civil War Era and Opening Reception**
On the 151st anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, Dr. Lynn discussed the new technology of photography and how it was utilized to capture scenes from the Civil War.

**Sept. 24, 2013 - Dr. Tom Rust: "Civil War from the Bottom Up"**
Dr. Rust presented a lecture focusing on the lives and motivations of rank-and-file soldiers. Dr. Rust is the Montana National History Day Coordinator.

**Oct. 8, 2013 - Dr. Sue Balter-Reitz and Dr. Sam Boerboom: Communication & the Civil War**
Dr. Balter-Reitz and Dr. Boerboom discussed public communication during the Civil War, including the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the Gettysburg Address, and beyond.

**Oct. 15, 2013 - Dr. Keith Edgerton: Civil War on the Big Screen**
Dr. Edgerton discussed depictions of the Civil War in film.

**Oct. 22, 2013 - Dr. Kathe Gabel: Medicine & the Civil War**
Dr. Gabel discussed 19th century medical practices and Civil War-era battlefield triage.

**Oct. 29, 2013 - Ms. Tami Haaland & Dr. Bernie Quetchenbach: Poetry of the Civil War**
Ms. Haaland (Montana Poet Laureate 2013-2015) and Dr. Quetchenbach read and discussed Civil War era poetry.

**Nov. 5, 2013 - Dr. Mark Fenderson: Music of the Civil War**
Dr. Fenderson presented a program on Civil War music, including a student ensemble playing brass band music from the period.

The programs were all free and open to the public. The response to the programs from the community was overwhelming. Attendance for each individual program was 150-200 people with a grand total of 1,221 people attending the series. People were very excited about the quality of the programs and we were often asked, “What are you going to do next?” That is the question we are pondering now.
Frosty and Friends Visit Whitefish Community Library
By Alison Pomerantz,
Secretary, Whitefish Community Library Board

Stop by the Whitefish Community Library this winter and you’ll find more than just great books and media. With a corn cob pipe and a button nose and two eyes made out of coal, Frosty and about 250 of his smiling friends adorn every shelf to create a festive fairytale atmosphere for children and adults of all ages.

For the past eight years, the Whitefish Community Library transforms its space into a winter wonderland with its vast “snow person” collection generously donated by staff, volunteers and patrons. It takes hours of work to put out the displays of plush, white snowmen, but the end result is nothing short of magical. The attraction has become so popular that library visitors begin asking about the pending arrival of the snowmen long before Thanksgiving.

“The snowmen are perhaps the best goodwill ambassadors we have,” says WCL Director Joey Kositzky. “They create such an upbeat mood for visitors circulating through the stacks, you just can’t help but smile.”

For more information on other seasonal events at the Whitefish Community Library, visit www.whitefishlibrary.org or to become a Friend of the Whitefish Community Library, visit www.friendswcl.org.

Get Ready for Gadgets Galore
By Susie McIntyre
Chair, MontanaLibrary2Go Executive Committee

Last January, MontanaLibrary2Go saw a big leap in use. Library patrons across the state had new devices for accessing eBooks and audiobooks and many of them wanted to know how to use MontanaLibrary2Go.

Make sure you and your staff are ready for the New Year rush.

- Overdrive on-demand training Webinars: http://partners.overdrive.com/learning-center/on-demand/
- The Overdrive Device Resource Center: http://www.overdrive.com/drc/
Happily Ever After:  
From Interview to Action...Board-Director Relationships That Work!

Four 90-minute online webinars on successful trustee-director relationships  
Winter 2014

Library boards learn online with expert consultant/trainer Catherine Hakala-Ausperk

January 27, 2014 A PERFECT MATCH – Before beginning a search for Library Director, it’s important to know for whom you are searching! Exercises will help identify characteristics matching library and community needs.

February 3, 2014 THE SEARCH BEGINS – Discussions, activities surrounding writing the job ad, reviewing candidates, selecting interviewees, creating great questions and conducting the interview.

February 10, 2014 THE CHOICE – How to actually hire, from reference checking to negotiations, salary and perks, to staff and community orientation.

February 17, 2014 FUTURE SUCCESS – Sustaining an excellent employee is just as important for directors! This section to cover establishing expectations (from communication channels to goals), clarifying roles, resolving challenges, motivation and ongoing development.

All sessions will be recorded and posted to the Montana State Library Vimeo Channel for viewing later (contact Jo Flick at the Montana State Library for more information about archived webinars jflick@mt.gov).

PLEASE REGISTER ONLY IF YOU INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL FOUR SESSIONS LIVE. Live participants benefit from being able to ask our expert presenter questions and by getting to know other library trustees from around Montana. Participants are encouraged to view the sessions in small groups, if possible, under a single registration login. Live participation is limited to 24 separate logins.

TO REGISTER:  https://student.gototraining.com/r/843841444122444032

6 CE credits in the category of: Library Administration

Presented by the Montana State Library with support from by the Institute for Museum and Library Services’ Library Services and Technology Act grant.
It’s Time to Nominate Award Winners
By Debbi Kramer and Eva English, Co-Chairs
Awards and Honors Committee

Do you know someone who is very deserving of a Montana Library Associations Award? It’s time to get your nominations prepared.

