

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) November 18, 2011 – January 20, 2012

Prepared for February 8, 2012 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of MTBL staff: Bickel, Briggs, Gunderson, Landry, Meier and Stanton and 90 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 November 18th and January 20th, the following recording projects were completed:

1 magazine issue - **Montana The Magazine of Western History** and **Montana Outdoors**.

5 books -- **Last Tango in Melrose, Montana: The Writings of Dan Vichorek** by Dan Vichorek; **Treehouse Perspectives: Living High on Little** by Christina L. and Kirby G. Salisburg; **Cowboy Girl: The Life of Caroline Lockhart** by John Clayton; **Buffalo Calf Road Woman: The Story of a Warrior of the Little Big Horn** by Rosemary Agonito and Joseph Agonito; **Pioneer Days in Montana** by B.C. Stork.

Special Project: Recorded "Stress and Recovery Pamphlet" for Montana Chemical Dependency Center in Butte.

1,021 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 new patrons registered for MTBL services for this time period.

18,680 audio books circulated to patrons. **18,305 returned audio books** were inspected and processed by staff and volunteers, **totaling 55,750 audio books processed** during this time period.

In addition, BARD downloads by patron individuals and institutions **totaled 1,936** for this reporting time period, **compared to the December, 2011, reporting time period of 2,916.**

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

All MTBL employees participated in the Statewide Library Resources division retreat in Helena on Dec. 5th, sharing and gaining valuable information on programs and employee responsibilities in all departments.

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

As part of MTBL's "BARD-DOD (Digital Duplication on Demand) system", we are collaborating with the National Library Services Automation Officer to beta-test a "BARD r-sync project". MTBL will have direct access to already downloaded BARD books for our "BARD-DOD" system. An external hard drive unit was installed in January. This project is specifically designed to duplicate BARD digital books for patrons who do not download.

Employees currently have to manually download and then duplicate BARD digital books for non-downloading patrons. The "BARD r-sync project" is intended to support the BARD DOD system and is anticipated to significantly decrease time spent downloading BARD digital books for duplication, thereby increasing efficiency.

One new volunteer signed up with MTBL: Kenny Moore (Circulation/Equipment).

MTBL partnered with Experience Works to train an individual in various support services of the Library.

One staff and two volunteers made a Braille presentation at Central Elementary School, Helena on November 15th to 50 kindergarten students and their teachers.

The MTBL Supervisor, along with Diana Norton, volunteer, and Debbie Hanson, patron, and her guide dog, Bentley, were guests on "Aging Horizons", a televised program for Senior Montana residents, offering information about the Talking Book Program. This aired on TV from December 26th through Jan. 3rd.

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.*

MTBL is in the process of restructuring our catalog subject coding system in our KLAS (Keystone Library Automated System) database in order to better provide patrons with more accurate and efficient search capabilities.

The 2011 Patron Survey results are attached to this report.