Municipal League Supports Increased State Aid to Public Libraries

by: Joe Sabatini

The New Mexico Municipal League endorsed the expansion of state grants in aid to public libraries at their annual meeting in Albuquerque on September 2nd. A resolution requesting an increase in the appropriation from $350,000 to $1,700,000 was adopted by the League, which enables League staff to support the proposal in lobbying efforts during the 2000 Legislature. The resolution was prepared by librarians attending the business meeting of the League's Municipal Librarians Association.

When it was presented to the Resolutions Committee, several members had questions about the program, how money was distributed, and how New Mexico compared with other states. Carol Brey, Librarians' Section President, Toni Beatty, Joe Sabatini, Ben Wakashige and Beverly McFarland all spoke to the resolution and answered questions. The Committee then unanimously voted to add the resolution to be presented to the Association.

The resolution says:
CONCERNING STATE AID FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Whereas, New Mexico public libraries provide all citizens with access to books and information resources, enhancing the cultural and economic life of their communities; and

Whereas, local budget resources are increasingly less able to satisfy increased demands for public library services; and

Whereas the New Mexico State Library administers a public library grant program which supplements local library budgets for books and materials, training and technology,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the New Mexico Municipal League supports an increase in the appropriation for state aid to public libraries to at least one dollar ($1.00) per capita.

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Astragalus puniceus var. gertrudis
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To subscribe, send a message to listproc@nmsu.edu
with SUB nmla firstname lastname in the body of the message.

To send something to everyone who subscribes, email it to nmla@nmsu.edu.

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from the president's pen

NMLA has been having a busy time lately. The Mini-Conference in Rio Rancho has been planned and the registration forms were out in September. We are hoping for a good turnout because the programming is outstanding. We want to thank the Members-at-large who have worked so hard to bring us such a great Mini-Conference. They are Toni Beatty of Rio Rancho, Isabel Rodarte of Española, and Nancy Osterberg of Ruidoso.

The Board has been looking at guidelines for our e-list. The committee was chaired by Gwen Gregory and serving on the committee were Thaddeus Bejnar, Lorrie Mitchell, Heather Gallegos-Rex, and me. Joe Sabatini wrote a statement and approved by the Board concerning the current use of the NMLA e-list. The statement has been posted and the guidelines should be approved and in place soon.

NMLA has been involved in the New Mexico Task Force on School Libraries established by Ben Wakashige, State Librarian. I have been serving on this Task Force, representing NMLA. The purpose is to improve school libraries. There was a survey sent to all public school libraries during September that was to assess the their current status. From this, there will be priorities established and a plan developed. The results of this survey will be available on the New Mexico State Library web page. (There is an article with more information in this newsletter.)

There have been two resignations from the Board. Drew Harrington, the ALA Councilor, left the Albuquerque Academy Library and has taken a job in Oregon. Lorrie Mitchell, Public Relations Chair, has resigned from the Carlsbad Public Library to stay home with her new baby, Alexander. Both of these librarians have done an outstanding job for NMLA and will be sorely missed. We are currently looking for replacements.

We are looking forward now to continuing work on our Strategic Plan, Carol Brey is heading up this endeavor and we hope to have it in place soon.

Charlene Greenwood
NMLA Membership Business Meeting
April 29, 1999

Kris Warmoth, Secretary

Call to Order: President Ellanie Sampson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the 76th Annual Conference.

Minutes: Kris Warmoth asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the minutes of the April 23, 1998 General Business meeting. Joe Sabatini moved to accept the minutes. Russell Gladstone seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Earl Phillips reported that NMLA budgeted about $52,650 for this year and that the financial condition of NMLA is very healthy. No money from the reserve accounts has been used so far. The Albuquerque CPA who audits the account has given it a good review.

Vice-President's Report: Charlene Greenwood reported that approximately 315 had registered for the Conference, 175 had registered for the banquet, 110 for the luncheon, and that there were 53 vendors.

State Librarian's Report: Ben Wakasige asked that other personnel from the State Library who were in the audience stand up and be acknowledged. He noted the move into the new State Library and Archives Building, that a new bookmobile was purchased for Cimarron, and that 15 new public libraries had been added in the state. He also mentioned that the Tribal Library Program was ongoing now at 50 sites. About 900 people around the state have participated in NMLS: training programs. Sandy White published the Public Libraries Sourcebook this past year. Ben mentioned further the success of the Research and Discovery database (ProQuest) made available to virtually all libraries in the state. Other projects that are upcoming include:

- *Marcive* which supplies automated bibliographic services for US government documents. The State Library will use Marcive to load an initial 400,000 records into the State Library catalog in August. New materials will then be loaded weekly making the federal documents collection available to anyone accessing the State Library website.