The Awards Committee invites you to send in your nominations for the 2014 Awards. Each nomination must consist of three letters of support; one from the nominator and two from other supporters of the nomination. No more than three letters of support will be considered by the committee. In addition, those nominating a work for the Media Award must provide the committee with a copy of the nominated work. All nominations will be confidential until the recommendations of the committee have been approved by the Board of Directors and the recipients notified. The deadline date should be set no later than the fourth Monday in January in order for the committee to complete its work. The Montana Library Association honors individuals and groups who have served the Association and/or the Montana library community with distinction. The Montana Library Association confers the following awards and honors:

- Honorary Life Membership Award
- Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award
- Interest Group Excellence Award
- Media Award
- School Administrator of the Year Award
- Special Friend to Libraries Award
- Trustee of the Year Award
- Legislator of the Year Award
- Outstanding Support Staff Award
- School Library Program of the Year Award
- Librarian of the Year Award
- Library of the Year Award

Nomination Guidelines:

a. The committee chair will screen the nominations to check that they are complete. Copies of the nominations will be sent to committee members for review. Because the letters of support may provide information of historical interest about those nominated, the original letters of support should be sent to the Executive Director for retention in the Association’s files/archives upon completion of the awards selection process.

b. The committee should select only one recipient should be selected for the following awards: Library of the Year Award, Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year, Trustee of the Year Award, and School Administrator of the Year Award. With the approval of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, the committee

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may select more than one recipient for the following awards, if in the judgment of the committee all recipients meet the criteria established for the award: Honorary Life Membership, Special Friend to Libraries Award, Intellectual Freedom Award, Media Award, and Interest Group Excellence Award.

d. If, in the judgment of the committee, no nominees meet the criteria established for an award, no award will be conferred in that category. The committee should complete its review of the nominations and select award recipients by February 15. The committee chair should recommend the award recipients in writing to the President for approval by the Board of Directors no later than March 1.

e. The Intellectual Freedom Committee, while generally making the decision as to the recipients of the Intellectual Freedom Award, works closely with the Awards and Honors Committee. Solicitation for award nominations includes information about the Intellectual Freedom Award. If nominations for this award are received by the Awards and Honors Committee, they should be forwarded to the Intellectual Freedom Committee chair. The Intellectual Freedom Committee chair should inform the Awards and Honors Committee chair of the recipient(s) selected. The Awards and Honors Committee chair includes the recipients in notification correspondence and Awards Luncheon plans. The announcement of the Intellectual Freedom Award recipients may be made with the other recipients or made separately by the Intellectual Freedom Committee. The two committee chairs should work together to make these decisions.

f. No awards may be presented on behalf of the Montana Library Association without the approval of the Board of Directors.

Nomination Categories:

**Honorary Life Membership**

Honorary life membership may be conferred upon an individual who either has made an outstanding contribution to librarianship or who has rendered outstanding service to library interests. To be eligible for honorary life membership, an individual shall have made a contribution of lasting importance to the field of librarianship. The contribution must be outstanding enough so there can be no question of his/her suitability. Only living persons may be considered for honorary life membership.

**Library of the Year Award**

The award is conferred upon any type of Montana library, library system, or library network for distinguished achievement in service. The staff, library board of administering body, and the community or people served shall all be involved in the work for which recognition is sought. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. User services

b. Development of innovative partnerships through networks, systems, cooperative planning and programming

c. Sound collection development policies

d. Offering opportunities for professional growth and job satisfaction for all employees

e. Improvement of physical facilities resulting in better services

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Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year

The award is conferred upon a librarian in recognition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment in library service. The librarian must be currently employed in any field of librarianship in Montana and must be a current member of the Montana Library Association. The librarian must be in a professional librarian position. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Provision of high quality, community-centered library services
b. Contribution to any area of service benefiting users
c. Distinguished service to the profession, including outstanding participation in activities of professional library associations and/or notable publications
d. Leadership in education and in-service training for librarians
e. Leadership in cooperative activities
f. Outstanding development of library techniques, management, and/or facilities.

Trustee of the Year Award

The award is conferred upon a Montana public library trustee in recognition of outstanding achievement and leadership. Nominations may be made by any library board, individual library, librarian, trustee, MLA member, or the Montana State Library Commission. Equal consideration shall be given to trustees of small and large libraries. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Service to the local library and participation in state and national activities.
b. Constructive accomplishments in promoting library service shall be considered rather than the length of service as a trustee.
c. Interest in and contribution to the development of library services beyond those of the local community.
d. Achievements of nominees are judged according to criteria found in the Montana Public Library Trustee Manual.

School Administrator of the Year Award

The award is conferred upon a Montana school administrator in recognition of outstanding achievement and leadership in the development and promotion of school libraries. Nominations for this award should come from the librarian currently employed by the school district of the nominee. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Constructive accomplishment toward the advancement of library service to the students and teachers of the school.
b. Development of sound school library policies.
c. Creative and effective work in interpreting the library to the school board, school administration, teaching staff, students, and community.

