

MLN Report January 2001

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Welcome Mike Price!

MLN's big news is that Mike Price is on board and doing great work. He is an amazingly fast learner and is picking up a healthy balanced dose of specialized application software skills, and library expertise.

In the short time he's been part of the team, he has begun to update libraries' authentication and interlibrary loan profiles on the MLN Gateway, and he has been working hard on publishing the Montana Library Directory on the web (see below). I am enjoying working with Mike. He will be traveling to OCLC SiteSearch training early in February.

Montana WorldCat Usage

MLN WorldCat Usage Report, December - August 2000

	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug
. Authorizations	1	1	1	1	1
. Sessions	356	537	665	513	340
. Session Turnaways	0	0	0	0	0
. % Session Turnaways	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
. Searches	900	1305	1830	1381	1484
. Documents Ordered	0	0	0	0	0
. Port Limit	10	10	10	10	Unlimited
. Avg Ports	1.76	1.46	2.27	2.87	6.04
. Max Ports	10	4	10	10	37
. Port Capacity 0 - 25%	87.36	91.99	67.52	52.24	100.00
. Port Capacity 26 - 50%	8.43	8.01	28.27	37.43	0.00
. Port Capacity 51 - 75%	1.40	0.00	2.41	6.63	0.00
. Port Capacity 76 - 99%	1.69	0.00	1.05	3.12	0.00
. Port Capacity 100%	1.12	0.00	0.75	0.58	0.00

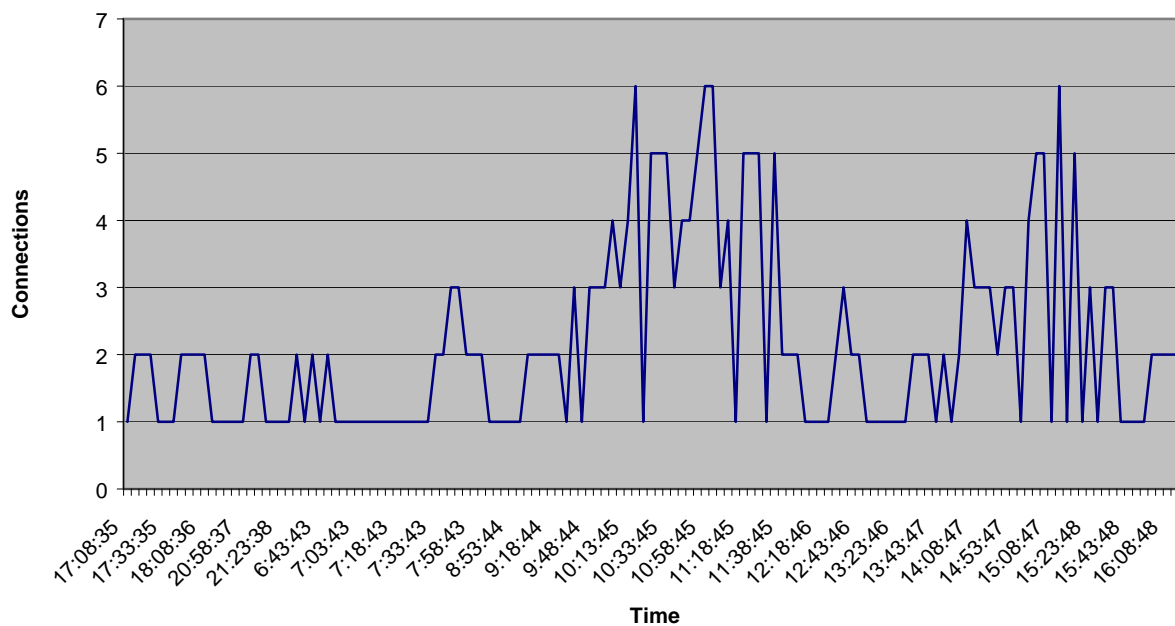
From this report I see that we are using this resource a little more than we were previously, but that even though we have bumped up against our site license limit of ten, we have never had to turn anyone away. We don't want to turn anyone away, to ensure this I anticipate increasing our license from ten to twenty simultaneous users sometime in the next three months; there is money earmarked for this in the MLN budget.

