

Mid-Michigan Library League

Weekly Update

April 23, 2008



State Aid Proposal:

As all of you know, Nancy Robertson, State Librarian, proposed a new funding model for State Aid to libraries which eliminated direct funding for cooperatives and allowed some money to be used for Library of Michigan sponsored statewide programs. She posted the plan for comment on her blog. Following the discussion/blog period she had hopes of introducing the plan the Legislature this spring/summer. She received (79+) comments on her blog as well as many letter and emails. She was contacted by legislators who had heard from libraries and patrons. With so many libraries voicing their opinions on the plan and contacting their legislators, the **Library of Michigan Funding Model for State Aid will not be moving forward**. At the Cooperative Directors meeting last Friday, April 18th, Nancy said that she is “handcuffed at the moment” on the proposal and that she will not be proceeding with introducing even a modified proposal to the State Legislators.

At some point in the future, when things settle down, she may develop another plan. This means that for the rest of this year and probably next year, the state aid formula will not be changing. So, unless legislators decide to cut the amount of State Aid allocated for next year, MMLL will be able to maintain operations in the same manner as this year.

This is a prime example of the grassroots democratic process in action. This shows that by voicing our opinions on what libraries need, we can make a difference. We thank each of you who have spent time discussing, writing, and sharing your thoughts and concerns about the proposed plan.

Workshop Coupons:

For the last two years, MMLL has been sending out workshop coupons to our members to help with the cost of attending workshops. Last year's coupons have expired. New workshop coupons have been mailed out and will be valid until April 1, 2009.

Universal Access to Human Knowledge:

From: *Woodlands News Notes*, April 2008.

“An online source of digital treasures is available at <http://www.archive.org> It contains archives of various web pages, moving images, live music archive, audio and texts.

Libraries exist to preserve society's cultural artifacts and to provide access to them. If libraries are to continue to foster education and scholarship in this era of digital technology, it's essential for them to extend those functions into the digital world.

The library of Alexandria – an ancient center of learning containing a copy of every book in the world – was eventually burned to the ground. Even now, at the turn of the 21st century, no comprehensive archives of television or radio programs exist.

But without cultural artifacts, civilization has no memory and no mechanism to learn from its successes and failures. A paradoxically, with the explosion of the Internet, we live in what Danny Hillis has referred to as our “digital dark age”.

The Internet Archive is working to prevent the Internet – a new medium with major historical significance – and other “born-digital” materials from disappearing into the past. Collaborating with institutions including the Library of Congress and Smithsonian, we are working to preserve a record for generations to come.”

Member Library News:

The Cadillac Wexford Public Library – The library was featured in a newspaper article about Book clubs. The story includes information on various types of book clubs and why book clubs are of interest:

http://www.cadillacnews.com/story_news/?story_id=265786&year=2008

The McBain Community Library – The library is planning their Summer Reading Program events. To read all of the details visit:

http://www.cadillacnews.com/story_news/?story_id=264564&year=2008

Kalkaska library – The Friends of the Kalkaska County Library is having a Used Book Sale on May 17th from 9 am to 3pm at the Kalkaska Senior Center, 303 South Coral Street, Kalkaska. Call Ellen Vonalt (President of the Friends) at 587-1134 for more information.

Library Cards:

We are preparing to place an order of generic library cards for our members. Before we place the order, we need some specifics. Please let us know how many library cards you would like to purchase. The price for plastic cards varies depending on the quantity ordered. For the minimum quantity, the price is 20 cents per card.

We are working on a design for the card. The design would include a space on the front of the card large enough for an address label with library information and a graphic as well as room for a barcode.

Summer Reading Program calendar:

As you plan your Summer Reading Program events, please send us your information by filling out the form on our website:

<http://www.mml.org/summerreadingprogramaddevent.htm>

Your information will be added to the Statewide Summer Reading Program Calendar. Libraries can use the calendar to coordinate performances with other libraries in their area in an attempt to keep the costs to a minimum.

To view the calendar go to: http://www.wplc.org/coop_events.cfm

Dora to Help Libraries Celebrate Dia:

Libraries across the country will join Dora the Explorer, ALA’s Association for Library Services to Children, and the ALA affiliate Reforma in celebrating El dia, on April 30. (Children’s Day/Book Day)

Dia celebrates the importance of advocating literacy for every child, regardless of

linguistic and cultural background. Dora the Explorer, the children's television character who invites children to share her adventures in learning, is featured in the 2008 Dia brochure, poster, and bookmark.

For a brochure featuring multicultural books lists and tips on how to encourage children to read, visit <http://www.ala.org/dia>. Libraries that register their Dia events through the website will receive copies of the complimentary brochure, while supplies last. In addition, posters and bookmarks can be purchased from ALA graphics at <http://www.alastore.ala.org>

Source: *American Libraries*, April 2008, p. 14

MMLL Schedule and Upcoming Events:

May 2, 2008: Marketing Workshop: 9:30 – 12:30

Presenter: Pamela Christensen, Peter White Public Library

Location: Cadillac-Wexford County Public Library

.3 CEUs

Cost: MMLL Member: \$20.00 per person Non-Member: \$30.00 per person

Registration: <http://www.mml.org/Workshopsandevents.htm>

Current Number registered: 7

May 5, 2008: Invisible User workshop: 9:30 – 12:30

Presenter: Judith J. Field, Senior Lecturer, Wayne State University

Location: Traverse Area District Library

.3 CEUs

Cost: MMLL Member: \$20.00 per person Non-Member: \$30.00 per person

Registration: <http://www.mml.org/Workshopsandevents.htm>

Current Number registered: 11

May 8, 2008: Advisory Council Meeting: 10:00

Location: Cadillac Wexford County Public Library

May 8, 2008: Internet Genealogy: 1:00 – 4:00

Presenter: Linda Koch, Allegan Public Library

Location: Cadillac Wexford County Public Library

.3 CEUs

Cost: MMLL Member: \$20.00 per person Non-Member: \$30.00 per person

Registration: <http://www.mml.org/Workshopsandevents.htm>

Current Number registered: 11

May 19-20: New Directors Workshop (sponsored by Library of Michigan)

Location: North Central Michigan College

Registration: Closed

May 22: MMLL Board of Trustees Meeting: 10:00

Location: Mid-Michigan Library League

May 20-22: Beginning Workshop (sponsored by Library of Michigan)

Location: North Central Michigan College

Registration: http://michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668-142368--,00.html

June 4, 2008: MeL Cat preparation session: 9:30-12:00

Presenter: Anne Donohue, Michigan Library consortium
Location: Cadillac-Wexford County Public Library
Cost: free
Current Number registered: 4

June 12, 2008: Measuring Your Impact workshop: 10:00 – 5:00

Sponsored by Western Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/Greater Midwest Region (NNLM/GMR)
Location: Traverse Area District Library
Cost: FREE
Registration: Chris Allen, 231- 935-9265 or callen@mhc.net
Flyer: <http://www.mml.org/workshops/measuringyourimpact.pdf>

Black Belt Librarian: October 7, 2008: 9:00 – 4:00

Presenter: Warren Graham, nationally renowned security, safety and customer service consultant recognized for his unique approach to personal and professional safety.
Location: Traverse Area District Library
.6 CEUs
Cost: MMLL Member: \$25.00 per person Non-Member: \$35.00 per person
Registration: Coming soon