

Montana State Library Report  
Brief summary prepared for Fall 2011 Meetings  
By Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian  
Version dated October 12, 2011

[http://msl.mt.gov/About\\_MSL/MSLReport.pdf](http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/MSLReport.pdf)

**Certification Program:** MSL encourages librarians and trustees to consider letting city and county officials know when they have completed the requirements for certification. The State Library, with permission, can send a letter, or the local library can make the announcement. Recently, a letter to a county commission resulted in a formal proclamation recognizing the library director's achievement at earning a Library Administrator certificate. Currently, there are 225 people with current certificates (in both the former and new programs).

**Connecting to Collections:** The CTC project, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, completed a statewide survey of cultural collections and posted a report that analyzed the data collected and makes recommendations for preservation needs in MT. Two site visits are being done this fall as part of the project to determine condition of collections as well as of storage and exhibit areas: the Conrad Mansion in Kalispell and the library/museum/archives at Virginia City. A project brochure is being prepared for organizations to use to make their communities aware of the state of the collection and threats to it.

The Montana State Library will participate in two additional Touchstone Community workshops sponsored by the Montana Preservation Alliance in Fort Benton and Darby this fall. These workshops help community groups active in historic building preservation to connect with libraries and museums in their region to begin to preserve and digitize historic documents and records as well. The Montana Historical Society and Montana State Historic Preservation Office also partner in this initiative.

**Courier Pilot:** The Courier Pilot concluded, for now, at the end of June. Volume continued to increase through the duration of the pilot (April 2010-June 2011). A total of 29,451 items were sent via the courier system over the course of the pilot, resulting in a total estimated savings to libraries in postage, mailing supplies and staff time of \$294,510. 36 libraries participated in the pilot.

Efforts will continue towards a future courier system for Montana libraries. Discussions are continuing with our neighboring states regarding the possibilities of joining a larger, already existing system. The Montana pilot's establishment of a system of drop sites and served libraries contributes significantly to these discussions.

[http://msl.mt.gov/For\\_Librarians/Statewide\\_Projects/default.asp](http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Statewide_Projects/default.asp)

**Digitization Project:** Library Information Services continues the fourth year of our on-going project to digitize state publications. More than 14,000 publications are now available online at <http://www.archive.org/details/MontanaStateLibrary>. Learn more at: <http://msl.mt.gov/digitization/>. Do you want to add catalog records to your local catalog which link to digital state publications? Contact for more information or questions: Jim Kammerer, LIS Manager, [jkammerer@mt.gov](mailto:jkammerer@mt.gov) or 406-444-5432.

**GeoMAPP:** NRIS staff are full partners in the Geospatial Multistate Archives and Preservation Partnership, a Library of Congress funded grant opportunity to research best practices for archiving GIS data. Partnered with Utah, Kentucky and North Carolina, NRIS has used the opportunity to develop new workflows that will enhance MSL's ability to provide permanent public access to Montana's most valuable GIS data. Although the grant ends at the end of December the good work developed through this project will continue long into the future.

**Geographic Literacy Campaign:** Visit the newly updated Hunting Companion before the fall hunting season is upon us. Updates include the addition of Harvest Reports by species and hunting district and a helpful new video to assist librarians and patrons. Also, look for an updated Cadastral Mapping Application later this fall. Promotional materials will be available at the Fall Workshop. The Hunting Companion is available online at <http://msl.mt.gov/hunting>.

**LSTA 5-Year Evaluation:** Montana State Library has issued an RFP for a contractor to conduct an evaluation of its Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant program for the years 2008-2012. LSTA is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which requires all states to evaluate the existing program as an initial step in preparing a new 5-year plan. LSTA funds are used in Montana for the Montana Shared Catalog, training events, statewide electronic databases, library consultants, Talking Book Library Program, etc. In the next few months, the library community will be asked to make comments on Montana's use of LSTA funds and to assist with the preparation of a new LSTA plan for the period 2013-2018.

**Long Range Plan and Strategic Planning:** The first public draft of the Montana State Library's 2012-2022 Long Range Plan as it was reviewed and accepted as a working draft by the State Library Commission at their August 10, 2011 Commission meeting is available at the following url: <http://montanastatelibrary.pbworks.com>. The Commission is proposing a broadly focused long range plan that sets forth our goals and vision for library and information services for Montana into the next ten years. We ask that each of you look at the draft and let us know if you have suggestions and recommendations for the proposed vision and long range plan key concepts. Once we have a vision in place, we will ensure that the long range plan remains a living tool by continuing the planning work with focused, program-level two

year strategic plans and staff work plans that establish specific and measurable objectives and tasks. User needs, technology development and economic changes drastically impact our library and information services. As a result, we believe, the long term plan and short term strategic documents will better guide us by helping us to be more proactive as well as reactive to the changing environment around us, propelling us forward to the right future for Montanans and information services. We would like to receive your comments and suggestions about the proposed Long Range Plan by the end of September. The Commission will look again at the Long Range Plan in October. The strategic plans and the final Long Range Plan will be provide for final Commission action at their December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please provide your comments on the wiki located at:

