

Mid-Michigan Library League

Director's Report

March 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 (*Vice Chair*)
 - Group 4 – Diane Eisenga – 19 (*Secretary*)
 - Group 5 – Eric Smith – 18 (*Chair*)
 - Group 6 – Lois Langenburg – 19
 - Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh – 19
 - Group 8 – Chris Cook – 19 (*Treasurer*)
 - Group 9 – Jeanette Fleury – 19
- Committees of the Board (Board Chair Eric Smith is ex-officio):
 - Finance – Chris Cook (Treasurer), Jeanette Fleury, Valerie Church-McHugh
 - Personnel – Diane Eisenga, Patti Colvin
- Joint committees:
 - Grants – Jeanette Fleury, Miriam Andrus (Ad Council Co-Chair, Big Rapids), Jennifer Thorson (Reed City)
 - eResources – Chris Cook, Eric Smith, Miriam Andrus, Stacy Pasche (Benzie Shores)
 - Maker Team – Patti Skinner (Ad Council Co-Chair, MCDL Scottville), Tracy Logan Walker (Cadillac), Alycia McKowen (Seville Twp)
 - Up North Digital Steering Committee – Eric Smith, Patti Skinner, Stacy Pasche, Val Meyerson, Maureen Derenzy, with co-op directors Roger Mendel and Sheryl Mase as ex-officio
- Health insurance – I had signed up for BCBSM but realized that certain coverage was not provided so I switched to BCN. The premium is \$742/month. The promise of a deal with the Michigan Library Association and National Insurance Services has not come to fruition.
- Our office rent is now stabilized for this calendar year at \$657.33/month. New building owner, Robb Munger, will be making building improvements and our lease will be honored at least through April of 2020. He will be giving us annual “common area maintenance” amounts that will be consistent for the year so there will no longer be an unknown amount each month.
- All MMLL member libraries submitted their State Aid annual reports by the February 1 deadline.

Webinars:

- The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) webinar was presented on February 22nd with 69 registered and 33 on the live webinar. Since it has been archived and posted at <http://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars>, there have been 28 views. The next webinar will be on Internet security issues for public libraries. Watch the website and email for upcoming webinars, and please suggest topics you would like to see. There are many archived webinars available.
- The Library of Michigan pays for us to have access to all of the webinars produced by WebJunction. The MMLL “News of Interest” newsletter highlights these and other continuing education you can do online. See <http://mml.ploud.net/news-events/news-of-interest-newsletter>.

Rural Libraries Conference:

- The Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference will be held April 30 - May 2, 2018 at the Grand Traverse Resort. All are encouraged to attend! <http://michigan.gov/fyanconference>.

- On Tuesday, May 1st, the sessions end at 4:15 and dinner is at 5:00. We have been given space to gather together as a cooperative during this time. Room: Mackinac BC. Join us!

Initiatives:

- Mini Grant Program – The FY18 program received 11 applications for a total of \$4,378. All applicants received funding! See <http://mml.ploud.net/a/grants>.
- There are 25 resources on our Librarika catalog that you can borrow and receive via RIDES delivery (hand delivered if you want a 3D printer). Did you know we have a light meter you can borrow? And an ALA dvd for making your own READ posters? All are available for loan at <https://mml.librarika.com/>. More information: <http://mml.ploud.net/a/maker-space-resources>.
- Since we have another year of support and were having to send the others back frequently, I was able to convince the vendor to replace our MakerBot Mini printers with MakerBot Mini+ machines. The Mini+ are a bit different, and improved. Consider introducing 3D printing to your community!

New Services:

- We have a new website, using the LSTA-subsidized “Ploud” system. The main URL remains the same, <http://mml.org>. It is a re-direct, so the specific URLs will include “ploud.net.”
- RBdigital resources have been up and running, but not all member libraries have caught on. Training, marketing resources, how to get statistics are all posted on the MMLL website at <http://mml.ploud.net/a/rbdigital-resources> and <http://mml.ploud.net/a/usage-statistics>.
- The “Emergency Geek” is under-utilized! If you need tech support, contact Cory Walker to set up an appointment! If you have used your hours and could benefit from more, contact me at MMLL. See <http://mml.ploud.net/a/tech-corner> for instructions

Member Libraries:

- Cadillac Wexford Public Library is still looking for a new director, as the individual recently hired decided she was not able to keep the position. Deadline for applications is March 26, 2018.
- McBain and Richfield Twp libraries are participating again in the Battle of the Books, with the final contest in Houghton Lake on Saturday, March 17th at 1:00 p.m.
- 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.
- Luther and LeRoy are in the next MeLCat implementation group. 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:

2/28 – Ludington for the MCDL Business after Hours

3/6 – Morley/Stanwood for the Advisory Council meeting at Walton Erickson

Respectfully Submitted,

~*Sheryl*

Sheryl L. Mase