- *New Mexico Government Information Locator Service* which will index various data fields in government resources and will link electronically to a source document, or to a government agency. It will be the one place where people can search for New Mexico government information on a topic rather than having to search multiple agency web sites.

- *Bibliostat Collect* is a data collection software package to allow public libraries to respond to the State Library’s annual survey via the internet.

- *Bibliostat Connect* is a statistical package which will allow libraries to analyze their own statistics over time, compare themselves with libraries statewide or nationwide, or compare themselves with libraries which meet criteria they select as appropriate comparisons. Both of these software packages will be available by July.

Ben also reassured everyone that the State Library will continue to fund ProQuest even if the expected grant money is not forthcoming.

ALA Councillor's Report: Drew Harrington said that she had a great job! She attended the mid-winter and annual meetings. She discussed the ALA Spectrum Initiative scholarship program. Two persons from New Mexico received $5000.00 scholarship awards, NMLA contributed $250.00 to support the Initiative. NMLA also gave $100.00 to support the Freedom to Read Foundation. Drew reported that ALA had sent a resolution urging the Boy Scouts to reconsider their position on banning gay people and atheists from the Scouts. She also noted that five people from New Mexico were recognized by ALA’s Office of Intellectual Freedom as Freedom Fighters: Carol Brey, Charlene Greenwood, Betty Long, Anne Tarleton, and Mary Stickford. The hot topic at ALA recently was the fact that Colin Powell will be the speaker at New Orleans.

Awards Committee: On behalf of Karen Stabler, Mary Pat Kramer reported that awards went to: Marjorie Tansey (Amigo Award), Toni Beatty and Mary Lee Smith (Library Leadership Awards), Representative Danice Picraux (Legislator of the Year), and Lyra Geroy (Progressive School Library Media Award).

Conference Site Selection Committee: Susan Deese-Roberts reported that the Conference will be in Taos next year and in Albuquerque in 2001. In 2006, MPLA would like to co-host the Conference with NMLA. She noted that the Site Selection Committee has been recently charged with helping to find sites for the mini-conferences as well. Susan requested site possibilities to put in their bids for both annual and mini-conference locations.
**Education Committee:** Nancy Turner reported that $20,000.00 was requested in scholarships and grants. First Time attendee awards of up to $150.00 went to Becky Rich-Wulfmeyer, Madeleine Zytnick, Anne Moore, and Jean Dickenson. The college scholarship went to Magdalena Hernandez; the Marion Dorrich Scholarship went to Dale Frasier, and Continuing Education grants went to: Anne Dacey-Lucas, Kathy Hogan, Vaunda Nelson, and the Abiquiu Public Library.

**Legislation & Intellectual Freedom Committee:** Joe Sabatini and Carol Brey could not speak very specifically about the successes of the legislation proposed regarding Electronic Data Products, the Academic Library funding formula, etc. because of the stalled budget process due to the Governor’s veto. There will be a special session next week to hopefully finalize budget issues. Joe discussed House Bill 15, which rewrote the statute authorizing public libraries making it possible for local libraries to contract with each other. Carol talked about the success of the New Mexico Library Legislation Day. She thanked the State Library for making the arrangements. She also spoke briefly about Senate Bill 127; the “nuisance law” which would put Internet providers at risk if a minor accessed a site with nudity or sex. A preliminary injunction is in place but a permanent injunction is sought.

**Membership Committee:** Marilyn Fletcher announced that NMLA currently has more than 570 members. The Committee will work to boost membership. They hope to do a needs assessment in the future.

**Nominations & Elections Committee:** Mary Pat Kraemer thanked the Committee and announced that Ellanie Sampson is the new Chair. Laurie McCrae is the Vice-President/President-Elect; Carol Brey is the Treasurer, and the new Members-at-Large are Nancy Osterberg, Isabel Rodarte, and Toni Beatty.

