

MONTANA LIBRARY FOCUS

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2013 VOL. 31 ISSUE 3

Message from the President

June marks the beginning of so many things: summer, summer reading programs, the American Library Association annual conference, and for me, my term as Montana Library Association president. Our theme this year is THRIVE! Would you like to thrive? MLA can help you do it.

The mission of the Montana Library Association is to develop, promote, and improve library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. We have a strategic plan to help guide us, and most importantly the talents of many contributing members. Without them, we're nothing.

As we launch the annual cycle of MLA events, your leadership (Committee chairs, Division chairs, and MLA Board members) will meet in Bozeman to discuss and plan how we can best serve the membership. We will welcome several new board members: Matt Beckstrom as chair of the Public Library Division, Eva English as Director at Large, East, Sheila Bonnard as President-elect, Jan Zauha and Lyn McKinney as conference co-chairs for Billings 2014, Susan Gregory as the Montana representative to the American Library Association Council, and Susan Caro as the ASLD Division chair. These are people with a long history of service to their state association, and a commitment to delivering great library service. That experience will benefit all MLA members greatly.



We must bid a fond farewell to several other MLA 'Boarders': Pam Henley completed her term as PLD Chair, Mary Drew Powers wound up her successful chairing of the Professional Development Committee, Dawn Kingstad served the Eastern part of the state as Director at Large. Lauren McMullen made her mark as Chair of the ASLD Division and Kim Crowley graced a three year Presidential term by recruiting the new board members as part of her final duties, and Suzanne Goodman has moved into full retirement after serving as ALA Rep the past three years.

Bon voyage!

The T&T Conference and Event Management, Inc. will be closing up this month. It is with smiles and sadness we bid farewell to Mark & Janel Trowbridge as they head off into retirement. Their management of the MLA Annual conference has raised the level of programs, service, profit margins, attendance and enjoyment for everyone involved. It's hard to imagine finding another planner like them, but, Janel has provided me with some leads. Happy Trails to the Trowbridges! I invite you to help us thrive by participating in MLA this coming year. Think about contributing a program proposal for the 2014 conference in Billings. They are due in September, after summer ends. For now, have a wonderful month of June!

Thank you for the privilege to serve!

Beth Boyson, President



Montana Library Association

Montana's Libraries from the Mountains to Plains

Update from Professional Development Committee

By Mary Drew Powers, Chair

Professional Development Committee

Thank you to departing Professional Development Committee members.

Each year, three PDC members have finished their three year term on the Professional Development Committee, and each year we seek three new members to take their places. Here's why you should think about joining:

Did you leave MLA energized with new ideas, new friendships forged, and a renewed sense of what it is to be part of Montana's library community? It's a small community in a big state, and a great community. An easy way to be a part of that community throughout the year is to belong to an MLA committee, especially the coolest committee, the Professional Development Committee.

Why is our committee cool? We get to give away grants to MLA members! What could be cooler than that? MLA members work hard to become better at their jobs, to learn more about technology, and to share with others around the state. It's very gratifying to be able to assist them – and in doing so, the rest of us in Montana's library community benefit as well.

What happens to your MLA dues?

That's a good question. Your MLA dues go to many things: a lobbyist for your interests during legislative sessions, MLA conference planning and operating expenses,

Fourteen applicants for MLA Conference Grants returned conference reports to receive their funds. Feedback on the conference was overwhelmingly positive, with most people reporting that the opportunity to network and collaborate with other library workers as the most beneficial part of the conference.

Join a Committee, Stay Involved, Reap the Benefits!

Because I'm completely biased, I think you should join the Professional Development Committee! It's a great committee for beginners because it takes little time, meetings are via email, and there just happen to be three openings right now!

After five years on the Professional Development Committee, (two on committee and third as Chair), I'll step down at the June Board meeting, and three of the committee's members terms will end. (Thank you X, X, and X). It's been a great committee to be on, and to chair. I call it "The Cool Committee" because how cool is it that we get to give you money? I almost don't want to turn it over to Samantha Schmehl Hines, but my turn is over!

For three years, I've received feedback from conference grantees on their experiences. A majority mention that networking and collaboration are the major benefits of attending MLA. Being part of the Professional Development Committee gave me those benefits all year long, and the one thought I want to leave you with is this: join a committee, stay involved, reap the benefits. Everything I put into MLA, I received back, and more.

If you want to keep involved, and meet even more superb folks from Montana's libraries, there's no better way to get it done. Thanks to all of you in MLA for the great experience.

