

**Montana Library Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
Holiday Inn, Bozeman, Montana
April 9, 2010**

President Eva English called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Welcome –

Eva welcomed everyone and asked the Conference Planning Committee to stand. She acknowledged them and thanked them for their efforts.

Eva introduced Mary Bushing.

Memorial – Mary Bushing

Mary noted that we have lost a number of members of our community in the past year. She pointed out that we have a graying profession, and are grateful for our new members. She noted that the Cates scholarship that helps support new members is named in honor of a former colleague who we lost too soon.

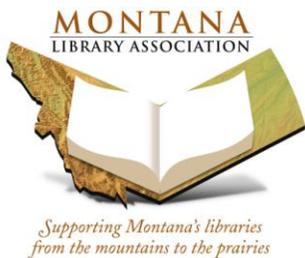
Mary noted the passing of the following people who contributed to the Montana library community:

- Alice McLean, 91 – University Librarian at Montana State University in Bozeman
- Beverly Knapp, 70 – Bozeman Public Library Board, President of MLA as a trustee, Bozeman City Commissioner
- Susan Lerdahl, 63 – Laurel Schools, Montana Power Company Law Librarian, MLA President, 1994-95
- Kay Harrelson, 64 – Dull Knife Memorial College Tribal Librarian
- Kathy Mary Jordan, 54 – VA Hospital Library, Miles City
- Sue Ray Crispin, 53 – Montana Natural Heritage Program, MSL
- Amy Lee Fannin, 42 – Darby Community Library
- Kathy Madison – Digital Services Technician, MSL

Mary asked the membership to observe a minute of silence. She also volunteered to collect such information for the coming year in order to again honor our lost colleagues.

President's Message

Eva noted that it's been a year since she was shaking at her introduction as the new president, and finds it difficult to summarize the year. She mentioned several points she found important: Sami Pierson is organizing the joint conference for MLA and MPLA in Billings next year. Stacy Bruhn is updating the website, and making it more user-friendly. Debbi Kramer, the Association's Executive Assistant, is keeping us in line. Suzanne Schwichtenberg is doing great things with Focus. MLA has a representative on the SWIM council – Honore Bray.



Eva has done a lot of traveling this year. Her first trip was in August to the Board Retreat at Salish Kootenai College, which was great. PNLA was terrific in Missoula. Eva met with conference planners in Bozeman. In October, she attended the ASLD/PLD retreat in Chico. Offline was in Billings in February – it was lots of fun and she learned a lot of new information.

Eva noted this year's efforts of the PR and Marketing committees. The cookbook's printing was delayed, but should be available soon - look for notices. License plates are finally available. Eva asked members to consider buying one and encourage others to do so.

On a personal note, Eva wanted to offer many thanks. During past year, she called in every favor possible. Thanks to Alice Meister for Christopher Paolini, to Loriene Roy for agreeing to come, to the MLA membership for allowing her to serve. Eva thanked the Conference co-chairs and planners for their great work (applause). She called out the music surrounding all events – and quoted Eddie and the Cruisers, “Words and music go together; you can't have one without the other”. She was pleased for the opportunity to bring The Nelsons to Bozeman, which was a dream come true, one that she didn't know she had. The MLA President's position was the same; a dream she didn't know she had, and working with Montana librarians was also a dream come true.

Eva read a letter from Senator Max Baucus congratulating award winners and assuring his support for Montana libraries.

Introduction of the board

Eva introduced the members of the Board and thanked them for their hard work.

Approval of minutes of the last membership meeting

Mary Bushing moved to accept the minutes of the 2009 Membership Meeting. Alice Meister seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Introduction of Candidates – Della Dubbe

Past President Della Dubbe presented the slate of candidates

Vice President – Kim Crowley

Director-At-Large – West – Marjorie Doyle

Secretary/Treasurer – Sarah Daviau

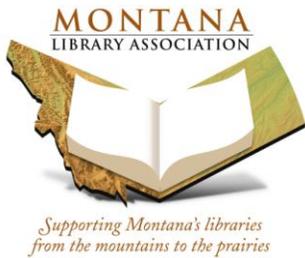
ALA Representative– Suzanne Goodman/ Eileen Wright

The candidates spoke briefly about themselves and why they were running. Elections information will be coming up soon. Please vote. Think about serving the association in future; we need candidates.

Reports

Financial Report – Debbi Kramer

There are 802 members in database; 579 are active, 210 are inactive members. 142 in ASLD, 97 active. SMLD has 162, 89 active. PLD has 507 members, 422 active. 23 are in multiple divisions.



Current dues collected totaled \$16,244.72. Cates donations with dues – \$347. The amount of bills paid are higher than receipts at this time – these are being paid out of reserves. We are borrowing to keep going. The Cates scholarship fund balance is at \$34,327.68.

Electronic balloting bylaws change. Mail balloting is expensive; there was a bylaws change to permit online voting, and that will take place starting this year. The Membership directory on website is updated weekly. Division membership is updated monthly. Please check the division directory to check your email listing right away. Your ballots will come to that email address.

