

## **Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) February 2006 Commission Report**

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.

Outreach Presentation Contacts November totaled 26. These represent two presentations in Helena. One was to Qwest employees and the other was a public forum with Montana Association for the Blind (MAB) held at the Lewis & Clark Public Library. December contacts totaled 45 and represent one presentation to MAB, Helena. One tour was conducted in December.

The Montana Braille Twin Vision (MBT) children's collection was added to our Keystone database and our WebOpac for searches and ordering by patrons. We have two volunteers who develop each standard print and illustrated children's book into a Braille Twin Vision book for our student patrons and others. This eliminated the need to track Braille interlibrary loans on stats.

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 November and December, seven titles were completed at both MTBL recording studios:  
A Tenderfoot in Montana: Reminiscences of the Goldrush, the Vigilantes and the Birth of Montana Territory by Francis M. Thompson; Amphibians & Reptiles of Montana by Werner, Maxwell, Hendricks, and Flath; Montana Time: the Seasons of a Trout Fisherman by John Barsness; Liars and Saints by Maile Meloy; Red Midnight by Ben Mikaelson; Tales of the Cinnamon Dragon by Dr. Betty Neff Balch and Jean Poythress; and Flight of the Fisher Bird by Nora Martin.

Special Project: Author Leonard Schonberg from Helena completed the recording of his book "Morgan's War".

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

Completion of additional shelving downstairs has added extra book processing space. Random shelving experimentation continues to increase collection weeding efficiency and increase circulation.

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

Sandra Stanton has been hired as a new Readers' Advisor and started training January 23, 2006. Sandra holds a B.S. in elementary education as well as a M.Ed. in administration. She has a wealth of experience as an elementary education teacher and principal in Chillicothe, Ohio. Most recently, she worked in reference and circulation at Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library.