New Mexico Librarians and the New Mexico Library Association are organizing a legislative effort to improve public, school and academic libraries. The Library Bond Task Force is a group of public, school and academic librarians working together to have the Legislature support and the Governor agree to allow a $53.5 million bond package on the 2006 ballot to purchase books and other materials, such as periodicals and electronic databases.

This proposed 2006 Bond would break down as follows:

**$18 million for New Mexico public libraries**
To be distributed on a per capita basis to New Mexico public libraries as supplementary funding to purchase books, electronic information resources and the tools needed to share information. Statewide, this is about $10 per capita, or less than the cost of one book. This proposal has been endorsed with the highest priority by the New Mexico Municipal League.

**$18 million for publicly funded school libraries**
To be distributed both with a minimum per school amount and a per student allocation. On average, this amount will purchase 3-4 new books per student. School libraries are woefully under funded and most science and other dated books are over 10 years old. The NM Task Force for School Libraries, recognized by the Legislature, wholeheartedly supports this effort.

**$15 million for academic libraries**
To be distributed on a formula basis to all academic libraries in the state. This amount will purchase approximately 3 library books, or other materials for each full time student in a New Mexico college or university. This proposal has been endorsed by the NM Consortium of Academic Libraries.

**$2.5 million for State Libraries and statewide services**
To be distributed to the State Library and Fray Angelico Chavez History Library and to support statewide resource sharing systems and databases used in publicly funded libraries.

**For More Information:**
Eileen B. Longsworth, Director
Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System
501 Copper NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-768-5134
elongsworth@cabq.gov

Omar Durant, Manager, Library Media Services/Instructional Materials
Albuquerque Public Schools
930-B Oak St. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106-4312
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**NMLA Homepage:** [http://www.nmla.org](http://www.nmla.org)

**The New Mexico Library Association Newsletter**  
(ISSN: 0893-2956) is published six times a year in February, April, June, August, October and December.
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**Give a Warm Welcome to These New Members!**

Audra Arwood, Lavaland Elementary
Rhonda Campos, Moise Memorial Library
Laurie Canepa, New Mexico State Library
Joan Chavez, Moise Memorial Library
Mandy Cumming, Student
Susan Jeanne Daves, Mesa Alta Junior High
Tilly Dewey, Los Lunas Elementary
Geraldine Dosalua, Student
Katharine Garduno, Rio Rancho Public Library
Clyde Henderson, Crownpoint Inst. of Technology
Melanie Dawn Hite, Taylor Ranch Public Library
Ann Huggins, Georgia O’Keefe Elementary
Dan Kammer, Albuquerque T-VI
Eileen O’Connell, Taylor Ranch Public Library
Vernon Perkins, Mesa View Middle School
Sarah Reed, Crownpoint Middle School
Judi Riley-Bensley, Los Lunas Public Library
Juanita Romero, Moise Memorial Library
Daniel Smith, New Mexico State University

* * * * *

**Which library has all those nice pieces of artwork that are currently on the NMLA website?**

The library personnel from NMSU and Farmington Public Library! Yes, they are the artists this time!

If you are interested in showing off the lovely artwork your library has or the talents of your fellow librarians, send photos via e-mail to: Admin@NMLA.org — .tif or .jpg format only.
Librarians Fight For Higher Salaries

Submitted by Valerie Nye

A salary survey conducted by the New Mexico State Library staff in the summer of 2005 found that workers employed by the State Library are severely underpaid. The 2005 study entitled “Pay Inequity at the New Mexico State Library: Study and Recommendations,” can be found online at: http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/files/NMSLSalaryReport.pdf

The pay inequity study reports that in the last year and a half there has been a 30% turnover rate in Library staff and since July 2002 there has been a 50% turnover rate. This rate of turnover at the State Library is more than double the rate of turnover throughout state government. The study also reports that high turnover rates at the State Library have cost the State of New Mexico nearly one million dollars since 2002.

A startling fact documented in the study is that 35 State Library staff members meet the basic qualifications for food stamp eligibility, and 3 of these employees have masters degrees. The study states, “Given that most State Library employees work in Santa Fe with its high cost of living, many of these people... seek additional jobs in order to meet basic expenses and to maintain a reasonable quality of life.”

The study also found, “New Mexico State Library salaries are the lowest in the library profession statewide, and among the lowest for state libraries nationwide.”

Among the recommendations included in the pay inequity study is the request to move all librarian classifications to the midpoint of the current salary scale, at a cost of $243,731.