State Librarian – Darlene Staffeldt

Darlene Staffeldt invited everyone to meet the State Library Commissioners at 2:15 pm. The Commissioners are the governing body of State Library. MSL serves all Montana libraries, and members are encouraged to get to know commissioners. The Commission will meet Saturday at 9:00 am. Their agenda includes finalizing the administrative rule process for resource sharing rules. The evaluation process of long range plan coming soon; please look for chance to comment and provide input. Darlene urged members to communicate with MSL. They have put together a committee to work on snapshot day. All libraries of all types will be asked to take some basic statistics to take forward for advocacy efforts. Darlene thanks the library community for the opportunity to serve. Please let MSL know your thoughts and concerns as they move forward

ALA/Traditional Cultural Expressions resolution – Karen Gonzales

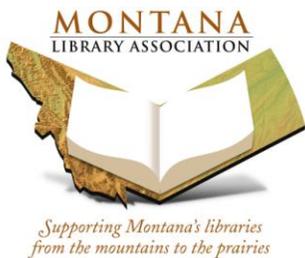
Karen Gonzales thanks the membership for her time as ALA representative on behalf of MLA. She noted that ALA is putting a focus on family literacy; there will be a toolkit coming soon from ALA. Karen discussed the resolution regarding Traditional Cultural Expressions and read out the text of the proposed resolution. Karen explained that the cultural expressions being spoken of included dance, oral history, and art works that were non-print. Karen also showed some photos from her experience at ALA meetings.

MPLA – Pam Henley

Pam notes that MLA member Eileen Wright is the current MPLA president. Pam will be heading to Oklahoma for the MPLA conference. She notes that MPLA offers good leadership opportunities and wants members to consider joining. There will be a drawing for free memberships at the MPLA booth. The newsletter is online to review, and Pam recommends everyone reads Eileen's president's message. She also encourages members to consider applying for the leadership institute. There is also professional development grant money available. This is Pam's final year as the MPLA representative. She recommends people jump at the chances to be involved, or even be a fan on Facebook. She reminds members not to forget the joint conference next year in Billings and to consider presenting there.

PNLA – Mary Lou Mires

Mary Lou notes there is a PNLA table out front; please stop by. She expressed her thanks for the chance to be the PNLA representative. It was a busy year, with the association's 100th year celebration at the conference in Missoula in August. The conference will be in Victoria, BC in August 2010 at the Empress Hotel. Mary Lou noted that the PNLA President is MLA member Samantha Hines, whom she introduced. Samantha expressed her thanks to all for a great conference in Missoula. The PNLA



Leadership Institute will be coming up at Schweitzer in October. YRCA nominees are out. Educational events will be going online. Quarterly publication will soon be peer-reviewed.

Cates Committee – Liz Babbitt

The Cates Committee held a successful event at this year's conference. Liz noted that the raffle was still going on. 85 people bought tickets to the event and \$750 was raised at the event. The program raised \$1635.45 before expenses. Liz offered her thanks to all involved in helping, especially Darlene Staffeldt, Dale Alger and Eva English.

Conference Planning Committee – Connie Strittmatter, Alice Meister, Gale Bacon, Janel and Mark Trowbridge

Connie says the conference currently has 335 registrants, and 35 vendors. Many volunteers helped. She noted that great program proposals make great programs. Hospitality volunteers planned music and tours. The booklet committee sold ads to support publication. Publicity for the conference has been great, with contacts to newspaper and local media. Mark and Janel do all the behind the scenes work to let committee do more with programs. The committee reached targets and was able to cut some costs, so this conference should do well financially. Connie performed the traditional passing of the crowns to Billings co-chairs Johanna Freivalds and Kim Hart.

Montana Authors Project – Marje Doyle

Marje introduced the Montana Authors Project (MAP). The project promotes a book and author by mapping them with Montana destinations that bring the text to life. There is a sample on Missoula website based on Darcy McNickle's *The Surrounded*. If a library is interested in a particular book being added to the project, contact Karl Olson at Missoula Public Library for more info. Molly Ledermann can also answer questions.

Central Asia Institute – Norma Glock and Nancy Venable.

Please stop by the booth in front lobby. The CAI has raised enough to support our school that we built in Pakistan. Job 12 is MLA's project. Journey of Hope is in your bag; thanks to them. Alkali Creek Schools raised \$1000 for our job. Highland School also raised \$1000. Need \$5K to keep it going annually. \$1 per day pays for a teacher; there are two teachers there. MLA has raised a total of \$36,000 since we started. Our school is in a geographically difficult and politically restive area, so it hard to get news, but it is reported that the school is doing well. Donations will be coming from Absorakee and Reedpoint schools. Renee Goss came into the meeting dressed as a bandit to raise funds for Central Asia Institute with a mock stick-up. Please sign up for the CAI interest group. At Offline, \$175 raised. Norma received letter asking for more information on library training in Afghanistan.

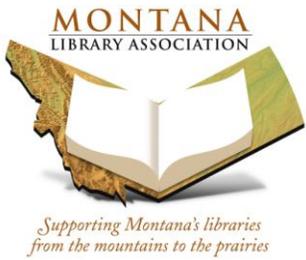
Announcements

Nominations – Consider offering to serve or agreeing to run when approached. It's a great experience to serve.

Sign up for interest groups – the groups need ten members to be certified

Buy license plates – each purchase gives MLA \$25

Thanks again to the conference committee



Transfer of offices

Eva passed the President's gavel over to Sami Pierson, incoming MLA President. She offered her congratulations to Sami. Sami thanked everyone for coming, and encourages everyone to come to Billings next year. This will be a joint conference with eleven other states. Sami also noted that 2011 is a legislative year. Please look for issues and updates that will be coming out on Wired-MT and encourage supporters to do the same. You'll be hearing more about it in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dee Ann Redman