

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) September 21, 2013 – November 20, 2013

Prepared for the December 11, 2013, Commission meeting by
Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of MTBL
staff: Briggs, Gunderson, Landry, Meier, Stanton, Harris, Crepeau 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.*

- NEW Montana Digital Book (MDB) titles – Completed and out to patrons: *Bushwack* by Richard S. Wheeler; *Goodbye Wives and Daughters* by Susan Kushner Resnick; *600 Hours of Edward* by Craig Lancaster; *Photographs From Eaden: A Montana Story* by Brad Bergum and *Beneath the Blue Mountain* by Richard S. Wheeler.
- NEW MDB's currently in Review process:; *More Montana Moments* by Ellen Baumler; *Montana Curiosities: Quirky Characters, Roadside Oddities & Other Offbeat Stuff* by Ednor Therriault; *Goosetown in Their Own Words, 1900-1945: An Oral History of Anaconda's Ethnic, Working-Class Neighborhood* by Alice Finnegan; *This is Not the Ivy League: A Memoir* by Mary Clearman Blew; *Ride the Jawbone* by Jim Moore and *Hostiles? The Lakota Ghost Dance and Buffalo Bill's Wild West* by Sam A. Maddra.
- The Digitization of retrospective Montana Cassette Books began July 1st. To date, a total of 71 have been completed and made available to patrons.
- Started recording *Montana Stirrups, Sage and Shenanigans: Western Ranch Life in a Forgotten Era* by Francie Brink Berg, Anne Brink Sallgren Krickel and Jeanie Brink Thiessen with author Anne Krickel.

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 Patron Outreach Project (POP) Progress: Sponsorship packets are being developed for distribution as the last step in the project.
- Circulation: (Sep-Oct) - USPS: 20,924; Downloaded (BARD): 3156. Total BARD patrons and institutions: 219.
- Interlibrary loans: Sept-Oct: 112 BARD digital books loaned to non-BARD Montana patrons.
- New Patrons: (Sept-Nov 20): 91.

- The BARDMobile app is now available to patrons, giving direct access to BARD from their iPad, iPod and iPhone devices. New mobile devices signed up: Sept-Oct. - 24

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 12 new BARD patrons & institutions in Sept-Oct.

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

- Outreach Materials delivered and updates sent to: Brain Injury Alliance Conference- Billings- Oct. 11th & 12th; Montana Association for the Blind- Bozeman-October 21st; National Federation of the Blind-MT- Billings- Oct. 26th.

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

- Sept-Nov: Volunteers who signed up at MSL – Marie Wattnem (craft projects) and Lauren Blunn (youth volunteer, special projects).

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.*

- October 10th- MTBL staff hosted the **2013 MSL Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**, under the direction of Diane Gunderson, Coordinator of Volunteers, in recognizing our 90 volunteers. Held at the SS. Cyril & Methodius Church Social Center in East Helena, this years' theme was "**Volunteers Deal A Great Hand**" included colorful table decorations of playing cards and card suits. **Key Note Speaker** was James Daily, a patron of the MTBL since 1995 and a volunteer of MTBL since 2008. Jim shared his experience with MTBL services and volunteering using his own deck of cards.

Each volunteer was presented with gifts and awards to match the theme.

Recognition for devoted volunteer service to MTBL included: **Youth Volunteers:** Aariah, Dominic, and Jordan Danzer; Derek and Olivia Martinez; Alexis, CJ, Michael, and Ricky Meier; Dylan Brown; Mike and Peter Lashinski; and Kirsten Marble.

Special Appreciation Award: Joyce Saunders. **Telecom Pioneers and Machine Repair Volunteers:** Frank and Chuck Flynn, Tom Tompkins, Gloria Purcell, and Jim Brown. **Recording Team of the Year Award:** Ed Canty (Reader), Darlene Lloyd (Monitor) and Giles Walker (Reviewer). **Longevity Awards:** 5 years: Karla Berg, Chuck Flynn and Mary Ann Vanstrydonck; 10 years: Ed Canty; 15 years: Vernie Kralicek and Jim Meier; 20 years: Barbara Harris, Myrle Tompkins and Cylene Wood.

A cake (decorated according to the theme) was provided for the 5th year in a row by The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). There were 82 total participants. Guests included: Commissioner in attendance-Colet Bartow, MSL Commissioner and Library Media Curriculum Specialist with the Office of Public Instruction. Other invited guests included: Adina Fushs and Nancy Hanford, General Federation of Women's Clubs of Montana; Pamela Miller, Experience Works Participant Assistant; Ona Lepard, Montana Career Development Services a Division of Helena Industries and Margaret Smith, President CenturyLink Pioneers.

- On September 30 the MTBL Team, Carolyn Meier, Diane Gunderson, Sandra Stanton, Martin Landry and Erin Harris received the Governor's Award of Excellence for Team accomplishments in MTBL.
- Sandra Stanton, Readers' Advisor for nearly 8 years, retired Oct. 18th. Sandy came to MTBL with a Masters' in Education from Xavier University. She retired as an elementary school principal, worked five years at a public library and before moving to Montana. Sandy gave excellent pro-active patron service and made sure all patrons were satisfied readers. She was editor of the "Bits of Gold" newsletter. Sandy was greatly appreciated for her knowledge, skills and her humble service to others.
- MTBL is pleased to announce that Jacque Crepeau was hired as a new Readers' Advisor on Nov. 4th. Jacque has a Bachelor's in history from the University of Portland and received her teaching credentials from the University of Montana and Eastern Oregon University. She was a middle and high school librarian for eleven years in Pendleton, Oregon, before returning to Montana to teach in Townsend. Jacque grew up in Arlee. We welcome her to our team.