State Librarian, Richard Akeroyd, has been very supportive of staffs efforts to improve wages at the Library. Since his arrival at the State Library in 2003, he has worked within the constraints of State government to try to bring about salary equity for State Library employees. The survey reports, however, “The administration of the Library has exhausted all of the accepted procedures offered by NM State Personnel Office and those of the Department of Cultural Affairs for well-deserved salary increases.”

While State Librarians and State Library employees have long been aware of these difficult salary issues, getting political recognition for salary improvements outside of the agency has been difficult.

Stuart Ashman, Secretary of the Department of Cultural Affairs, was called to task on November 17th by Senator Luciano "Lucky" Varela, Chair of the Legislative Finance Committee. During a budget hearing for the Department of Cultural Affairs, Senator Varela admonished Secretary Ashman for discouraging employee participation in the budget hearing process and strongly suggested that a plan be developed to address the severe pay inequities at the State Library.

Thank You for Joining Us in Tucumcari!
The Mini-Conference Report

The NMLA mini-conference was a success! Although the turn-out was small, those of us who attended had a wonderful time. All of the people attending agreed that the shrimp boil was delicious, the bluegrass band was great, and the programs were high-quality.

A big “thank you” goes to Mary Ann Molinas and her fellow librarians in Tucumcari who helped in so many ways to make this a memorable event.

Please keep in mind that the next mini-conference will be held in Silver City in October. Put a reminder on your calendar now so you don’t miss this one!
Rural Library Sustainability Project Workshops—Success & More to Come

by Cassandra Osterloh, Continuing Education Coordinator, New Mexico State Library

New Mexico is one of eight states participating in the first round of the Rural Library Sustainability Project. This project, funded through a grant by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is a collaboration between WebJunction and State Library Agencies. The project's goal is to focus on issues and challenges that rural library staff typically identify as obstacles in sustaining public access computing. For this project, rural libraries are defined as public libraries with a legal service area of 25,000 or less. Invitations to participate in the first two workshops were sent to the directors of all rural libraries in the state.

The first workshop, held November 14 at Santa Ana Pueblo Community Library, was directed toward the tribal library directors. Eight libraries were represented. The second workshop, held November 16 at the Belen Community Center, had representation from 20 libraries. The goal was to have one set of workshops, but with conflicting prior commitments and limited staffing, a smaller number of libraries were able to attend the November workshops than previously hoped. Another workshop will be scheduled for the Spring.

This project is exciting because of its attention to a public library demographic that often feels slighted by local and state governments when it comes to staffing, budgets, and staying current with technology. This infusion of resources to assist rural library staff will empower them to initiate strategies within their communities that will assist them in sustaining their public access computing.

Residually, this project will also establish new connections to WebJunction New Mexico. Workshop participants were directed to WebJunction New Mexico to seek out and share content beneficial to them. They were further encouraged to become a part of WebJunction's All Aboard discussion forum group. Here they will not only solidify their relationship with other workshop participants, but they'll also reach out and form new relationships, thus diminishing the perceived isolation so often felt by rural and small library staff.

Participants of the November workshops felt the benefits of their day together included: networking and meeting new people, creating action plans, hearing others' success stories, the many ideas collected, knowing they can go to WebJunction New Mexico for more resources and discussion, an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with similar libraries, and having a forum for libraries of similar size, issues, and challenges.


New Mexico Library Foundation Drawing Winners

At the NMLA Mini-conference in Tucumcari, the New Mexico Library Foundation had drawings as a fundraiser.

The winner of the Zuni pot was Lori Grumet of Las Cruces. The other winners of prizes were Judy Hulsey, Kathy Albrecht and Lorie Christian.

The Zuni pot was donated by Kelly Schatz of Perma-Bound. Thanks to Kelly and congratulations to all the winners.
REFORMA de Nuevo Mexico
National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking

Submitted by Irene Shown (ishown@lib.nmsu.edu)
Leslie Monsalve-Jones (reforma@sisna.com)
Dexter Katzman (dkatzman@sbcglobal.net)

Membership renewal time for REFORMA is coming up! Send your renewal form and dues to our local chapter Secretary/Treasurer:

Dexter Katzman
Sunland Park Community Library
984 McNutt Road
Sunland Park, NM  88063-9039

Dexter will make sure your name and membership form are forwarded to National REFORMA for inclusion on the National roster. Membership is based on calendar year, and the 2005 memberships that are not renewed will be purged in March 2006.

