The big news out of MPLA is that the Leadership Institute is going to go forward, in a new location but with chiefly the same content. It will be held April 25-30, 2010 at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. Maureen Sullivan continues as the facilitator and great mentors from around the region have agreed to assist her in this wonderful learning opportunity.

Applications are due to MPLA Executive Secretary Judy Zelenski no later than December 1, 2009. Notification of selection will be made February 1, 2010. For Wyoming, in addition to candidate selection, there will need to be additional discussion on how to allocate the funds available in the Debbie Iverson Scholarship Fund. More information about the selection process will be available in a few weeks.

To date MPLA has not obtained sponsors for the Leadership Institute and if sponsorship is not obtained, MPLA does have enough in reserve to cover the costs. The move to Estes Park YMCA will significantly reduce overhead, and will hopefully allow the institute to continue on an alternate year cycle. At some point sponsorship must be obtained or the fee will need to be increased to cover all costs.

The joint conference will the Oklahoma Library Association will be held 19 - 21 April 2010 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Due to low submissions in programs for school and public libraries they have extended the proposal submission deadline to October 10, 2009.

Upcoming conferences include:

- 2011 Montana (Billings) - Joint with MLA
- 2012 (Fall) Omaha, Nebraska - Joint with NLA/NEMA
- 2013 (Fall) Sioux Falls, South Dakota - Joint with SDLA and NDLA
- 2014 (Fall) Arizona - Joint with AzLA

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah McCarthy
MPLA Representative