<http://montanastatelibrary.pbworks.com> or send them in an email to Sara Groves, Communications and Marketing Coordinator at [sgroves@mt.gov](mailto:sgroves@mt.gov)

**MontanaLibrary2Go:** "Phase Thirteen" brings on board five new libraries that go live September 1. The next phase to join has a confirmation deadline of September 23. The members have added the monthly purchase of E-publications permanently to their collection develop policy. A grant from the Steele-Reese Foundation was pursued by and awarded to the Great Falls Public Library for the purpose of assisting small, rural libraries with the costs of joining MontanaLibrary2Go and to purchase additional content.

**Montana Shared Catalog (MSC):** The MSC is currently in the process of adding 7 new libraries and consolidating two, multi-library schools into single library schools which will bring total membership to 138 libraries. The new libraries should all be live in the MSC by the end of November. The technical staff has begun the implementation process of merging the EBSCO EDS integrated discovery system with the MSC's catalog.

This should greatly enhance the end-user experience with the catalog. The contract with the MSC's current ILS vendor, SirsiDynix, is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year and, in compliance with state procurement policy, the State Library has begun the RFI/RFP process which will determine whether the MSC will continue with the current vendor or migrate to a different system. The selection process should be complete by next summer. The MSC staff has rolled out to the membership online help-desk software. Training for member library's staff is becoming more frequent, beginning with cataloging training in Havre in August. Reports training sessions were held in Missoula in late August, planned for Helena in October and Billings in November. More training opportunities are being made available with preparations being made for webinars, online tutorials and more in-person classes.

**Montana State Library Commission (MSLC):** The meeting of the MSLC was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 via conference call. Agenda items included: New State Librarian recruitment/hiring update, Budget and staffing update, Long Range Plan 2012-2020. Commission information can be found at:

[http://www.msl.MT.gov/About\\_MSL/commission/default.asp](http://www.msl.MT.gov/About_MSL/commission/default.asp)

### **Montana State Library Staff Updates:**

- Sarah McHugh accepted the position of Director of Statewide Library Resources on June 6, 2011.
- Donna Caban left the staff as Library Development administrative and training support due to a reduction in force as the result of budget cuts made in the 2011 Legislative session.
- Dr. Neil Snow has joined the Montana Natural Heritage Program staff as the new Director as of July 1, 2011.
- Jennifer Birnel has accepted the position of Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Technology Trainer
- Beth Downs joined the staff of Library Information Services as the new State Publications Librarian.
- Liz Babbitt will join the Statewide Library Resources staff in the position of Statewide Projects Librarian on November 21, 2011.
- Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian has retired after seven years as State Librarian and 35 years total with the State Library. A recruitment process is moving forward.
- Seven staff of the Base Map Service Center, originally a bureau of the State Information Technology Services Division, have been administratively merged with MSL under the digital library. We welcome these new staff as their work will greatly enhance our GIS data collection, outreach and services. New staff include Stu Kirkpatrick, Keith Blount, Bob Holliday, Michael Fashoway, Jeff Dobb, Joshua Dorris and Erin Fashoway.

**Natural Heritage Program Webinars:** You can view previous webinars or register for upcoming webinars at: <http://mtnhp.org/webinars/>

**National Library Service:** A BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) Demonstration Account (<https://nlsbard.loc.gov/mt1a>) is now available to Public Libraries who have an active account with their state's Talking Book Library services ([http://msl.mt.gov/talking\\_book\\_library/Application\\_Institution.pdf](http://msl.mt.gov/talking_book_library/Application_Institution.pdf)). This has been

successfully accomplished through collaboration efforts with COSLA. In support of this effort, Montana Talking Book Library recently received MSL Commission approval of their BARD policy ([http://msl.mt.gov/About\\_MSL/policies/41\\_tbl\\_bard.pdf](http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/policies/41_tbl_bard.pdf)).

**Network Advisory Council (NAC):** The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for November 3, 2011 in the Grizzly conference room at the State Library. Agenda will include updates on FY2010 and FY2011 LSTA budgets. Council information can be found at: [http://msl.MT.gov/About\\_MSL/network\\_advisory\\_council/network\\_tf.asp](http://msl.MT.gov/About_MSL/network_advisory_council/network_tf.asp)

**NRIS and the Base Map Service Center:** Staff of the Base Map Service Center, currently a bureau of the State Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Administration will soon be administratively merged into the State Library. We believe that this reorganization will reduce long-standing confusion over the roles and responsibilities of NRIS and the BMSC, that it will result in more efficient delivery of GIS data to our patrons and that it will allow staffs of NRIS and the BMSC to more effectively plan for and implement GIS data management and delivery in the future.