Remember, REFORMA dues are not part of NMLA dues! Being part of the REFORMA SIG in NMLA is the first step, but you must pay dues to the local chapter, and we in turn pay the portion that goes to the National Office.

We need to build up our membership so we can have some awesome presentations at our NMLA Conferences – and we need your help to do this. Do you know anyone that would be interested in joining REFORMA? Give them the above information and a membership form, or send them to our web page (http://lib.nmsu.edu/reforma). Get them connected via REFORMANET!

Want to win $1000 (or $100)? Our chapter has been given raffle tickets to sell for the JCLC (Joint Conference of Librarians of Color) 2006 Fundraiser. The tickets are selling for $5 each or 5 for $20. The prize is $1000, and the person selling the winning ticket gets $100! Let Irene Shown or Leslie Monsalve-Jones know if you want tickets to sell – all money and ticket stubs need to be sent back together, so all money and ticket stubs should go through Dexter, at the above address.

REFORMA de Nuevo Mexico
National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking

Plans for the 2006 Battle of the Books Are Underway!

Submitted by Sarah Geiger

The 2006 New Mexico Statewide Battle of the Books is set for April 29, 2006 at Rio Rancho Mid-High. The Battle of the Books is a literacy program for students in fourth grade and above in elementary, and all middle, or junior high school students. There are Elementary and Middle School divisions with different book lists. It is an exciting event that brings together as many as 700 young people together to display their knowledge of twenty carefully chosen books. Teams are sponsored by schools and public libraries.

Each sponsor may send one team for each level they serve. The configuration of grade levels throughout the state varies. For example, a K-12 school may send two teams, one for each level. A Middle School may send one team. A public library may sponsor two teams, one at each level, if they wish. Please see the regulations at our web site or contact Sarah Geiger at geiger@aps.edu with any questions.

We also have students, teachers and librarians who are interested in continuing the program into high school. We’ll try to get you in touch with each other so perhaps you can get together and plan your own Battle.

The registration deadline is April 5, 2006. Details will be posted at www.battleofthebooks.org as they become available. Volunteer opportunities abound!
Big Changes Ahead for MPLA

Submitted By Valerie Nye

The MPLA membership voted at its annual meeting on October 14th to accept the recommended changes as put forth by the MPLA Taskforce on Reorganization. Changes include:

- A reduction in the number of standing committees.
- Special interest Sections will become Electronic Communities. These communities will center around specific areas of interest, and most of the communication and sharing of ideas will take place in an electronic environment.
- Moderators of Electronic Communities will serve on the Program Council. The Program Council will work with the MPLA Vice President to develop programming for annual conferences.
- The number of face-to-face board meetings will be reduced from four annual in-person meetings to two or fewer face-to-face meetings. Board business will take place via electronic means.
- A qualified trainer will be hired to develop electronic and in-person continuing education opportunities for the MPLA region.

The organization’s new structure will be phased in over the next year. Carol Hammond will serve as the organization’s steward through this transition process.

Other organization changes include:

- After over 30 years of serving as MPLA’s executive secretary, Joe Edelen has resigned. His position will be filled for the next year by Judy Zelenski.
- The website address for MPLA will change on December 1st to http://www.mpla.us
- MPLA’s listservs will dissolve in the next month. The board has voted to develop mailing lists and distribute email to membership through the organization’s Member Clicks website.
- MPLA’s job posting will no longer be distributed to membership via mailing lists. All job listings will be available on the MPLA website under “Jobline.”

NMLA Annual Conference
Farmington, April 19-21

The “Community Collections, Community Connections” themed conference plans are speeding along!

The program proposal committee is busy reviewing the submissions and will be getting back to everyone soon.

Pre-conference programs will be held on Wednesday, April 19th, and we are hoping to have some post-conference events on Saturday, April 22nd for your enjoyment.

SIGs — please let Lorie Christian know if you want a table at the conference as soon as possible!

Hotel information is available on the website. We encourage you to book early to get your hotel/room choice. There are also other hotels available in the area. If there is any problem with the hotels or if you get news that the hotel is booked, please contact Lorie Christian at (505) 400-7309, (505) 891-5171 (fax) or e-mail at admin@nmla.org.

Farmington’s new Public Library is an interesting place to visit and the library at the San Juan College should also be finished by conference time.

