

## Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)

September 01, 2007 through October 31, 2007

Prepared for December 12, 2007 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of Briggs, Gunderson, Madison, Meier, Miles, and Stanton, as well as 113 volunteers.

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

- In September and October, thirteen books were completed at both MTBL recording studios: "Indian Trails and Grizzly Tales" by Bud Cheff Sr.; "Penucquem Speaks: A Look at our World from a Different Culture" by Ronald Thomas West; "Growing an Inch" by Stanley Gordon West; "From dust and Ashes: A Story of Liberation" by Tricia Goyer; "Pioneer Doctor: The Story of a Woman's Work" by Mari Grana; "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance, A Man Called Horse, The Hanging Tree, Lost Sister" by Dorothy M. Johnson; "M is for Montana" by Gayle C. Shirley; "Big Jinny, the Story of a Grizzly" by Frank B. Linderman; "Memories of Old Montana" by Con Price; "Seaman's Journal: On the Trail with Lewis and Clark" by Patti Reeder Eubank; "Her Seven Brothers" by Paul Goble; "The Return of the Buffaloes: a Plains Indian Story about Famine and Renewal of the Earth" by Paul Goble and "B is for Big Sky Country: A Montana Alphabet" by Sneed M. Collard III.
- Helena author Karyn Cheatham completed her novel "Blood and Bond".

**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 September for two individuals.
- The first issue of "Little Bits of Gold" newsletter was developed in September and sent to 120 school patrons.

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

- In September, staff gave Talking Book Library presentations and hands-on demonstrations to the public library staff, senior centers, health departments, support groups and independent living facilities in Hamilton; Missoula and Polson.

- In October, staff gave Talking Book Library presentations and hands-on demonstrations to public library staff, special education teachers, independent living coordinators and eye care professionals in Miles City. Presentations were also given at one of the Billings Senior Centers and an independent living facility. Presentation was given to the 37N district Lions Convention in Kalispell; the Montana Association Convention in Great Falls and materials were given out at the Billings Diabetes Health fair and Billings St. Patrick's Catholic Health Fair.
- In October, our local recording director and a reader's advisor visited the Montana State Prison recording program and gave instruction and guidance in the excellent recordings they are providing our patrons.

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

- In partnership with DPHHS Vocational Rehabilitation Program and Blind and Low Vision Services, we developed a training program to train a volunteer who is blind to use the JAWS adaptive software in our library and to respond to Low Vision Montana's Information & Referral calls.
- The Montana Campus Compact approved our request for proposal for a 2008 AmeriCorps\*VISTA volunteer. We are working with U of M-Helena to recruit.
- In collaboration with Keystone Automated Database Systems, Inc., staff began weekly webinar training on Version 7 in preparation for conversion to Version 7 in spring, 2008.

**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.*

- The annual machine inventory reconciliation process for the National Library Service was completed.
- Our local Montana recording program is involved on a National Library Service Digital Network Taskforce to develop and implement guidelines for local digital recordings.
- The Montana Talking Book Library honored its volunteers at a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at the Helena Elks Lodge #193 on Tuesday, September 25, 2007. The theme of the luncheon was "Volunteers – The Essential Piece" and everyone enjoyed the puzzle decorations and gifts. Helena author Janet Spencer entertained the group with "Montana pieces of information" in a trivia game based on her book "Montana Trivia". Nearly 113 volunteers received gifts, with several awards being presented. Individual awards were reflected in our Bits of Gold Newsletter.
- The annual statistical report for the National Library Service was completed. One significant change was noted in the clean up of our database in preparation for the conversion to Keystone automated database – Version 7 for spring, 2008.