

# Mid-Michigan Library League

## Director's Report

### January 2018

#### Administrative:

- FY18 Board members, groups they represent, year term ends:
  - Group 1 – Mary Edens – 17 (will need to renew or replace)
  - Group 2 – Susan LaBelle – 20
  - Group 3 – Patti Colvin – 20 (renewed term)
  - Group 4 – Diane Eisenga – 19
  - Group 5 – Eric Smith – 18
  - Group 6 – Lois Langenburg – 19
  - Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh – 19
  - Group 8 – Chris Cook – 19
  - Group 9 – Jeanette Fleury – 19
- Health insurance – After putting all the quotes for policies side-by-side, we selected one for the MMLL director (small group of one). The offerings were limited and very expensive, and as it turns out, the selected policy does not cover a basic recurring need, so Weadock and Associates will be providing more options and we may change the coverage, but premiums will not be higher than the plan selected that began December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Old City Hall (OCH) building, in which we are renting our current office space, has been purchased by Robb Munger, an investor who has been buying other properties in downtown Cadillac. He intends to refurbish, build and develop in the area, and this is a good thing for our building. The rent and common area maintenance (CAM) payments we have been making will be averaged out for the year, so payments will be a consistent amount. This makes budgeting easier, as the CAM payments were up and down depending on the month. Mr. Munger will be making many welcome improvements to the building.
- About half of the membership is either in process or finished with their annual report for State Aid, but I will be reminding the others, as they are due February 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Trainings:

- Future FY18 webinars will include the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) and Internet security issues for public libraries. Watch the website and email for dates and registration information <http://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars>. Suggest topics you would like to see.
- This spring is the Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference, April 30 - May 2, 2018 at the Grand Traverse Resort. All are encouraged to attend! <http://michigan.gov/fyanconference>.

#### Initiatives:

- Mini Grant Program – there is a newly announced FY18 mini-grant program and documents are posted on the new website at <http://mml.ploud.net/a/grants>.
- The 18 maker kits and two 3D printers are available for loan! Go to <https://mml.libarika.com/> to request a loan. All kits go via RIDES delivery except for the two 3D printers, which I will drive to you!

#### New Services:

- We have a new website, using the LSTA subsidized “Ploud” system. It cuts our costs in half and gives us a more flexible and easy to maintain website. The main URL remains the same, mml.org, but it is a re-direct, so the specific URLs will include “ploud.net” where the site is hosted.

- RBdigital resources are up and running. Training, marketing resources, how to get statistics – all posted on the MMLL website at <http://mml.ploud.net/a/rbdigital-resources> and <http://mml.ploud.net/a/usage-statistics>.
- Also, the guidance on how member libraries can get their four hours of tech support is at the tech corner on the new website: <http://mml.ploud.net/a/tech-corner>

#### **Up North Digital:**

- There is now a Steering Committee for the Up North Digital Overdrive consortium comprised of two members from Northland Library Cooperative (Maureen Derenzy – Otsego and Val Meyerson – Petoskey) and two members from Mid-Michigan Library League (Stacy Pasche – Benzie Shores and Eric Smith – Mason Co). Roger Mendel (Northland director) and I are ex-officio members and charged with communications.
- The group is working hard to clarify various issues with the vendor and improve the service. So far, the group has been able to get the website (<https://upnorth.overdrive.com/>) updated to the new platform that provides more features, and is working on holds management to reduce the long waits for materials.
- Work in process includes refining the internal member understandings/agreements, and creating a policy/procedure document on collection development. Once this work is complete, other libraries from each cooperative will be given information on how to join, if they so desire.

#### **Member Libraries:**

- The new director at the Cadillac Wexford Public Library will be Denise McKernan. Her first day is January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Welcome, Denise!
- Sylvia Merz is officially retired from the Leland Township Public Library and Mark Morton is now director.
- We held a trustee training for the Reed City Area District Library on Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.
- If you would like me to plan a visit, whether I have been there already or not, please don't hesitate to ask! I am glad to attend a Board meeting, a fundraiser, or just come to talk with you about any issues you like. I can assist with Board training or strategic planning.
- If you have any questions or need for support in your transition to MeLCat, please let me know! We can get your questions answered and hopefully the resources you need.

#### **Travel/Meetings:**

- 11/10 – Ploud training at Cadillac Wexford Public Library
- 11/14 – Great Michigan Read meeting at Big Rapids Community Library
- 11/20 – Reception for new director Debra Greenacre at Manistee County Library
- 11/27 – Up North Digital steering committee meeting in Charlevoix
- 12/18 – Up North Digital steering committee meeting in Traverse City
- 12/20 – Visit with new director Sigrid Robertson at LeRoy Community Library
- 1/6 – Delivered Board training for the trustees of Reed City Area District Library

Respectfully Submitted,

~*Sheryl*

Sheryl L. Mase