Library Board of Trustees Wins State Award

By April Szuch, Public Services Librarian
Flathead County Library System

At the 100th MLA Conference, the Flathead County Library System Board of Trustees received MLA's Trustee of the Year Award. Instead of recognizing just one board member as the award usually does, MLA honored the entire board for their dedication to library service in Flathead County. The FCLS board members are Connie Leistiko, Al Logan, Jane Lopp, Michael Morton (pictured at right) and Elana Weaver (not pictured). County Commissioner Pamela Holmquist was in Missoula to present the award.



In addition, in 2012 the trustees set a state record by becoming the first library board in the state with every member certified through the Montana Certification Program for Library Directors, Staff and Trustees.

FCLS Director Kim Crowley said, "We are grateful to have such a hard-working, enthusiastic group of library leaders looking toward the future for our library system. Their time is completely voluntary, yet they spend many hours each year in continuing education classes learning about the best ways to provide services to our citizens. We are very proud of this board."

Summer Experience for Youth: Adventure, Discovery, Prizes!

By April Szuch, Public Services Librarian
Flathead County Library System

The Flathead County Library System is pleased to announce Summer Experience 2013 for children and teens, a total revamp of the popular summer reading program. Brand-new this year is an experience log that suggests thought-provoking and exciting activities, encouraging youth to explore their imaginations and the world around them.

Participants who complete at least eight activities – including ideas for children such as visiting a farmers market or starting a rock collection and, for teens, dismantling an mp3 player or creating a time capsule – can pick up a prize at the library and enter for a grand prize. Grand prizes for children include an iPad and gift certificates to the Imagination Station; teens will have a chance to win an iPad mini and a Kindle Fire. Library locations will offer a variety of events for children and teens all summer. Details are available on the website.

Events for Children

For children, the Summer Experience theme is Dig Into Reading. Through stories, songs and a variety of crafts, infants through children entering 5th grade will embark on a journey through themes such as gardens, underground animals, rocks and dinosaurs.

Kickoff celebrations include two concerts by local musical act The Bad Larrys, during which children will plant flowers outside the library. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

Events for Teens

For teens entering grades 6-12, the theme is Beneath the Surface. Teens are invited to the Main Library in Kalispell and the Columbia Falls Branch Library for Teen Summer Workshops. These will include building seed bombs, creating explosion boxes of memories and baking cake pops.

FCLS wishes to thank Park Side Federal Credit Union for their generous support in sponsoring the library's summer programming for the sixth consecutive year.

MontanaLibrary2Go Update

By Susie McIntyre, Chair

MontanaLibrary2Go Executive Committee

MontanaLibrary2Go Overview

The mission of MontanaLibrary2Go is to ensure that all Montana public, academic and special libraries are able to provide the latest digital resources to their patrons. Patrons from participating libraries can discover, check out and download MontanaLibrary2Go content anywhere and anytime. Digital books can be transferred to personal devices such as iPods or MP3 players for audio content and the Sony Reader, Nook, Kindle or iPad for the e-book content. We even have an app that allows easy downloads to tablets and smart devices. Since MontanaLibrary2Go started offering downloadable audiobooks in October of 2008, over 34,900 unique users have downloaded over 650,000 books. The MontanaLibrary2Go collection contains over 17,000 items. If you are interested in joining MontanaLibrary2Go, please contact Cara at corban@mt.gov.

MontanaLibrary2Go Annual Meeting

MontanaLibrary2Go member libraries held our annual meeting on May 5th in beautiful Miles City Montana. We adopted new by-laws, approved our cost-share formula and annual budget. We also had a spirited discussion regarding the timing of our meetings. Some members requested that we hold our meetings earlier in the year so that member libraries can have cost information earlier for budget planning. We will work with the Montana Shared Catalog to arrange a better time for our meeting. If you have feedback regarding the timing of the meeting, please contact Susie McIntyre at smcintyre@greatfallslibrary.org. Cara Orban gave an update on the Downloadable E-Content Expansion Pilot. The Network Advisory Council has allotted a small amount of LSTA funds to explore ways to provide local downloadable content to library patrons. The project will probably include the purchase of an Adobe Content Server and a small amount of local content.

MontanaLibrary2Go Technical Support

Cara Orban (Statewide Projects Librarian for Montana State Library) gave an overview of support resources available for librarians providing technical assistance to MontanaLibrary2Go patrons. Staff of member libraries provide technical support to their own patrons. Please visit the MontanaLibrary2Go section of the Montana State Library learning portal to access patron handouts, step-by-step video tutorials and individualized screencasts. To access Overdrive technical assistance for specific questions please log-in to your Content Reserve account, click on the SUPPORT tab, click on the SUPPORT button and fill-out the support form. Overdrive technical assistance will provide an email answer to your question usually within 24 hours.