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d. Fostering cooperative relations with other libraries in the area.

e. Implementation of programs to address special needs or problems.

f. Defense of intellectual freedom.

g. Promoting and supporting the employment of professional librarians in schools.

Special Friend to Libraries Award

The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or groups who are not members of the Montana Library Association and who have rendered outstanding service in support of library interests within Montana. The award is conferred simply as a reward for a job well done. Nominations are accepted only from members of the Montana Library Association. The award need not be based solely on service rendered during the previous year, but may be based on cumulative years of service.

Intellectual Freedom Award

The award is conferred upon an individual or group who has made significant contributions during the past year to the enhancement of First Amendment rights or upon an individual whose body of work over time has made significant contributions to the enhancement of intellectual freedom. The recipient should have demonstrated a clear understanding of the principles, nature and responsibilities and implications of the First Amendment. The recipient should be a Montanan or a non-Montanan whose contribution has a demonstrable effect on Montana. The recipient should have applied that understanding of the principles in one or more of the following ways:

a. In defense of the principles in the face of a serious challenge to it which defense is not necessarily limited to libraries.

b. In support of the principles through an active role in:

c. Formulating programs which develop people’s ability to deal with a full range of opinion/controversy and with the issues associated with such controversy, or

d. Developing, or materially assisting in the development of, a legal base for the continued enjoyment of freedom of mind, its strengthening, and its defense, or

e. Expanding the philosophical foundations of the principle or contributing to better understanding of it.

Interest Group Excellence Award

The award is conferred upon an individual member of an MLA interest group, or upon an interest group as a whole, for meritorious service on behalf of Montana libraries and/or librarians. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Comprehensive projects which benefit the larger library community.

b. Exemplary programs or outstanding services which are not available through other channels.

c. Extraordinary assistance to other libraries and/or librarians in Montana.

Media Award

The award is conferred to honor a production for broadcast or a work for publication which best underscores the

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value of libraries to community and society. This includes works prepared for television, radio, cable, film and/or print media. News articles/programs and documentaries also qualify. The broadcast or publication of the nominated work should be within the two year preceding the annual conference at which the award is to be made. A copy of the nominated work must be submitted to the Awards and Honors Committee for review.

Outstanding Support Staff of the Year

This award is conferred upon a Montana library Support Staff employee in recognition of outstanding service to the library profession and excellence in job performance. The Support Staff worker must be currently employed in a Montana library. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Provision of high quality library services
b. Contribution to any area of service benefitting library users
c. Commitment to promoting library service and free access to information for all
d. Leadership in strengthening the image of library staff
e. Leadership in fostering communication between library workers
f. Active service in library activities at the local, state, regional, or national level

School Library Program of the Year Award

This award is conferred upon a distinguished Montana Teacher-Librarian and the school library program in which they serve. This award recognizes the outstanding achievement of the teacher-librarian in fully integrating the school library program with curricular goals. A cash award of $500.00 will be provided by Follett Library Resources to be used for library development. The award shall be based on, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

a. Emphasis of the school library program’s role in the instructional process through professionalism, collaboration, and design of library resources that are in support of curricular goals
b. Leadership in information literacy instruction through a variety of models for students, staff, and other community members
c. Administration of information management systems that support student learning and school and district programs
d. Establishment of a powerful, relevant, and ubiquitous culture of reading in the school community.

Presentation of Awards:

Awards are presented to the recipients at the Awards Luncheon during the annual conference. The chair of the Awards and Honors Committee serves as coordinator of the awards presentation segment of the luncheon. The chair should make arrangements with nominators to identify who will present awards to the recipients at the luncheon. Recipients should be informed that may make a brief response, if they wish. Recipients should also be informed of the date, place, time, and menu of the Awards Luncheon. This information may be obtained from the chair(s) of the conference Local Arrangements Committee.

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The Association provides each award recipient with two complimentary tickets for the Awards Luncheon. If printed and available, the tickets may be included in the letter of notification. Otherwise, tickets should be sent later or arrangements made for them to be picked up at the conference site. Nominators/presenters of awards do not receive complimentary luncheon tickets.

Award recipients should also be notified that they may purchase additional luncheon tickets, if they wish. The chair should confirm whether recipients will attend the luncheon and who will present each award. The chair should also confirm how many people will be in each recipient's group of supporters so that enough places for them may be reserved at the luncheon.

Depending on the circumstances and on a very limited basis, the Association may provide a hotel room for a recipient, who is not a member of MLA and who is required to travel a long distance to the conference. Such an expense must be approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

Please send all nominations and letters of support to Co-Chairs Debbi Kramer and Eva English at debkmla@hotmail.com or mail them to PO Box 1352, Three Forks, MT 59752. The nominating committee is made up of 3 representatives from each library division.

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Run for MLA Office

Is the time right for you to become more involved in MLA? Please consider serving MLA as an elected board member. Upcoming vacant positions will be Secretary/Treasurer, President Elect, MPLA Representative, and Director-at-Large West. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else OR if you would simply like to learn more and discuss the possibilities, please contact Anne Kish at annekish@gmail.com or call (406)683-7494.

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