**SIG Reports:** Ellanie had written reports from several of the SIGs and gave brief presentations:
- **New Mexico Preservation Alliance** (submitted by Cheryl Wilson and Ann Massmann) - A workshop on “Emergency Preparedness and Recovery” was held in October 1998. Future workshops include one on “Holdings Maintenance” and “Basics of Preservation.”
- **Northern New Mexico Youth Services Round Table** (submitted by Lori Snyder) held meetings and discussed unattended children in the library, internet policies for children, youth volunteers, library advocacy, family literacy programs, and summer reading and library programs.
- **White House Conference** (submitted by Susie Sonfleth) presented a long report by Betty Long after attending the 1998 WHC on Library Information Services. Members of the Taskforce have been attending meetings and communicating with groups like NCLIS, ALA, and COSLA. In their report was also an update on congressional actions which affect libraries, a timeline of planning actions for the two preceding White House Conferences, and the Seventh Annual Report from the States. WHCLIST now has a website to keep people updated.
- **Public Libraries SIG report** was given by Nancy Osterberg. They sponsored a mini-conference on Storytelling in Taos and a couple of programs at the Carlsbad Conference (on Regional Libraries and a Panel dealing with HB15). Plans for the coming year include presenting a program at a mini-conference, establishing contact with NM public libraries requesting suggestions for programs, and changing the 2000 annual conference to include a luncheon and invite participation from the Municipal League.
- **Local & Regional History SIG report** was given by Peter Ives. He noted that the SIG sponsored Howard Bryan at the 1998 Conference and that they were presenting a panel discussion on “Documenting Southeastern New Mexico History: New Approaches” at the Conference this year.
- **Youth Services SIG report** was given by Patricia Froehlich. She noted their four goals and 6 objectives (as related to goals of NMLA). Their budget request was $850.00 to support the Land of Enchantment Book Award, the Battle of the Books, Advocacy for Libraries Project; and support for three conferences.

**New Business:**
- David Giltrow announced that the New Mexico Library Foundation grant for a travelling exhibit was funded by the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities. He mentioned that "micro-grants" of up to $1000.00 were available.
- Carol Brey reported on the progress of the Strategic Planning Initiative. She read the draft mission and the draft goals. The text of the preliminary plan will be in the newsletter.
- Kathy Flanary quoted from the Time magazine’s Princeton Review of Colleges, "there is little reason to set foot in a library; at all except to use the bathroom."

**Adjournment and Gavel Ceremony:** Ellanie Sampson adjourned the meeting at 3:40PM and formally passed the gavel to Charlene Greenwood. Charlene then presented the "Has been and proud of it" button to Ellanie.
new mexico task force on school libraries

Recent research has clearly established a direct relationship between student academic achievement and expenditures in the school’s library media program. In a landmark 1993 study called “Impact of School Library Media Centers on Academic Achievement” carried out in Colorado by Keith Curry Lance, Lynda Welborn, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell documented the connection. (see http://www.irs.org/html/school_library_media_centers.html). Recently, an expanded study showed that reading scores were five to ten points higher in schools with well funded, well staffed, and well integrated media centers over schools in which this was not the case.

In February of this year, State Librarian Ben Wakashige asked leaders in the education and library profession to come together to create a task force to discuss the status of libraries in New Mexico’s schools. Members of the New Mexico Task Force on School Libraries have concluded that a survey of all public schools was the first step in determining what is needed to improve all school libraries. The survey will assess staffing, training needs, technology and facilities, and funding for materials. The survey was sent to all public schools to collect information on the current status of libraries and media centers.

Using these findings, the New Mexico Task Force on School Libraries hopes to address the large issue of better education in New Mexico. Information from the survey will be used by the State Department of Education, the New Mexico State Library, the New Mexico Library Association, and the New Mexico Legislature to establish a profile for the current state of school libraries in New Mexico.

These surveys are very important in developing the baseline information on the current status of school libraries. If you are associated with a public school library, your input is vital to the success of this effort to improve all of New Mexico’s school libraries. If you are a school library that has not received a survey, contact Patricia Froehlich at the New Mexico State Library at 1-800-340-3890 or patricia@stlib.state.nm.us.

Presentation of the results and findings by the task force will be made to the State Department of Education, New Mexico State Library, and New Mexico Library Association this fall.

The survey is available on the State Library web site at http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/devlp-prog.info/youth.html. The results will be available on the web site also.

Members of the New Mexico Task Force on School Libraries:

Ben Wakashige, New Mexico State Library, State Librarian
Patricia Froehlich, New Mexico State Library
Kathryn Sherlock, NM State Department of Education
Mary Jane Vinella, NM State Department of Education
Ruben Aragon, New Mexico Highlands University
Isabel Rodarte, Northern New Mexico Community College
Omar Durant, Albuquerque Public Schools Barbara VanDongen, Albuquerque Public Schools
Sarah Henderson, Albuquerque Public Schools
Earl Phillips, Las Cruces Public Schools
Carol Sarath, Gallup / McKinley Public Schools
Charlene Greenwood, New Mexico Library Association
Effective Negotiating Techniques for Licensing Content

a distance learning videoconference presented by the Special Libraries Association

October 14, 1999
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
UNM Division of Continuing Education * 1634 University Blvd. * Albuquerque, NM
SLA/RGC Members: $15.00 / Non-members: $20.00
Bring your own lunch. Beverages will be provided.

