

Trustee Clinics – Spring 2012

Summary: The NAC recommended and State Library Commission approved the use of fy2011 funding to be used for trustee training. Training and networking with peers helps create strong trustees who understand their role in the library and community. This is wonderful, because strong trustees are an important part of a healthy and vibrant library that serves its community in the best way that it can.

Here is a description of the clinics that we are offering along with their locations.

Spring Trustee Clinics on Library Finances

Montana State Library is trying something new in 2012, based on what we heard from library trustees around the state. We'll host clinics for trustees at five locations during April-June: Library Finances -- Funding, Sources, Accounting Reports, and What It All Means. Tracy Cook, MSL consultant, will be the lead presenter and she'll be joined at each clinic by Department of Administration accountants with financial expertise and experience. They'll be sharing information about funding and revenue sources available to libraries and how these work; budget laws that impact the library including Title 7 of the MCA, Governmental Accounting Standards; BARS (Baseline Accounting and Reporting System) and how to read the reports the city or county sends to the library; Library Depreciation Funds and how these benefit the library; and some quick and easy budgeting tips.

Spring is a busy library time, but we've tried to plan the clinics around other library conferences and spring federation meetings. Clinics are scheduled 9:30-3:00 at each location:

Kalispell -- Thursday, April 26 – Museum at Central School
Butte -- Saturday, April 28th -- Butte Silver Bow Public Library
Glendive, Thursday, May 10th -- Glendive Public Library
Billings -- Saturday, May 12th -- Parmly Billings Library
Lewistown -- Thursday, May 24th -- Lewistown Public Library
Havre -- Saturday, June 2nd -- Havre Hill County Library

Please share the clinic schedule with all of your library's trustees. As always, registration is free and lunch will be provided. Registration will begin in March.