

## **Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)** **November 23, 2012 – January 25, 2013**

Prepared for the February 13, 2013, Commission meeting by  
Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of MTBL  
staff: Briggs, Gunderson, Landry, Meier, Stanton, Harris and 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.*

- The following recording projects were completed during this reporting period:  
2 books - **Adventures in Yellowstone: Early Travelers Tell Their Tales** by M. Mark Miller. 272 pages. **Women and Warriors of the Plains: The Pioneer Photography of Julia E. Tuell** by Dan Aadland. 182 pages.
- 10 digital books are in process.
- Added 1,096 new digital titles to the Talking Book Library in-house collection. The MTBL-BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) website now contains 32,247 digital titles, including 98 monthly magazine issues in digital audio and Braille.
- The MTBL-BARD upgrade to include Web-Braille was successfully accomplished by the National Library Service (NLS). Further improvements are planned throughout 2013.
- An additional 12,013 cassette book copies were processed for recycling by Carolyn Meier and volunteers.

**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.*

- Newly registered patrons from mid-Nov., Dec., and through Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> totaled 88. MTBL-BARD interlibrary loans to non-BARD patrons totaled 65 by Sandra Stanton.
- Circulated materials (via USPS) by Carolyn Meier and volunteers for mid-Nov., Dec. and through Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> totaled 38,623. An additional 2,830 MTBL-BARD books, magazines, foreign and music materials in audio and Braille were downloaded by patrons and institutions between November and December.

**Goal Three – Training-** *MSL provides libraries, agencies, its partners and Montanans with appropriate trainings and training resources so that they can make the best use of the resources offered.*

- MTBL-BARD training was provided to 14 new BARD patrons and 3 Institutions in Dec. & Jan.

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

- Two staff members and two volunteers demonstrated reading and learning Braille to 42 kindergarten students and 3 teachers at Central Elementary School. Each student and teacher received a name tag with their name in Braille.

A new feature of the MTBL-BARD website is a monthly report on the most popular book and magazine downloads. This new tool assists Readers' Advisors with assisting patrons with reading choices.

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

- One new volunteer signed up with MTBL and was trained by Diane Gunderson: Helen Baker (Circulation).
- The MTBL Taskforce of the 2013 Patron Outreach Project collaborated with Wendt, Inc. in Nov., Dec., and Jan.

-“No Story Should Go Untold” was chosen as the preferred theme for the Talking Book Library.

-Three newspaper ads and photos were approved with the “No Story should Go Untold” theme placed on the spine of rare books with the new digital player leaning against them.

-Two radio and one TV spot focusing on patrons and volunteers are currently being reviewed.

-The MTBL brochure is being redesigned and currently reviewed by the MTBL Taskforce.

-Preparations for the March 20<sup>th</sup> MTBL Open House at MSL are in process. This will celebrate "Talking Book Library Month" and launch the "First-digital-born" Montana recording "Hand Raised: Barns of Montana", in collaboration with the Montana Historical Society Press.

- Three MTBL staff members contributed expertise and time to the Legislative Library event and shared information about MSL and MTBL with legislative attendees.

**Goal Six— 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's in-depth portion of the Montana's LSTA State Program Report for the 2011 grant award was completed and the entire report for MSL was submitted to IMLS.

- All MTBL staff attended an online webinar on the latest Keystone Library Automated System upgrade. New database capabilities include Electronic Transfer of patron data to other Talking Book Libraries in the U.S.; New Patron Contact and Address design; New Reporting tool for Xcessing records from the collection to NLS.
- Erin Harris has received training in WordPress web design and launched MTBL's Facebook account in January. Erin has been appointed MTBL's Social Media representative.