As today's information professionals manage increasing amounts of electronic information, licensing agreements are a fact of life. If you have a general understanding of the terms and conditions of license, but aren't sure how to negotiate the best deal for your organization, don't miss this important video conference. You'll gain insight into how information professionals can best position their needs as well as understanding the rights and concerns of the content vendor. Learn the secrets to becoming a more successful negotiator!

YOU WILL LEARN

- the importance of the negotiation process
- what both the information professional and the content vendor bring to the table
- practical tips to being a successful negotiator
- the communication skills essential to negotiating
- what not to do during the negotiation

Panelists:
- William Goodrich Jones, Assistant University Librarian & Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Tanva Wood Mollenauer, Manager, Technical and Marketing Information Services, Analog Devices
- Ann Lee, Director, Enterprise Rollout Programs, Dow Jones Interactive

Participants will earn 3 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for completion of this program.

SCHOLARSHIPS are available to SLA/RGC members through a Bea Allen Memorial Professional Development Award.

For more information contact: Pam MacKellar - 272-0281 or pmackell@unm.edu

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Please register me for the videoconference: "Effective Negotiating Techniques for Licensing Content".

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Institution ____________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________

Phone __________________________________ Fax ___________ E-mail __________________________

_____ I am an SLA/RGC member ($15.00) _____ I am not yet an SLA/RGC member ($20.00) _____ I will be enclosing a check made out to SLA Rio Grande Chapter.

Clip and mail to: Pam MacKellar, 182 Ashley Lane, Corrales, NM 87048
A Chinese Journey -- Part III of IV

By: Bonnie Tollefson

There are certain things that a person going to China must see, and we did them all. Our group of 45 librarians traveled by bus, train, and plane to five cities in China. In Beijing, the Summer Palace, the Forbidden City, and the Great Wall reminded us of China's glorious and ancient past, when they thought they were the center of the world and had no need of foreigners and their trade. Tiananmen Square with Mao's Mausoleum and the Martyrs' Memorial was a reminder that only 20 years ago the universities were shut down and the Cultural Revolution made being an educated person or an educator punishable by imprisonment or even death.

Standing atop the Great Wall has to be a highlight of anyone's trip. Knowing that, although restored in the 1950's, it was originally built 2000 years ago, was over 3000 miles long, and is the only man-made feature that can be seen from space, is enough to give anyone shivers. The Xi'an Terracotta Warriors, also from the same time period, were buried in approximately 221 B.C. and discovered in 1974 by farmers digging a well. Today, one of the farmers is plump and prosperous as he sits in the visitors' center signing autographs. The Terracotta Warriors are being hailed as the greatest archeological find of the 20th Century.

A trip down the Li River in Guilin highlighted the unbelievable scenery of karst and limestone stacks said to be a top vacation spot for Chinese. It was easy to understand, with new breathtaking scenery around each bend of the river and less pollution than other places. As interesting as the scenery was, we were equally taken by life along the shore. We watched women washing clothes and gathering kelp, fisherman going about their business, and various types of boat transportation plying the waters.

In 1989, the world watched stunned as troops marched on students in Tiananmen Square killing an untold number. Yet just a few short years later the government is encouraging tourism, putting their best foot forward and anxious to take their place in the World Trade Community. Will it last? Only time will tell, but I was forcibly reminded that it is still a Communist country when, in December, they arrested the leader of the Opposition Party and put him on trial for -- being the leader of the Opposition Party. A famous Chinese leader said that when you open the door you let in fresh air, but you also let in mosquitoes. Let us hope that China's current leadership will leave the door open in spite of the mosquitoes. (Next month -- Education in China.)
If you don't approve of the actions of the N.M.L.A. Executive Board, here's what you can do about it...

