

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)

July 21, 2011 through September 21, 2011

Prepared for October 11, 2011 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of MTBL staff: Bickel, Briggs, Gunderson, Landry, Meier and Stanton, plus 100 volunteers.

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

Between July 21st through September 21st, the following recording projects were completed:

2 magazine issues - **Montana The Magazine of Western History**

4 books -- **Lodestar** by Sarie Mackay; **The Montana Frontier: One Woman's West** by Joyce Litz; **Montana Women Writers: A Geography of the Heart** by Caroline Patterson; and **Dream Chasers of the West: A Homestead Family of Glacier Park** by B.L. Wettstein.

1,275 book pages were recorded during this reported period.

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

Fifty-three new patrons registered for MTBL services during the time period of this report.

Between July 21st and September 21st, 21,722 audio books and other materials circulated to patrons. Staff and volunteers processed 21,838 returned audio books and other materials.

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

July 21st, presentation was made about MTBL services to the employees of the Montana Chemical Dependency Center, Butte.

September 9th MTBL staff attended an overview of the traveling lab and projector operations.

September 9th an in-service was presented to MTBL staff by a (blind) patron who uses several Apple ipod devices. A demonstration showed how these devices are currently being used by blind patrons, using MTBL and other adaptive & non-adaptive web-services.

September 13th, a presentation was made about MTBL services to residents of the Waterford Retirement Center, Helena.

September 16th, a presentation was made about what's new in MTBL services to the members of the Montana Association for the Blind's 2011 MAB Annual Convention in Helena.

September 17th, an MTBL exhibitor's booth was available to all attendees of the free Low Vision Symposium sponsored by the MAB in Helena.

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

In August, one new volunteer signed up with MTBL: Rozla Olsen (Braille).

MTBL partnered with Career Training Institute's (CTI) Adult Program to train an individual in various support services of the Library.

MTBL partnered with Helena Industries/Montana Career Development Services to train an individual in various support services of the Library.

August 16th, collaborated with Jennifer Birnel, BTOP Trainer, to bring adaptive technology resources to public libraries.

August 19th, an in-service was presented to MTBL staff by Vision Matters, bringing awareness of the newest/latest mobile devices for patrons.

August 23rd, created an in-house webinar about MTBL services for posting on the MSL website for public library staff.

September 17, collaborated with two Ophthalmology speakers at the MAB's Low Vision Symposium in Helena, regarding outreach of MTBL and low vision services to the public.

In September, reviewed results of a public library survey conducted by BTOP trainer, Jennifer Birnel. Developed a follow-up survey for the Fall Workshop, focusing on application of MTBL services and training needs in the public library setting.

Met with Keystone Systems, Inc., database vendor, via conference calls, to discuss identification of potential causes and remedies for lost subject and series codes in catalogue holdings. We were unable to pinpoint the exact cause of lost data due to several factors including timing of discovery, depth of involvement, database upgrade and time limitations of in-house database backups. We have agreed on a database fix for lost data, as well as development of a mutually approved restructuring program to improve and secure future subject code downloads within completed NLS MARC records in our catalogue. A corresponding Trust Request accompanies this report.

Goal Five— Sustainable Success – *MSL/MTBL 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 September, the "Bits of Gold" newsletter was issued to all patrons in various formats. Included in this issue was a patron survey in several formats for ease of patron use.

The second annual MTBL employee appreciation event and luncheon was held in Helena on August 25, 2011. Hosts Sarah McHugh and Christie Briggs thanked MTBL employees for their hard work and acknowledged both their individual and team accomplishments.

In September, the MTBL supervisor was honored to receive the Governor's Award of Excellence and is thankful to MSL for the honor. This could not have been accomplished without the outstanding MTBL staff and volunteer team and support of MSL Administration.

* *Reminder to Commissioners:* October 13th 11-1pm, please join us in attending-

The 2011 MSL Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and let our volunteers know how much we appreciate them.

Location: St. Cyril & Methodius Church Social Center, 120 W. Riggs St., East Helena. This year's theme: "Wild About Volunteers".