

**Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)**  
**September 16, 2009 through November 13, 2009**

Prepared for December 2, 2009 Commission meeting by Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of Briggs, Gunderson, Madison, Meier, and Stanton, as well as 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.*

September 16-November 13, ten books and two issues of *The Montana Magazine of Western History* and two issues of the *Montana Outdoors Magazine* were completed at both MTBL recording studios: *Butte Trivia* by George Everett; *Montana Skies: The Legacy of Faith and Love Continues in Four Complete Novels* by Ann Bell; *Montana On Fire* by Michael Moore; *Mysteries & Legends: True Stories of the Unexplained* by Edward Lawrence; *Incidents In Montana Old Vintage* by William J. Stratton; *Writers under the Rims* by Sue Hart, Donna Davis, Ken Egan Jr. and Joyce Jonson; *The Clown* by Barbara Corcoran; *The Irish General Thomas Francis Meagher* by Paul R. Wylie; *Searching for Yellowstone* by Paul Schullery and *Fire and Brimstone* by Michael Punke.

In October a staff member and a volunteer did a Twin Vision Braille demonstration for a class at the UM School of Technology in Helena.

In October the Recording Program Director and a staff member made a visit to the Deer Lodge Recording Studio and Library.

Montana Author, Jim Medicine Tree continues to record his book "*The Way of the Scared Pipe*".

**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.*

- The plan for distribution of NLS digital players and books has been moved up to November, starting with patrons who have served in the Military and Centenarians. Additional temporary assistance was approved for this change. The first Montana Veteran was presented with a digital player and book on November 9<sup>th</sup> by the Supervisor, Machine Lending Agent and Fort Harrison's VA Visual Impaired Services Team and Acting Director of Healthcare Systems.
- Plans are shaping up for further digital player and book distribution with presentations to Veterans and Centenarians in Anaconda, Great Falls and Choteau in November.

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

- In October, one staff attended the Montana Association for the Blind Convention held at Fairmont Hot Springs and participated in a panel on children's reading programs.

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

- In October, the supervisor and one staff partnered with the Fort Harrison Visual Impaired Services Team in conducting a low vision clinic for Veterans as well as promote White Cane Awareness Day.

**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.*

- To encourage independence for patrons and sustain ongoing access to our collection, 154 patrons used the online WebOpac to search for and order over 768 books over the past six months. There were no breaks in patron access to WebOpac during this time period since implementation of website improvements.
- In November, the Klas Version 7 database was upgraded offering new features and ease of use.