Be looking for the registration information in the next newsletter and on the website.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Air Force Research Laboratory’s Phillips Research Site Technical Library—Former College of Santa Fe Library Director, Maryhelen Jones, returned to New Mexico at the beginning of September to manage the Air Force Research Laboratory’s Phillips Research Site Technical Library at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. Her most recent position prior to assuming the Library Manager was Associate Director of the Florida State University Libraries in Tallahassee, Florida. Jones, who managed the College of Santa Fe Library from 1998 to 2000, says she is looking forward to “working with researchers involved with such critically important areas as space vehicle and directed energy research.”

Prior to her position with Florida State, Ms. Jones was the director of distance education library services for the University of Houston Systems Libraries and also directed Central Michigan University’s Off-Campus Library Services Program. She has held library positions with the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles; the Center for Naval Analyses in Alexandria, Virginia; and the University of North Carolina At Chapel Hill. Throughout her career, Ms. Jones has been active in ALA, most notably in the ACRL Distance Learning Section where she has held numerous committee chair positions as well as serving as the Section Chair in 2002-2003. She has also served as the New Mexico Chapter ACRL Chair in 1999. Jones received her Masters in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and a Masters degree in International Relations from East Carolina University.

Cuba Public Library—The village of Cuba had a jolly send-off for the nation’s holiday tree. It was great!! The 15,000 lb, 83 ft. Engelmann spruce was cut from Cuba’s backyard and is destined to be New Mexico’s Christmas gift to the Nation. It would really be nice if all the libraries from these places (Gallup, Grants, Albuquerque, Los Lunas, Socorro, Truth or Consequences, Silver City, Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Roswell, Taos, Española, Santa Fe and Las Vegas) could send me a copy of your town newspapers with your news of the holiday tree stops at your places. This is something that is going down on our history records for Cuba. At least the clippings. Thank you. This is one of the biggest things that has happened in Cuba, besides Cuba’s other celebration being "The world’s longest burrito" ... now documented with the Guinness Book of World Records. That massive event on December 8, 2001 was covered nationwide by the media. And two and a half years later, representatives of the Guinness Book of World Records made it official, issuing a certificate.

The community was bursting with pride, color, activity over this very large tree. If anyone has anything else to offer to our community/library, please send it (ads, art, etc.). We are proud to give to the nation this very special gift from the Land of Enchantment. Barbara Trujillo, Library Director, Cuba Public Library—cubalib2001@yahoo.com — Ph: 505-289-3100 and Fax: 505-289-9187

Mescalero Apache School Library—Teen Read Week (TRW) was celebrated for the first time from October 17-21, 2005. TRW is an initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the ALA. TRW is devoted to promoting the use of the library and reading as a tool for lifelong learning and enjoyment.

Ellie Keeton, MAS librarian, is pleased to announce the success of TRW. The library served as a hub of activities for all middle and high school students throughout the week. Staff and community members also joined in the festivities. The school was decorated with large banners and posters, and all participants wore bracelets embossed with “READ” in English and Apache. Culturally appropriate bookmarks were distributed, and many reading-related prizes were awarded to students and staff. Plans are already underway for Teen Read Week 2006!

Rio Rancho Public Library—On Wednesday October 12, Rio Rancho broke ground for their new Main Library building. The new facility will be 32,000 square feet with a 150-seat auditorium, 25-seat conference room and 80 Internet access stations. Toni Beatty, Director said at the groundbreaking ceremony “People have been
building libraries for 4,500 years. They have been burned, destroyed, and looted, but like a phoenix from the ashes, they rise again. A library is a way a community says we care about ourselves, the future of our children and our history.”

**Ruidoso Public Library**—The Ruidoso Public Library is one of the first to install the newest Apex XpressCheck™ Patron Self-Service System from the Integrated Technology Group (ITG). After just a few months, the staff at the library is seeing the benefits. “We love it,” says Phyllis Reed, Director of the Ruidoso Public Library. “We’ve already seen savings in staff time and we’re planning on adding another … as soon as possible.”

This technology has allowed staff to get out from behind the circulation desk and get out into the stacks to help patrons find the information they need. Now, the same staff members who were hesitant about the addition of a self-service system spend their extra time encouraging new patrons to use it. Mrs. Reed concludes, “XpressCheck is allowing my staff to enjoy their jobs even more.

We’re just as pleased as we can be.”