MLN Gateway Usage Report

The next page includes a chart showing use patterns on the MLN Gateway/SiteSearch server over 24 hours, roughly from 5:00 p.m. January 23, 2001, to 4:00 p.m. January 24, 2001. The data has been trimmed to eliminate all the quiet times, that is, there had to be at least one user for the data to register. This is just a snapshot of one day's usage.

We really don't fully understand, yet, how to extract meaningful and representative data from this server. This will come with Mike's February training and with time. There is a great deal of logging data generated, the problem is extracting it and presenting it in a fashion that yields useful information. So, give us time, we'll figure it out. What I can say that for this period we had users, most of the use was in during working hours, and that we never exceeded the maximum ten user limit.

MLN Usage - 1/23-24/2001



Recent Projects

1. We have been working with Western Montana libraries toward building or expanding several shared catalogs.
 - a. Bozeman Public Library will be adding Three Forks, and upgrading their data communications infrastructure to improve service to Belgrade and West Yellowstone.
 - b. Lewis & Clark Library is working with the Boulder and Whitehall public libraries (Jefferson County Library System) to share L&C's GEAC online catalog.
 - c. A number of other western libraries have expressed interest in either immediately or in the future joining a shared catalog (to be located in Helena, or perhaps elsewhere). Interested libraries include: Anaconda Public, Bitterroot Public, *Bozeman (host), Dillon Public, DNRC Water Resources, Flathead Valley CC, Kalispell Regional Hosp, Leg Ref Center (future), *Missoula Public (host), *Montana State Library (host), MT Dept of Transportation, MT Historical Society, Plains Public, Polson Public, St. Ignatius School Public, Thompson Falls Public, Thompson Falls Schools, and Warm Springs Hospital.
 - d. Two working groups will share the task of managing this project: an Oversight Committee and a Request for Proposal work group. Both groups reporting to State Librarian through the Networking Task Force. The composition of groups is being finalized as I write this report.
 - e. To assist in purchasing a large shared catalog system, we have contracted with Nicholas Vrooman to draft grant requests to be submitted to private

foundations. We anticipate that he will have requests drafted and ready to submit to foundations mid-February.

2. The Highline shared catalog project is moving along nicely. John Finn has graciously consented to work with Bonnie Williamson of the Havre-Hill Library through March, when we expect most of the work will be done.
3. Mike Price has been working with Duane Anderson, of NRIS, and Diane Gunderson, of Library Development, and is just now ready to publish the year 2000 Montana Library Directory on the web. This project is proceeding in three initial phases—
 - a. First Mike will publish the existing directory online, complete with staff contact information. Librarians and library users will be able to search for libraries by the town in which they are located.
 - b. Next Mike is going to make it possible for libraries to gain access to these records using a unique password, and update aged information describing their library. This will replace the manual method we've used for these many years to keep the MLD current. We hope to have the Directory updateable by mid-March.
 - c. Finally, Mike will add a number of search options to the Directory so that we can identify, for example, all the public libraries in Tamarack Federation with web pages.
4. During December Suzanne Reymer, John Finn, Kris Larson, Mike Carroll, Mike Price, Bob Cooper, Diane Gunderson, and myself, spent considerable time getting the Have Laptop Will Travel Lab ready for use.
 - a. By pulling together laptops from NRIS and Library Development, and by adding ten laptops from end-of-the-year MLN moneys last year, we now have a working laptop lab with thirty workstations.
 - b. We learned last year as part of the OCLC training that thirty is about the number we need to do training.
 - c. All the workstations have the same operating system and application software. A projector and printer are available to augment the lab, which can be used in units of 6-6-8-5-5 or all together as one. This is going to be a tremendous help for training.
5. I am working to finalize a statewide OCLC contract. Paul Cappuzzello, of OCLC, is our contact person. We are negotiating directly with OCLC-Dublin, but we're copying OCLC-Western (Lacey) and the Bibliographic Center for Research (BCR) with all of our correspondence. We are proceeding as if we are all partners in this endeavor. I hope to have a preliminary agreement outlined, ready for Networking Task Force approval, by February 9, 2001.
6. I am creating a MLN training calendar that will extend to January 2002. It should be ready for your next Commission meeting.