Hire a University of Montana Intern for Your Library

By Kevin Hood, Intern Services

University of Montana-Missoula

Have you ever thought of hiring a college student to intern for your library? Student interns offer fresh perspectives, enthusiasm, and exposure to leading edge technologies. They are a year-round source of highly motivated pre-professionals and they provide a flexible, cost-effective work force not requiring a long-term commitment.

If you are interested now or in the future in hiring an intern, the process is easy at the University of Montana. To request an intern, call our office at 406-243-2815. A staff member will walk you through the easy process of setting up an employer account so you can manage your own internship advertisements. Or if you prefer, you can simply provide a job description and qualifications to us. You can do so by calling us or going to our website and completing an on-line Intern Request Form. We advertise your internship on our website, via flyers, class announcements, and notices to faculty, staff, and students all for free! You simply gather and review application materials, interview, hire, supervise the intern, and complete an evaluation of the intern at the end of the term.

Book'n It for the Missoula Public Library 8K and 3K Saturday, July 27, 2013

By Jessica Zephyrs, Race Director and Library Assistant

Missoula Public Library

Come join the fun at our second annual fun run and walk! Registration is open online or register in person at Missoula Public Library or its branches. Race day registration opens at 7:00am, and closes: at 8:00am. The \$20 registration fee for the 8k and a \$15 fee for the 3k guarantee a unique Book'n It for the Library t-shirt for runners signed up by 7/15/13. The registration fee increases after 7/15/13 to \$25 for the 8k and \$20 for the 3k. There is a \$2 discount for those runners with a Missoula Public Library card! Please register by mail no later than 7/15/13. Please register in person through 7/25/13. Packet pickup begins at 7:00 a.m. on race day.

Both races leave from the library parking lot, 301 E. Main. Courses follow the River Front Trail along the beautiful Clark Fork River. Runners, walkers, and strollers welcome! The 8k begins at 8:30am and the 3K begins at 9:00am.

Prizes will be given for top finishers and music and refreshments will be supplied for all. A super-awesome raffle will be held after the race, so stick around! Proceeds will support library programming events.

We also need volunteers! Contact Stephen at stephenh@missoula.lib.mt.us to volunteer. Call the library at (406)721-2665 with questions. Hope to see you there!

New Activity Wall at MPL Children's Department

By Mary Drew Powers and Pam Harrington

Missoula Public Library

The Missoula Public Library's Children's Department is getting serious about fun. Over the past few years we have introduced READ Dogs, LEGO club, Duplos, and wooden blocks into our lineup of regular activities. Now we've added floor puzzles and an Activity Wall.

On the west wall of our Dragon Rug area, you will see three "doorways" surrounded by colorful shapes reflecting the Dragon Rug. Painted by our talented building maintenance worker, Rob, these three doorways are actually a felt board area, a chalk board, and a magnet board. Patrons ask at the Children's Desk to receive a tub of felt images, chalk, or magnet images. These activities are not only enjoyable and helpful to parents with a handful of kids, they are also proven pre-literacy experiences.



Sheila Cates Silent Auction Winners

By Lisa Mecklenberg-Jackson, Chair

Marketing and Public Relations Committee

Thank you for your support of the Sheila Cates Silent Auction at the MLA Conference. Below is the list of those who contributed auction items and those individuals who won them:

