

**Mid-Michigan Library League  
Director's Report  
August 2023**



**Administrative:**

FY23 Board members, groups they represent, year term ends:

- Group 1 – Cindi Place (23)
- Group 2 – Amanda McClaren (26)
- Group 3 – Tracy Logan-Walker (23) - **Secretary**
- Group 4 – Diane Eisenga (25) - **Chair**
- Group 5 – Eric Smith (24)
- Group 6 – Lois Langenburg (25) – **Vice-Chair**
- Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh (25) - **Treasurer**
- Group 8 – Sarah Welch (23)
- Group 9 – Justine Peterson (26)

**State Aid:**

- The cooperative received the final State Aid payment for the year, \$101,414.63
- We will be sending out invoices to the member libraries for their final payments as soon as we are told they have also been paid their final allotment for this year.

**Continuing Education:**

- **LOM – Library Law Office Hours with Clare Membiela** – Starting August 17 @ 3pm and occurring the Third Thursday of each month. [Registration](#) is required
- The Public Library Financial Management Cohort Application for 2023-2023 is open. Please [apply](#) by 8/24 soon for consideration.
- **LOM- New Financial management handouts are available -**  
<https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/libraries/admin/financlmngmnt>
  - [Internal Controls Information Sheet](#)
  - [Required Financial Policies for Local Governments](#)
  - [Financial Management Resources for Local Governments](#)

**Grants:**

- **SOM – Infrastructure Grants** – Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) and the Michigan Community Service Commission are offering infrastructure grants for community centers, capital projects, and certain other types of projects. Public libraries are among the entities that could be eligible for some of these grants.
- **MMLL Cooperative Services:**
- MMLL plans to renew Transparent Language Online (<https://www.mml.org/a/transparent-language-online>) for all members.
- Our agreement with Emergency Geek ends with the fiscal year. We are hoping to renew our annual agreement with “Emergency Geek” [Cory Walker](#). For information about the service, see <https://www.mml.org/a/tech-corner>.

- MMLL plans to continue the Legal Assistance program for 2024, hourly rates have increased from \$225 to \$245.
- MMLL does not plan to renew the Employee Assistance Plan agreement with Encompass, due to low usage coop-wide.

### **Mini-Grant Program:**

The FY23 Mini-Grant program will conclude shortly. All activities must be complete and all requests for reimbursement must be received by Thursday, **August 31, 2023** so that they may be paid out of FY23 funds. See <https://mml.ploud.net/a/grants>  
Information regarding the next round of mini-grants will be announced in September.

### **Member Libraries:**

- The White Pine District Library in Stanton will hold their Grand Re-opening/Ribbon Cutting for their new library August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.
- The Evert School Board honors longtime librarian Lilas VanScoyoc for 54 years of service. Congratulations Lilas! [https://www.bigrapidsnews.com/news/article/evart-school-board-honors-librarian-18150357.php?fbclid=IwAR2dxaJovBZzIHv0vZELvhI9sUsCGSawjHGDMYFS42OV10\\_TD8jyv0fmJnM](https://www.bigrapidsnews.com/news/article/evart-school-board-honors-librarian-18150357.php?fbclid=IwAR2dxaJovBZzIHv0vZELvhI9sUsCGSawjHGDMYFS42OV10_TD8jyv0fmJnM)
- The Glen Lake Library was included on the Michigan Bucket List of cool libraries to visit [https://www.ahealthiermichigan.org/2023/05/24/michigan-bucket-list-cool-libraries-to-visit/?fbclid=IwAR2vUI0O5Rzr-eKNq27pc6dQVNF6wt-j3XNu4dqOiwXrTU8dUM6tvH9\\_BT4](https://www.ahealthiermichigan.org/2023/05/24/michigan-bucket-list-cool-libraries-to-visit/?fbclid=IwAR2vUI0O5Rzr-eKNq27pc6dQVNF6wt-j3XNu4dqOiwXrTU8dUM6tvH9_BT4)
- The Bellaire Public Library was awarded 10K in grant accessibility funding from the American Library Association for the installation of automatic doors at the library.

### **In the News:**

- Hoopla and Overdrive/Libby now banned for those under 18 in Mississippi <https://bookriot.com/hoopla-overdrive-libby-now-banned-for-those-under-18-in-mississippi/?fbclid=IwAR0eNlxBlaiBLP3cmadCeVfaatZif-IPFvop3nwBRtNunkxg2pHLfKc-PAC>
- Great article on Detroit Public Library in the Freep. “A wealthy man asked me if libraries are still relevant and I told him that when you come upon a great deal of money, you don’t put it under your mattress or in a shoe box, you have someone manage the money for you. And librarians are some of the best information managers in the world, so libraries are relevant more than ever because this is a rich information society.” - Jo Anne Mondowney <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-is/2023/08/06/detroit-public-library-is-still-fully-equipped-for-the-information-age/70519726007/>

### **Travel/Meetings:**

- 5/12/23 – Boyne Mountain – MAP Material Pick Up
- 5/31/23 – Manistee County Library – Meeting with Interim Director, Julie Cirone
- 5/31/23 – Mason County Library, Ludington & Scottville Branches – Library Visit
- 6/12/23 – Leelanau Township Library – Presentation on Intellectual Freedom to Friends of Libraries
- 6/21/23 – Reed City District Library – Library Visit  
Evert Public Library – Library Visit

Barryton Public Library – Library Visit

- 6/22/23 – Wheatland Library (Remus) – Library Visit
- 6/26/23 – Richland Township Library (Vestaburg) – Library Visit
- 7/07/23 – Caberfae Peaks – Planning Meeting @ Annual Luncheon
- 7/20/23 – Mason County Library, Ludington Branch, Finance Committee Meeting  
Pentwater Township Library – Library Visit  
Hart Area Public Library – Library Visit

Jennifer Balcom  
MMLL Director