1. **Join the Association.**

   Dues are on a sliding scale, and especially reasonable for those with modest incomes. Being an Association member enables you to

2. **Vote in the Election of Association Officers.**

   Each candidate is taking positions on issues of concern to the membership; make a judgement and support those candidates who advocate your concerns. Even better, you can

3. **Run for Association Office.**

   Any personal member in good standing (i.e., dues current) can seek Association office. Contact Ellanie Sampson (torcpl@niolink.com), Chair of the Nominating Committee. You can also

4. **Volunteer to Serve on Association Committees.**

   The bulk of the Association's activities are conducted by committees. These volunteers organize conferences, award scholarships, develop legislative programs, recognize individual achievements, conduct workshops and do publicity. Committee members are appointed by the Association President, who seeks to have committees which are broadly representative of Association membership. Our Vice President/President-Elect, Laurie Macrae, would be delighted to hear from any member who wants to volunteer for appointment to Association committees (laurimac@laplaza.org). If you are willing to invest a larger portion of your personal time to the success of your state professional association, you can

5. **Volunteer to Serve as a Committee Chair.**

   Each President chooses the people who chair committees during the new Association year. Committee chairs attend the Executive Board and participate in policy development. Committee chairs are not lifetime appointments; a new president can "clean house" and put in chairs in sympathy with her/his goals. Rotation of new people into positions of responsibility is healthy for the organization. I can think of one case where it is quite overdue: One final way to participate is to

6. **Write Articles for the N.M.L.A. Newsletter.**

   Share your thoughtful opinions and career experiences with your New Mexico colleagues by sending articles to the editor, Jackie Shane (jshane@unm.edu)

   You can learn more about the Association's objectives, and communicate with its current officials through the Web Page (http://lib.nmsu.edu/nmla/)

   The New Mexico Library Association is a voluntary, democratically run organization. It will be as effective as the participation of its members enables it to be.

Joe Sabatini
Association Member since 1968 Chair, Legislation & Intellectual Freedom Committee
annual CHECS conference

The New Mexico Academic & Research Librarians (NMARL) again join the New Mexico Council for Higher Education: Computing/Communications Services (CHECS) in their annual Fall Conference. This year the event takes place on the beautiful New Mexico State University campus in Las Cruces, November 2 and 3.

In addition to the excellent programming (four interest tracts and 24 speakers) we have lined up during the conference, two pre-conference sessions will be offered on November 1. A half day session on WEB-CT, a web-based course delivery system, is offered and NMARL is sponsoring a full-day session OCLC Interlibrary Loan: Custom Holdings and Other Tools.

For the conference agenda and more information about the pre-conferences, please visit the CHECS website at http://www.checs.net/checs_99. If you have any questions, contact Pam Mirabal at (505)277-8125 or pmiraba@unm.edu.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Las Cruces!
Susan Magee

speakers needed for MPLA conference

The Mountain Plains Library Association/Nebraska Library Association is looking for speakers for the joint conference October 25-27 2000 in Omaha, NE.

All sections and interest groups are soliciting speakers at this time. The Preservation, Archives and Special Collections section in particular is looking for speakers.

If you are interested, contact: Paula Duffy, MPLA Representative 657-1656 or lib_duffy@vino.emcmt.edu

why a flower?

On the cover of each edition of the NMLA newsletter is a unique flower. Each sketch has been selected from Rare and Endemic Plants of New Mexico. This is lovely book, printed by University of New Mexico Press, is an artist's rendition of our endangered botanical heritage. Each page of the book holds a description of the plant as well as the areas of New Mexico in which each plant can be found. Each month, as I select a unique endemic wildflower for the newsletter cover, it is my hope that like a tiny seed landing in a field, the notion of conservation of native habitat may eventually spread. The chance of a seed surviving is small, but when occasionally one is nourished and the opportunity is ripe, one seed can produce a field of flowers and attract wildlife for generations to come. We live in a state with a very fragile ecosystem. Perhaps we can all preserve our own small habitats on the map of New Mexico. Ride a bike instead of driving, conserve water by planting native plants, and help open the eyes of all generations with the help of your wonderful libraries.

Your editor,
Jackie Shane
nmla newsletter contributions sought

The NMLA newsletter seeks news articles, ideas, interest groups, research, updates, etc. The deadline for the December/January 1999 issue is November 10, 1999. That issue should arrive in your mailboxes by mid-December. Send submissions to Jackie Shane (UNM) at jshane@unm.edu; phone 505/277-5327. Electronic submissions (e-mail or disk) in Word or ascii are preferred. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions.

Future newsletter deadlines are:

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New Mexico Library Association Newsletter

The New Mexico Library Association Newsletter (ISSN 0893-2956) is published six times a year (February, April, June, August, October, and December) Submissions can be sent via e-mail (preferred), on disk, or printed (double spaced). Electronic format is highly preferred.

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Send address changes, back issue requests and other requests to:
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