**Taos Public Library**—Harvest Crafts, a workshop for all ages, to make wreathes, collages and table decorations from natural materials (seeds, pods, dried plant material, etc.) was scheduled for Saturday November 19 at the Taos Public Library, conducted by retired teacher and garden enthusiast Anna Bryson. Dorothy Kethler is Head Librarian, and Annette Montoya is Children's Librarian. Also scheduled for the holiday season is caroling by members of the Taos Community Chorus on Dec. 17, around the Christmas tree in the main room of the library.

**Miscellaneous**—For those that may have missed this news item… Peter F. Drucker, considered by many the “father of modern management” for his innovative approaches to leadership in the workplace, died November 11, he was 95. To read more you may wish to access: http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-111105drucker_lat,0,2724903.story?coll= =3Dla-home-headlines

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**NMLA Awards**

By Dinah Jentgen, Awards Committee Chair

We all know special, hard-working people who deserve recognition. This year, why not visit the NMLA web site, follow the links, and nominate someone for an award? Just fill out the online form. I will be happy to answer questions if you want, so just e-mail them to me at Dinah2.Jentgen@state.nm.us. All nominations are due by December 9, 2005.

We recognize these categories every year: Community Achievement, Honorary Life Membership, Legislator of the Year, New Mexico Library Amigo, and New Mexico Library Leadership. For full descriptions and lists of former awardees, please go to http://www.nmla.org/about_nmla/awardshonors/awardshonors.html.

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**ASL-SIG Outstanding School Library Award**

By Jennifer B. Brown

NMLA Advocacy for School Libraries Special Interest Group would like to recognize outstanding NM school libraries.

This is open to all schools in New Mexico. The basis for this form is the Standards for New Mexico School libraries developed by the New Mexico Task Force for School Libraries. The Standards may be found at http://www.nmla.org and http://www.stlib.state.nm.us

The award application is available through the NMLA website at http://www.nmla.org/membership/forms/AASL_SIG_award.doc Deadline is Dec. 31.

Please consider applying for this award. It is a great way to evaluate your school library program.
Submitted by Jennifer Brown, Elizabeth J. Eastwood and Dexter Katzman.

From October 23 through October 28, the 3 of us who work in New Mexico were fortunate to join 32 other library colleagues at the fourth annual Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch. There were 29 participants, two trainers, and four facilitators. The program was organized and presented again this year by Maureen Sullivan and Mary Bushing. Special thanks are due to these two wonderful individuals. We only got to see the great work they did during the time of the institute but both had spent countless hours before getting things ready and assuring a successful experience for all.

The setting for the institute could not be more beautiful, the cottonwoods in a blaze of color along the Chama River Valley. If you have never been to Ghost Ranch...GO! Each of us give a brief impression of our time at the Institute below:

Jennifer Brown:
I am a school librarian at Navajo Middle School, Navajo NM. I was not all that sure I would even apply this year. I applied last year and did not get accepted. Applying was the best decision I have made in a long while.

The informational sessions started right away on Sunday evening. We could all see right away that this would be a great week! Mary Bushing work tirelessly to organize a week that would flow smoothly and work for all styles of learning. The information from our lead facilitator, Maureen Sullivan, was extraordinary to say the least. We met with Maureen for a total of 7 sessions over the first 4 days of the institute. She is a woman with great vision for leadership in librarians. She was able to take these 34 individuals and facilitate us into a cohesive strong learning community.

We also had sessions with the mentors: Mary Bushing, Jean Hatfield, Debbie Iverson, Jane Kolbe, and Joe McKenzie. The mentors were great! They shared their triumphs and some of their not so triumphant moments in leadership. They were at Ghost Ranch to guide us in our learning journey and it was invaluable to have them along the way.

Each person at the institute formed a partnership with one other participant, our learning partner. These partners were our cheerleaders, coaches, and voices of reason in our learning plans. We helped each other set goals and put together plans to continue our learning. It is the piece of the institute that allows it to continue on beyond the 6 days at Ghost Ranch.

The institute is also about the hikes to Box Canyon and Chimney Rock at sunrise. It is about the peace and quiet that comes from being away from the pace of everyday life. It is about devoting time to yourself and your personal learning journey.

Yet, Ghost Ranch is not about these pieces and parts, it is about the whole experience. I can assure any who choose to apply and put themselves in the experience of the week they will be richer both personally and professionally for it.

Email me if you would like to hear more about the experience: jbrown@gmcs.k12.nm.us.