Mansfield Library, University of Montana Basket (Kate Zoellner) – Melody Condron
Drummond Public/School Library Friends, All Things British Basket (Jodi Oberweiser) – Heidi Alford
Dave Shearer, Billings Public Library, birch bowls – Kate Zoellner
Diane Van Gorden, Baker High School Library, Librarian/Teachers Rock T-shirt – Dale Alger
Diane Van Gorden, Baker High School Library, Librarian/Teachers Rock T-shirt - Jane
Diane Van Gorden, Baker High School Library, Librarian/Teachers Rock T-shirt – Linda Blomquist
Janeen Brookie, Phillips County Library, handmade cashmere scarf – Donna McRae
Golden Plains Library Federation, Kid's themed basket (Anita Scheetz) – Barbara Theroux
Frenchtown Libraries, Tea for Two Basket (Niki Evans) – Shelly Johnson
Bitterroot Public Library, origami lights (Nansu Roddy) - Allison Badger
Montana Legislative Library, quilt (Sonia Gavin) – Doug Ferkin
Roundup School-Community Library, original photograph (Dale Alger) – Diane Van Gorden
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Linda Blomquist
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Stacy Moore
Whitefish Public Library, Coffee Basket (Joey Kositzky) – Anita Scheetz
Whitefish Public Library, Wine Basket (Joey Kositzky) – Jamie Greco
World Book Publishers Basket (Doug Ferkin) – Dale Alger
Montana Secretary of State's Office Basket (Linda McCollough) – Paulette Parpart
Havre Hill County Library Friends, Library Pie Cookbook Basket (Betty Thompson) – Martha Thayer
Havre Hill County Library Friends, handknit scarf (Betty Thompson) – Suzanne Reymer
Flathead Library System Chocolate and Wine Basket (Kim Crowley) – Karla Ritten
Montana Garnet Gravel Basket – Sally
Madison Valley Public Library, Nook Simple Touch (Michelle Groggins) – Marlys Lee
MLA PR & Marketing Committee, Librarians' Two Favorite Things Basket (Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson) – Doug Ferkin
Helena College of Technology, Homemade Helena Basket (Della Dubbe) – Paula Peterson
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Paula Torrey
University of Montana Western, Downtown Abbey Basket (Anne Kish) and Darby Community Public Library (Wendy Campbell) – Shelly Johnson
Rosebud County Library, homemade Raggedy Ann doll and book (Cherie Hesper) – Norma Glock
Dillon Public Library Basket (Marie Habener) – Martha Thayer
Wedworth Memorial Library, Welcome New Baby Boy Basket – Dottie Susag
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle/Erin Casey) – Joey Kozitsky
Bozeman Public Library Basket (Beth Boyson) – Diane Van Gorden
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Dottie Susag
Montana State Library, Helena Hand (Made) Basket – Marie Habener
Kathy Wight, Great Falls Public Library, Bunny Package Baby Blanket – Jan Goetz
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Jan Goetz
Polson Public Library, framed and matted barn photograph (Marilyn Trosper) – Paulette Parpart
Montana Historical Society Basket (Roberta Gebhardt) – Doug Ferkin
Glacier County Library Spa Basket (Jamie Greco) – Linda Blomquist
Parmly Billings Public Library Basket - Honore Bray
Missoula Public Library Basket (Marje Doyle) – Norma Glock
Montana State Library, Bunnies Galore (Suzanne Reymer) – Diana Zimmerman
Butte Public Library Basket (Lee Phillips) – Dixie Feller
Kitchen Basket – Honore Bray
Roundup School-Community Library, original photograph (Dale Alger) – Diane Van Gorden
School Library Media Division Basket, For the Love of Reading Basket (Lisa Lykins) - Dawn Kingstad
Montana Historical Society Basket (Barbara Pepper Rotness) – Marlys Lee

WINNERS OF SHEILA CATES TRAVELING QUILT FOR 3 MONTHS

May-July	Janeen Brookie, Phillips County Library
Aug.-Oct.	Barb Lockman, Helena Middle School
Nov.-Jan.	Della Dubbe, Helena College of Technology
Feb.-April	Elizabeth Karr, Helena College of Technology

The Vespiary Book Restoration & Bindery Expands Hours, Services

By Audra Loyal, Owner

The Vespiary Book Restoration & Bindery

Starting in June 2013, The Vespiary Book Bindery will be expanding open hours to three days a week: Wednesdays - Fridays from 9am til 5pm. Since 2008, Audra Loyal has been offering conservation and bookbinding services to both members of the public and institutions around Montana, including libraries, archives, museums, historical societies and more. A member of the American Institute for Conservation with over ten years in the preservation profession, Audra started her training at UC Davis. She worked for over seven years at the University of Montana, Mansfield Library Preservation Department, and received her MLIS from the University of Washington.



At her new location within the Buttercup Market & Cafe in Missoula (one block from the UM campus at 1221 Helen Ave), all are welcome to watch Audra perform a variety of repair techniques and see how books and paper objects can be conserved and protected for future generations. Potential clients are encouraged to bring their treasured items for a free consultation. Rates for standard procedures can be found at The Vespiary's website: www.thevespiary.com. Discounts are available to institutions for conservation treatment on larger quantities of items. Please call 406-396-1911 or email for further details.

In addition to treatment, The Vespiary also offers bookbinding classes, conservation training, consultation (disaster planning, environmental control, pest management, collection care and maintenance, storage and handling protocol), and preservation surveys. Hands-on training is conducted one-on-one or in small group settings. Please visit the website for a list of upcoming bookbinding classes, or call to schedule one at your own institution.

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