



Michigan Cooperative Directors Association

Report for

Library of Michigan Board of Trustees

November 9, 2017

Michigan Library Cooperatives serve the needs of public libraries and many also serve multi-type libraries such as academic, school and special. The Cooperative Directors have submitted information for this report that reflects current achievements, ongoing planning, and future activities.

Detroit Public Library Cooperative – Jo Anne Mondowney, Director

- Staff Development Day: Health and wellness was the theme for the 2017 Staff Development Day held October 4, 2017. Peter Nielsen, fitness expert and life coach, provided an engaging keynote presentation about the “Dimensions of Wellness.” The 42 new employees hired since 2015, were introduced, and 31 employees who reached milestone service of 5 – 30 years, were recognized.
- Sunday Service: Sunday service was launched on October 8, 2017 at two branches, Wilder and Redford, and restored at Main Library, with special celebrations at each location. Special activities included children’s games, and arts and crafts for children and adults. Main Library welcomed Denene Millner, author of *Early Sunday Morning*. Refreshments were provided at each location. The public offered many positive comments about the return of Sunday hours. Allan Lengel of *Deadlinedetroit.com* wrote about Main Library, “For the first time in 36 years, the doors swung back open and folks of all ages filled the halls with life and joy.” Approximately 225 people attended the Wilder celebration, along with 200 at Redford, and 400 at Main Library. City Council President Brenda Jones sponsored a testimonial resolution recognizing the restoration and expansion of Sunday Service. Mayor Mike Duggan issued a proclamation declaring Sunday, October 8, 2017, “Sunday Family Funday,” in the City of Detroit. A successful comprehensive marketing campaign to educate and promote “Sunday Family Fundays” included digital video and online advertisements, neighborhood billboards near the Redford and Wilder branches and Main Library, and print and radio announcements. Major broadcast, newspaper and online media networks shared the information as well, including WDIV, the Michigan Chronicle, the Free Press and Deadline Detroit.
- DPL Newsletter: DPL published a newsletter that highlights library events through the end of the year. The newsletter was included in the October 4, 2017 issue of *The Michigan Chronicle* and was also distributed at all DPL locations. The newsletter will be published three times per year – Fall, Winter and Spring/Summer.
- Authors Visit DPL: On October 14, 2017, DPL hosted a visit by Ilyasah Shabazz, author of *X: A Novel*, the Michigan Humanities Council’s Great Michigan Read. Ms. Shabazz engaged the audience by discussing this fictionalized account of the early years of her father, Malcolm X. Jessamyn Stanley, author of *Every Body Yoga*, a celebration of yoga for people of all body types, was at Main Library on Sunday, October 22. Beverly Jenkins, winner of the 2017 Romance Writers of America Lifetime Achievement Award, will visit the Duffield Branch Library at 2 p.m., Saturday, November 4, 2017, to talk about her latest novel, *Chasing Down a Dream*.
- Book Lovers Buffet: DPL welcomed enthusiastic Detroit readers for the 2017 Book Lovers Buffet on Friday, October 20, 2017, an evening of book talks, music and refreshments. Five local book lovers “book talked” their favorite books and encouraged the audience to read their title. The audience

“voted” electronically and selected the title they would most likely read first. The number one book talker, Cheryl Wright-Blessett, earned a “READ” poster of her with the winning title, Intensity by Dean Koontz.

Lakeland Library Cooperative – Sandra Wilson, Director

- Sandra Wilson, Lakeland Library Cooperative Director, retired on August 31. She has been the Cooperative Director for nine years. In the interim period until a new Cooperative Director is hired she is working part time to address some specific activities. The opening is being advertised and Bradbury Miller Associates is conducting a national search. The plan is to have a new director by January 2018.
- An RFP was released for an ILS Consultant Strategic Plan on the Future of the Shared ILS which has 40 Lakeland members participating. The Board will consider approval of the consultant at the November 9 Board meeting.
- Many openings for Directors in the Lakeland area at this time: Allendale (taking new job at Georgetown Township Public Library), Flat River Community Library (took Chief Financial Officer position at Kent District Library), Grand Rapids Public Library (retiring), Hastings Public Library (moving to husband's new job in northern Michigan), and Fremont Area District Library (becoming a Pastor). A lot of new people and ideas.
- In November Lakeland will be changing from Iserve to Comcast for Internet circuit connection. This was bid and the low bidder was selected. This will involve a lot of IT work with the changing of IP addresses for all of the member libraries.
- Thirty-two libraries formed a new Lakeland group for RB Digital ePeriodicals (previously Zinio). This compliments the already existing group for e-books and e-audio-books.
- All of the FY16-17 Strategic Plan Actions were completed by September 2017. One of the biggest outcomes was expansion of the CE Committee offerings. There is now a CE Facebook page for members, a new book discussion group for staff and interest group meetings for such things as Human Resources/IT/Financial/Legal 2-4 times a year. The first book discussion was Five Dysfunctions of a Team. A full day workshop is planned for February 2018 featuring Miguel Figueroa from ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries. A new emphasis on continuing education has come about as an Action of the Strategic Plan. Many new things are happening.
- Four interest groups have been formed. They include IT, Human Resources, Legal and Management. They will each meet twice a year.
- A Lakeland CE facebook page has been created to encourage discussions among Lakeland member library employees on issues.
- A Book Discussion Group has been added for library staff. The first book is Five Dysfunctions of a Team. The plan is to have six books a year.
- In the past CE workshops were self-funded. That is changing. Beginning in October, Lakeland's new fiscal year, \$20,000 is being budgeted for workshops with the plan that there will be no cost to Lakeland members or it will be greatly reduced over the self-funded cost to members. With these funds a new all day annual workshop in February 2018 will be provided free of charge to members. The topic is the Future of Libraries with Miguel Figueroa from ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries to speak in the morning and Samantha Minnis from Grand Valley State University Library to speak on customer service in the afternoon.