Elizabeth J. Eastwood:
I was the one who had the shortest trip to Ghost Ranch, and I had a wondrous and enchanting time at one of the most spiritually enriching places in New Mexico. Being able to totally get away from all modern distractions and work commitments made the week an intense learning experience in 2 distinct ways: learning leadership principles and practices, always mindful of how we, as individuals, work, and, secondly, meeting and networking with like-minded professionals in an safe and accepting environment.

The most significant aspect for me was that one could be a leader and a positive role model, even if they are not in a managerial role. My time at the Leadership Institute will continue to affect my personal and professional life for a very long time, and I am slowly introducing practical time savers as well as positioning my career path more carefully and closely. Working with fellow professionals helped me to put into perspective a number of issues in my work life. We have all come away with an informational goldmine of a notebook (with specially...
selected articles), and an ‘ever-increasing’ list of books to read (considered the cream of the crop, and other members of the group added ones that they knew about too throughout the week).

I would love for any one to go, if possible, and I will be more than happy to tell you more about the experience. You can call me at 505-662-8253, write to me at Mesa Public Library, 2400 Central Avenue, Los Alamos, NM 87544, or email at eastwoode@lac.losalamos.nm.us.

Dexter Katzman:
I was part of the public library group. I also met and learned from librarians across the professional spectrum—systems, K-12 schools, and state agencies.

It is really hard for me to say what the best part of the experience was, so I will cheat and say that there were four best parts. I think that the best part was getting to meet so many creative, dedicated, and committed librarians from the twelve states. I am kind of by myself in Sunland Park, New Mexico—at one end of the twelve-state area served by MPLA. It was gratifying to meet people from as far away as Wyoming and Montana.

The next best part was learning from some special people at the institute: the presenter and the mentors.

A third best part was that each participant worked on many projects with a learning partner. While they were chosen more or less at random, I still think that I got the best one—Lizzie Eastwood, also a public librarian and also from New Mexico.

The fourth best part? That’s easy—just being at Ghost Ranch, away from telephones, email, faxes, automated systems, and the rest of it. If you have not been there and have not tilted your head back on a moonless night to be dazzled by the million stars, you should try it sometime.

To ask about the experience call me at 505.874.0873, or write to me at Sunland Park Community Library, 984 McNutt Rd, Sunland Park NM 88063-09039, or email me dkatzman@sbcglobal.net.

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The Institute is jointly sponsored by the Mountain Plains Library Association and EBSCO. If you think you may be interested to try it, go the MPLA website to find out about the program being planned for fall of 2006. Please contact any of us to find out more, or go to the MPLA website: www.mpla.us (this new website available from December 2005).

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NMLA Elections Committee Announcement

The Nominations and Elections Committee presents the following slate for 2006.

President Elect:
Louise Bolton (San Juan College, Farmington)

Secretary:
Dinah Jentgen (Southern NM Correctional Facility)  
Phyllis Reed (Ruidoso Public Library)

Members at Large:
Nancy Dennis (UNM General Libraries)  
Patricia Hewitt (NM State Library)  
Valerie Nye (College of Santa Fe)  
Mark Pendleton (Branigan Public Library—Las Cruces)

Members who would like to nominate themselves or a colleague for an office may submit their name, contact info and, on a separate piece of paper, twenty (20) signatures of NMLA members in good standing to Heather Gallegos-Rex, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee postmarked by Jan. 1, 2006. Please address additional nominations to Heather at NM State Library, 1209 Camino Carlos Rey, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

The Executive Board will vote for the slate at the January 2006 meeting and ballots will be mailed to members the first week of February.

Members of the NMLA Nominations and Elections Committee are: Beverly McFarland, Leslie Chamberlin, Cheryl Wilson, and Heather Gallegos-Rex.
Have you been wondering where you or your staff can take credit courses in library science conveniently, and at a reasonable price?

The Library Science Program at Doña Ana Branch Community College in Las Cruces (a branch of New Mexico State University) will be offering several 3 credit courses, only 8 weeks long, starting in January and March. All courses are offered ONLINE!

Online courses being offered in the spring semester include:

January:

L SC 100  Introduction to Library and Information Services
L SC 110  Reference and Information Resources
L SC 175  Civic Involvement (requires community service)
L SC 221/222 Cooperative Experience (requires work in a library setting)
L SC 203  School Library Media Specialist
L SC 240  Internet Resources and Research Strategies

March:

L SC 100  Introduction to Library and Information Services
L SC 111  Introduction to Information Literacy
L SC 175  Civic Involvement (requires community service)
L SC 140  Multimedia Materials and Presentations
L SC 221/222 Cooperative Experience (requires work in a library setting)
L SC 270  Library Science Capstone

Non-degree seeking students who desire single classes for professional development are always welcome, however students may also choose to complete coursework leading to an Associates Degree in Library Science or a Certificate of Completion in Library Science. Additionally the program offers courses that may fulfill state requirements for Library Media Specialist Endorsements.

