

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)
November 01, 2007 through December 31, 2007

Prepared for February 13, 2008 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of Briggs, Gunderson, Madison, Meier, Miles, and Stanton, as well as 101 volunteers.

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

- In November and December, four books were completed at both MTBL recording studios: ***Motherlode: Legacies of Women's Lives and Labors in Butte, Montana*** by Janet L. Finn and Ellen Crain; ***Charles M. Russell: The Cowboy Artist, A Biography*** by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman; ***Montana Ghost Stories: Eerie True Tales*** by Debra D. Munn; and ***Z Warning*** by Dan Oran and Lenn Hoklin.

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.*

- One tour of the Talking Book Library took place in November.
- In November, staff and volunteers sent out the ***Bits of Gold Newsletter*** ,in large print and recorded formats, to all the patrons, volunteers, public libraries, regional libraries, optometrists, ophthalmologists and other interested parties.

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

- In December, staff gave Talking Book Library presentations and hands-on demonstrations to the Helena Lions Club.

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

- In November, a staff member and volunteer read our Twin Vision Braille books to the 2nd graders at Radley School in East Helena to promote National Reading Day.
- The Montana Talking Book Library sponsored one-fourth the 2007 annual cost of the Newsline™ phone newspaper service for our patrons.
- In December, a staff member attended the Texas Education Agency "Textbook Evaluation" meeting. This focused on evaluating requests for proposals (RFP's) for the upcoming recorded format for Texas textbooks.

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.*

- In December, the 2007 X-ess process was completed to weed our collection. We processed 1,535 in the 2nd Xess cycle November. In the WebXess cycle, staff and volunteers processed and mailed out 3,549 book copies for recycling. About 1,000 book copies were sent to other National Library Service Regional libraries for their patrons.
- We continue to weed and develop random shelving in preparation to make room for a variety of book copies in digital format in 2009.
- Our local Montana recording program is involved on a National Library Service Digital Network Taskforce to develop and implement guidelines for local digital recordings.
- Descriptive videos were ordered in December.