

Montana Talking Books Library (MTBL)

May 21 - July 26, 2004

TBL Goal 1: To ensure that all eligible clients know about the availability of services from MTBL and to make enrollment and use of the service easy for users.

The focus of outreach efforts over the past year centered around performing more presentations (198) around the state than last year (39) and not as many internal tours conducted (42) compared to last year (193). There were 896 applications sent to potential patrons, totaling 13 less than last year (909).

MTBL external outreach presentations for May included 97 contacts at the Senior Expo in Helena. June presentations included 21 classes performed at the Montana Association for the Blind's Summer Orientation Program in Bozeman.

MTBL internal presentations and tours included 17 students from the Montana Health Care Association's Activity Director's workshop held on June 22.

Three MTBL staff attended the 2004 National Library Service (NSL) Biennial Conference for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Rapid City, South Dakota. The Conference theme was "Our Digital World".

In May, invitations for MTBL's 2004 Summer Reading Program resulted in 14 students signing up. This year's theme: "Read...Your Guide to Discover New Worlds".

TBL Goal 2: MTBL will plan and implement a smooth transition to a digital format to ensure that the potential for expanded services are available to MTBL patrons.

In May and June, seven titles were completed at both MTBL recording studios:

"Jeannette Rankin, America's Conscience" by Norma Smith; "Lonesome Land" by B. M. Bower; "Young Man With A Horn" by Dorothy Baker; "The Sheep Queen" by Thomas Savage; "Deadly Indian Summer" By Leonard Schonberg; "Trust in Chariots" by Thomas Savage; and "Poems By The Maverick Tumbleweed" by Fred H. Salter

MTBL staff presented a training session to the Montana State Prison (MSP) Recording program teams and met with MSP patrons to update information on June 16th.

TBL Goal 3: Allow service to the patrons to be provided more efficiently and effectively by providing enough space for the collection.

Over 8,000 book copies from the 2004 Xcess (weeding) process have been shipped to other Talking Book Libraries, completing over half of the project.

The 2005 (weeding) process has reached to RC43193. These copies will be shipped to other Network Talking Book Libraries or back to NLS.

Additional collection weeding was started in June. Non-fiction adult and juvenile books are being weeded down to one copy, depending on their circulation statistics.

TBL Goal 4: Increase productivity and satisfaction of staff members and volunteers.

Preparation was completed in June for implementing a new KLAS server and WebOpac server in July.