It’s easy to be admitted and enroll in our reasonably priced courses. Out of state students enrolling in 6 credits or less even receive the in state tuition rates! For further information, go to the web site at http://dabcc-www.nmsu.edu/bis/libtec/ or contact:

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Marion Dorroh Memorial Scholarship

Each year NMLA gives a $2,000 scholarship towards an advanced degree at an ALA-accredited library school. To qualify the applicant must have resided in New Mexico during the year preceding application and must be accepted or currently enrolled at an ALA-accredited school as a full or part-time student. Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2006. The application is available on the website.

NMLA Continuing Education Grants

To promote professional development, NMLA, through the Continuing Education Fund, supports requests of NMLA members to attend workshops, conferences, and related activities. All the information is available on the NMLA website.

NMLF Grants Awarded

The New Mexico Library Foundation is pleased to announce that it has awarded 4 grants for the last grant cycle. There were numerous grant applications, and the foundation regrets not being able to award more. The grant awards were disbursed to different regions and types of libraries/organizations throughout the state. The winners of the awards are:

Piedra Vista High School Library—Farmington—$1,000 has been awarded to support the Literacy on Loan: A Multi-sensory Approach to Reading Project. This project provides audio-tapes for students to use along with books. The materials will be prepared for a wide range of reading levels.

New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum—Las Cruces—$1,000 has been awarded to support a Children’s Book Festival featuring children’s books and authors for families. It is hoped the project will promote literacy by providing a place for parents to bring children to learn about books and authors in a setting apart from school.

Moriarty Community Library—Moriarty—$950 has been awarded to support the “Two Worlds” project and the Spanish speaking community. The grant will fund Spanish/Bilingual Materials and Translation Services.

Santa Fe Public Library—Santa Fe—The $1,000 grant has been awarded to enable the library to develop signage to identify key library areas in Spanish. The funds will also be used to translate and print library publications into Spanish.

NMLF Grant Deadline

The deadline for grant applications for the next grant award cycle is January 15, 2006. The newly updated grant form and further information can be found on NMLF’s webpage (www.NM-LF.Org).

Professional Development Grant

Have you always wanted to attend an ALA Conference, but are not sure where to get the funds? 3M Library Systems continues its partnership with ALA’s New Members Round Table (NMRT) in sponsoring the annual Professional Development Grant program. The grant provides funding to cover the cost of registration fees, airfare, lodging and some incidental expenses for recipients to attend the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, in June 2006. You must be a current member of ALA and NMRT to apply.

The application deadline is December 15, 2005. The selection of grant recipients will take place at the ALA Midwinter meeting in January 2006. To apply for the grant, go to http://www.ala.org/ala/nmrt/applyforfunds/3mawardinformation.htm, or contact:

Sarah Robbins, Chair, 3M/NMRT Professional Development Grant Committee
University of Oklahoma Libraries, 401 W. Brooks, Norman, OK, 73072 — Phone: (405) 325.5293 Fax: (405) 325.5207 — Email: srobbins@ou.edu

NMLA has a page on the website which lists the most up-to-date award, grant and scholarship announcements. Please take the time to look it over and apply for some of this “free” money.
Book Reviews

Reviews by Valerie Nye

Railroad History

Riskin is a licensed architect with a specialty in adaptive use and reuse of historic structures. She has traveled the state of New Mexico in search of the state's railroad depots and auxiliary structures and has published a book on her findings. The first part of this title eloquently outlines the history of New Mexico's railroad industry, the railroads' physical structural demands, and the impact the railroad had on the state and its isolated towns. The majority of the book is a catalog of railroad structures in New Mexico. The catalog includes pictures of the railroad buildings Riskin located in her quest. Each set of photographs is accompanied by a brief history of the structure and the role each town held in the railroads' systems. The book's appendices include a list of all of the railroad buildings in New Mexico (standing, demolished, and moved), a map of the remaining railroad structures, and a list of railroad-related museums in the state. Recommended for public and academic libraries.


