

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)

January 01, 2007 through February 28, 2007

Prepared for April 11, 2007 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs; report represents work of Briggs, Gunderson, Madison, Meier, Stanton, as well as numerous volunteers.

Goal One – Content - *Montana State Library (MSL) acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.*

- In January and February, six book titles and one issue each of "The Montana Magazine of Western History" and one issue of the "Montana Outdoors Magazine" were completed at both MTBL recording studios: "The Longest Silence, A Life in Fishing" by Thomas McGuane; "Beyond Spirit Trailings: Montana's Mysteries, Ghosts & Haunted Places" by Ellen Baumler; "The Childhood of Sherlock Holmes: The Butler's Tail" by Mona Morstein; "The Devil's Saddle" by Norman A. Fox; "In the Saddle with Uncle Bill" by Will James; "Waiting for Otto" by Ron Rude.
- Lobe Library project updated the bibliography of downloadable ebooks for Talking Book Library patrons.

Goal Two—Access – *MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.*

- "An Evening @ Montana Libraries" event was held January 9, 2007 at Montana State Library. Information about Talking Book Library projects was shared with over forty-five legislators and one hundred and one Librarians and "others" (non-State Library staff) who attended.

Goal Three—Consultation and Leadership - *MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.*

- Johnson and Johnson Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) survey results for the Talking Book Library services (Title IV) revealed positive and outstanding results in areas of service, staff, volunteers, quality, value, and access by patrons and partners of Montana Talking Book Library. Statements such as "(Patrons) showed how vital the (MTBL) service is in patrons lives", "Having (MTBL) services has improved the quality of life for patrons"; "(MTBL) is a primary source of enjoyment and entertainment (for patrons)". Outreach to academic and school libraries was identified as an area to focus on.

Goal Four—Collaboration - *MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.*

- Hawthorne Elementary school students (17), Helena, received a tour of the Talking Book Library and a Twin Vision Braille book reading by a volunteer in January.
- Four legislators received a tour of the Talking Book Library in late January.
- Telecom Pioneers received a Talking Book Library presentation in February.
- Forty-five Ophthalmologists received Talking Book Library information in February.

Goal Five— Sustainable Success - *MSL is a well-run organization and a sought-after employer; it is efficient and effective (measured against partner and patron outcomes), and successfully engaged in its ongoing mission.*

- Linda Miles was hired on March 1, 2007, to fill the Reader Advisor vacancy and is currently being trained.