

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)

June 13, 2010 – September 18, 2012

Prepared for the October 10, 2012, Commission meeting by

Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian. This report represents accomplishments of MTBL staff: Briggs, Gunderson, Landry, Meier, Stanton, Bickel and nearly 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:

1 magazine issue each of-- **Montana The Magazine of Western History** and **Montana Outdoors**.

7 books -- **The Vengeful Wife and Other Blackfoot Stories** by Hugh A. Dempsey; **Beaver Steals Fire: A Salish Coyote Story** by Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes; **Murder on Angler's Island** by Helen Reilly; **Witness to History: The Remarkable Untold Story of Virginia City & Nevada City, Montana and How They Came to be Restored and Saved for Generations** by John D. Ellingsen; **The Apothecary** by Maile Meloy; **Hard Way Home: A WWII Flyer's Personal Story** by Col. Wayne Eveland & Nicole Eveland Keller; and **Lady Blackrobes: Missionaries in the Heart of Indian Country** by Irene Mahoney.

A total of 1, 426 book pages were recorded in the MTBL Recording Program.

Special Project: Recorded **Voter's Information Pamphlet** for the Secretary of State's Office. Secretary of State Linda McCulloch recorded her voter's letter for the pamphlet and will post the MTBL recording of the VIP on the SOS website for the benefit of all Montanans.

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.*

During this time period:

Ninety-four new patrons were registered for MTBL services; 55 interlibrary loans were processed for both Montana and out of state patrons by Sandra Stanton.

A total of 70,028 audio books and materials were circulated. This included 69,975 audio books and materials via USPS by Carolyn Meier and volunteers, 155 magazine issues and 280 duplicated digital BARD books for non-BARD patrons. An additional 5,316 BARD books and magazines were downloaded by patrons and institutions between May and August. MTBL monitors all downloads by patrons and institutions and stores the title information in each patron's "has-read" data.

Over 9,000 more cassette book copies were processed for recycling by Carolyn Meier and volunteers.

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.*

The August Talking Book Library “Book-Break” Webinar for Readers’ Advisors, entitled “Young Adult Trends in Reading”, was presented by Jill Garcia, the Senior Selection Librarian for the NLS Young Adult and Children’s Collections. This was attended by Readers’ Advisors Sandy Stanton and Martin Landry and Supervisor Christie Briggs.

In August, Carolyn Meier and Martin Landry trained two key circulation volunteers to process patron requests for “digital duplication on demand” for non-BARD patrons.

On September 17th, Martin Landry attended the “Serving Every Patron Well” session at the Fall Workshop in Billings.

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

In June, Christie Briggs, Sandy Stanton, Martin Landry and Claudia Bickel presented MTBL information to students attending the Montana Association for the Blind’s Summer Orientation Program.

In June, all MTBL staff instructed Montana Activity Directors representing Montana Assisted, Independent Living and Nursing home facilities on MTBL digital services.

At the September Fall Workshop in Billings, Martin Landry was a participant representing MTBL Services on the “Assistive Technology” panel.

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

In September, Christie Briggs established a two year partnership with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs in Montana (GFWC Montana) to develop a project to benefit the MTBL Recording Program.

Four new volunteers signed up with MTBL and are being trained by Diane Gunderson: Del Harris (Clerical), Robin Sampson (Special Projects), Jim Nickel (Monitor), and Mike Evans (Reader).

During this time period, Diane Gunderson partnered with Career Training Institute’s (CTI) Young Adult Program to train three individuals; with Experience Works to train one individual; with Director Micky Brown from Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) to promote volunteer opportunities at MTBL.

In July, an Internal Machine Audit of 200 random patrons was started in July, to be completed in October, by Acting Machine Lending Agent, Diane Gunderson and volunteers.

In September, Diane Gunderson directed volunteers and trainees to complete a digital machine and magazine subscription reconciliation report for NLS.

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.*

The Keystone database restructure and clean-up was completed in August. The final cost was \$1,500 versus the original quote and Trust Fund approved amount of \$4,500. This was due to extensive work on this project being done by MTBL staff members, led by Martin Landry, on our preferred subject code restructuring and preparation for Keystone's implementation.

The third annual MTBL employee appreciation event and luncheon was held in Helena on September 7, 2012. Christie Briggs thanked MTBL employees for their hard work and acknowledged both their individual and team accomplishments.

Erin Harris, a new Readers' Advisor and Machine Lending Agent, started orientation and training on September 10th.