Historian and native New Mexican, Victoria Dye, examines the methods the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railroad used to market the city of Santa Fe during the railroad's heyday in New Mexico. Dye studies the tourism brochures and literature used by AT&SF in an effort to increase passenger traffic on the railroad. The book examines the railroad's marketing strategies including the industry's emphasis on Santa Fe's art colonies, Native American life (as seen through the Indian Detours), health benefits, Native American and Hispanic crafts, and local food. The title includes a brief history of Santa Fe, AT&SF's marketing techniques in the 1920s, Fred Harvey Company's marketing techniques in the 1930s, and Albuquerque's railroad stop as Santa Fe's competition. The book concludes with several insightful appendix documents including a catalog of the exact wording used to promote New Mexico in marketing brochures from the 1890s to the 1950s, charts of tourism expansion, and charts of hotel and curio shop growth. Recommended for public and academic libraries.

Guides to the Sandia Mountains


Mike Coltrin's Sandia Mountain Hiking Guide provides a brief introduction to the Sandia Mountains' geology and animal life. The majority of this title is devoted to trail descriptions, which include the length of the trail, the elevation of the trail, a topographical map of each location, driving directions to the trail head, and a fairly lengthy description of what hikers will encounter on each trail. The book includes a plasticized foldout topographical map of the North Sandias that plots the trails, roads, restrooms, parking, and wilderness boundaries.

Field guide to the Sandia Mountains is an excellent companion to Coltrin's hiking guide. This field guide to Albuquerque's mountain has been compiled by members of the Friends of the Sandia Mountains, a group of volunteer conservationists. Editor Robert Julyan is a historian and author of The Place Names of New Mexico. Editor Mary Stuever is a forester and ecologist and coauthor of the Philmont Fieldguide. This guide has short essays focused on the Sandia Mountains' geology, ecology, flora, fauna, and animal life. The book is filled with colorful pictures that guide hikers in the identification of birds, plants, and animals. Each identifying photograph is accompanied by a short description of the life form, providing information on its general location, size, and habitat. The essays are enjoyable and the photographs are so colorful even an armchair reader will have a beautiful peak into life in the Sandia Mountains. This field guide is built to be used on the trail and comes with a heavy flexible cover and spiral binding. Both titles are recommended for public libraries.
Virtual Reference Desk project joins WebJunction as Information Institute of Syracuse and OCLC expand partnership

The Virtual Reference Desk, a pioneering project in the development of digital reference, is moving its resources to WebJunction. This represents an expansion of the partnership between Syracuse University's Information Institute of Syracuse and OCLC.

The Virtual Reference Desk (VRD) is a project dedicated to the advancement of digital reference and the successful creation and operation of human-mediated, Internet-based information services. The Information Institute of Syracuse has been home to the VRD since 1997. OCLC and the Information Institute of Syracuse have collaborated on the VRD project since 2002.

In the expanded partnership, VRD will make its substantial and highly regarded body of virtual reference information available to the library community at WebJunction, a rich environment that includes threaded discussions, online courses, over 15,000 members, and a growing network of other partners. The Information Institute will continue the project's ambitious research initiative, and will collaborate with OCLC on the 2005 Virtual Reference Desk Conference.

The Institute will continue to work with OCLC and others on an advanced research agenda. Originally developed with funding by the U.S. Dept. of Education, VRD has grown from a basic research project in 1997 to a consortium, agenda setting international conference, tool builder and clearinghouse for the virtual reference community. The VRD project has been instrumental in creating technical standards, quality standards, education resources, software and setting the research agenda in the reference field.

The Information Institute of Syracuse (IIS) at the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University is a long standing research center in the areas of education, technology and librarianship. It has been the source and host for a number of highly visible and widely successful digital education information services. The IIS created the Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM, sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Education), VRD, AskERIC and the Educator's Reference Desk. All projects share the same goal: to improve student learning by providing educators, policy makers and parents with quality information to improve teaching and the educational environment. IIS projects bring together universities, government agencies and private enterprises to promote easy access to high quality educational information to a diverse user population.

The School of Information Studies at SU is a nationally ranked center for innovative programs in information policy, information behavior, information management, information systems, information technology, and information services. The School offers an undergraduate degree, certificates of advanced studies, three professional master's programs, and a Ph.D. The School of Information Studies was established in 1896 as the School of Library Science and is accredited by the American Library Association (ALA). For more information, visit the School's web site at www.ist.syr.edu.

For more information contact: Amy Sloane-Garris
(315) 443-6885 or asloaneg@syr.edu

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