

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) **For October 11, 2006 Commission Meeting**

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

- In July and August, six book titles and two issues of “The Montana Magazine of Western History” and two issues of the “Montana Outdoors Magazine” were completed at both MTBL recording studios: “Up on the Rim: A Western Classic by Dale Eunson; “Brothers in Kickapoo ” by Dan Cushman; “A Lady’s Ranch Life in Montana” by Isabel F. Randall; “How Marten Got His Spots and Other Kootenai Indian Stories” by Kootenai Culture Committee; “Montana Justice: Power, Punishment & the Penitentiary” by Keith Edgerton; and “Jeannette Rankin: 1st Lady of Congress” by Trish Marx.

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.*

- Bill West, Audio Book Production Specialist from the National Library Service, met with General Service Facilities Manager and Engineer, Regional Librarian and Recording Program Director in August to evaluate, discuss and suggest possible solutions to the documented problems with ambient noise in the recording booth. Follow-up steps are being investigated.

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

- Outreach contacts in July included one formal presentation, two tours, and 15 phone contacts about our services. Outreach contacts in August included attending the “Shirts & Skins” meeting in Helena which totaled 25.

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

- David Whittall, Network Consultant from the National Library Service, met with Regional Librarian and Talking Book Staff and volunteers for semi-annual review in meeting American Library Association standards. Although formal documentation is still pending receipt, there will be a follow-up machine reconciliation report required from the Machine Lending Agency within Talking Books.

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.*

- Experience Works volunteer receptionist was moved to a different host agency after 9 months of excellent support to patrons, staff, and volunteers, giving 5-7 hours per day,

five days per week. Available budget monies offered temporary receptionist service of 2.5 hours per day for 9 weeks.

- There were staff and volunteer coverage challenges in July and August.