### **Some Upcoming Library Meeting Dates:**

October 20, 2011, Thursday – Pathfinder Federation meeting – Fort Benton, Mt

October 28, 2011, Friday – Tamarack Federation meeting - teleconference

November 3, 2011, Thursday – NAC Meeting, Grizzly – Helena, MT

December 6, 2011, Tuesday – Federation Coordinators, MSL Grizzly, Helena, MT

December 7, 2011, Wednesday – State Library Commission, Grizzly – Helena, MT

March 9 -10, 2012, Broad Valleys Spring Retreat

May 3-4, 2012, Thursday and Friday – Montana Shared Catalog membership meeting – Lewistown, MT

May 18-19, 2012, Tamarack Federation meeting/retreat, Big Fork, Mt

May 2012, Trustee Workshops on library finances presented in five MT locations

**Statewide Databases and Discovery System:** There is a new suite of statewide databases that are available to all Montana libraries enrolled in the [Montana Library Directory](#). The group of databases includes some renewals of existing products and some new products. There will also be an “integrated discovery system” product that will allow your patrons to search across several silos of content at once, including the database suite. Implementation of the databases is complete and the configuration of the discovery tool will be completed within a month.

The new database suite includes these [EBSCO](#) databases: the Elite Mainfile primary suite package, the professional nursing database CINAHL with Full Text, the Auto Repair Reference Center and the Small Engine Repair Reference Center.

The [Tutor.com](#) Learning Suite, which includes the K-12 and College Center and Adult Education and Career Center and live tutors available from Sunday-Thursday, 2:00 PM-11:00 PM, is also available as part of the statewide package. The Montana implementation is called "HomeworkMT" (go to <http://homework.mt.org>)

[EBSCO's Discovery Service](#) (EDS) will provide a centralized search and retrieval capabilities and is also available to all Montana libraries. Patrons will be able to search the following resources in a single search, in the first year (September 2011-September 2012): the statewide suite of databases, the Montana Memory Project, the Montana Shared Catalog and OCLC's WorldCat ([www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org)). The statewide discovery service is called "MT Statewide Library Resources" and can be found at [mtslr.org](http://mtslr.org)

Access information, URL's for each database and support contact information is available in your library's [Directory](#) profile pages, accessible via your library's Directory password.

All libraries enrolled in the Directory will be automatically enrolled in the new databases.

Please contact Montana State Library Trainer Jo Flick – [jflick@mt.gov](mailto:jflick@mt.gov) – to request training or to suggest specific resources that will help libraries to make the best use of the new statewide databases from EBSCO and HomeworkMT.

**SWIM Project:** In July, the SWIM regional scholarship project received a supplemental award of \$125,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The additional funds have been awarded to 22 residents of the SWIM (SD, WY, ID, MT) region. Four individuals who were on the original SWIM scholarship waiting list established by the project's Advisory Council have received \$14,400 scholarships to begin the University of North Texas distance MLIS program in fall 2011. Megan Glidden (Kalispell) received one of these scholarships. Eighteen others who applied for a SWIM scholarship and then started the UNT program in 2010 at their own expense, have now been awarded a small scholarship (\$2,700) to help cover tuition costs for their final semester. Montana recipients of the mini-scholarships include Nancy Clark (Billings), Anna Geary (Great Falls), Reena McCarty (Missoula), Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst (Wilsall), and Barbara Riebe (Billings).

**Talking Book Library's (TBL)** The BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) service ([http://msl.mt.gov/talking\\_book\\_library/bard.asp](http://msl.mt.gov/talking_book_library/bard.asp)) is very popular with eligible TBL patrons. New patrons are applying for this program weekly. The Talking Book

Library is developing an RFP for a "Patron Outreach Project" to begin in Spring, 2012, with a focus on educating Montanans with visual, physical and reading impairments on available free accessible technology for downloading books and magazines. Talking Book Library staff are collaborating with the Montana Association for the Blind to host the 2011 MAB State Convention on Sept. 16, 17 & 18<sup>th</sup> at the Red Lion Colonial Inn, Helena. On Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> a free Low Vision Symposium features Montana Ophthalmologists educating the public on glaucoma, retinal treatments and other topics from 9:30am-Noon. The library's annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon theme this year is "Wild about Volunteers" and is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2011. This event promises some furry friends. This is an annual event scheduled to provide an opportunity for TBL and the State Library to say Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for their numerous hours and efforts to help us provide the best services possible to our library users.