Midwestern Michigan Library Cooperative – Denise Hooks, Director

- MMLC Board met in mid-September to close FY2016-17 and approve the budget for FY2017-18. Included were Work Plans for each year, the new Technology Plan 2017-20, and to approve the revised MMLC Bylaws.

- MMLC Advisory Council meeting was hosted by Maria McCarville at the Hoyt Library of the Public Libraries of Saginaw. Featured speakers were: Jerilyn Klich, GDL, covering Human Resources issues; Corey Friedrich, CRDL, who introduced the topic of design thinking; several members – Corey Friedrich, CRDL; Amy Comber-Gross, Coleman Area Library; Anne Heidemann, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries; and Kim White, PLOS, on recent weather-related challenges and disaster preparedness tools; and Dave Conklin on pest management issues. Other topics covered included the new MMLC grant program and library law related to Narcan administration.
- MMLC presented on the 3D Printing Project at the MLA conference in October. The panelists were Amy Comber-Gross, Coleman Area Library; Jessica Bostian, Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library; Dena Moscheck, Lapeer District Library; Jason Bias, Genesee District Library; and Denise Hooks, MMLC.
- Millage Campaign: Nuts and Bolts workshop will take place on Wednesday, February 28, 2018. The location this year will be the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre on Hill Rd. in Mundy Township.
- The newly redesigned MMLC website is set to launch during the week of November 5.
- Performer's Showcase was held in September with 90 attendees with nearly all cooperatives represented.

Mid-Michigan Library League – Sheryl Mase, Director

- The new director at Manistee County Library, Debra Greenacre, will begin her new position in November.
- There will be more director retirements coming up, beginning with Cathy Tacoma who is retiring from the Cadillac Wexford Public Library. They have posted the position and are currently reviewing applications.
- Now that the fiscal year has begun, all areas served by member libraries now have access to about 7,000 downloadable audiobooks from RBDigital, with no limits on simultaneous use or renewals (i.e. no holds necessary). We have also been able to add Transparent Language for the entire area as well. These resources, plus four hours of tech support for each member paid for by the cooperative, are new benefits of membership.
- We are reviving the concept of having affiliate members. The policy goes to the Board next month, and if approved, we will be reaching out to other types of libraries within our service areas.
- The free statewide webinars for public libraries have been well-received. They are archived (<http://mml.org/workshops.html>) and available on-demand afterwards, and the archives are being used regularly. The most recent one on the opioid crisis and public libraries was very well-attended.

Northland Library Cooperative – Roger Mendel, Director

Report at meeting.

Southwest Library Cooperative – John Mohny, Director

- Southwest now has 38 Public Libraries. We have a new Board and only Public Libraries now serve on our Board. We have new Officers. Our 2018 Schedule is set for Dates, Times and Places. Our Budget is Set.

Suburban Library Cooperative – Tammy Turgeon, Director

- The Cooperative, providing administrative support for the Metro Detroit Book and Author Society, held a very successful author luncheon on October 16th in Livonia. Authors were Chris Bohjalian, Claire Messud, and Heather Ann Thompson. Over 1,100 people attended the group's 91st author event. Two \$1,000 grants were also awarded.
- The Cooperative has renewed our group subscription to the RBDigital magazine service. During the last year patrons have downloaded 46,302 magazines from our collection.
- The Cooperative has renewed our group subscription to the Freegal digital music service. During the last year patrons have downloaded 36,197 songs and streamed 128,711 songs.
- The Suburban Library Cooperative is hosting its Annual Library Update in December for member libraries' directors and trustees. SLC will review accomplishments for the previous year as well as goals for the current year.
- The Cooperative's annual audit will take place November 7 – 8.
- The Clinton Macomb Public Library and Sterling Heights Public Library starting circulating a new collection of portable movie devices called GoChip Beam. The GoChip is a state-of-the-art handheld streaming device which delivers five high-quality videos to up to eight users, all without an internet connection. Each GoChip contains a small Wi-Fi router along with a rechargeable battery and solid state storage preloaded with five feature length movies. To view a movie users simply download a free app, power up the GoChip Beam and connect to the device. Our libraries are some of the first in the country to offer this service.

Superiorland Library Cooperative – Pam Christensen, Director

- LSTA Mini Grants: Eight Superiorland Library Cooperative members received LSTA mini-grants from the Library of Michigan. The following libraries received grants. Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library, Curtis Township Library, Escanaba Public Library, Ironwood Carnegie Library, Negaunee Public Library, Superior District Library-Pickford Community Library, Superior District Library-Bayliss Public Library and West Iron District Library.
- UPRLC Annual Meeting: The UPRLC Annual Meeting was held Wednesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 14, 2017 at the Peter White Public Library. On September 13, 2017 SirsiDynix representatives Kevin Rodriguez and Lisa Witteman gave a SirsiDynix demonstration. Bonnie Wichtner-Zoia of MSU Cooperative Extension presented What Color Are You? The Thursday session opened with vendor exhibits from nine vendors. Deb Biggs from the Library of Michigan held a focus group discussion about the upcoming RFP for Statewide Databases. Wichtner-Zoia was the keynote speaker presenting a workshop on Conflict Resolution. Twelve breakout sessions were offered during the afternoon program. The two day conference attracted 60 library personnel from university, school, school/public, public and prison libraries.
- New Director's Workshop: Four SLC Library Directors attended the Library of Michigan New Director's Workshop in Lansing. Jody Halsey (Whitefish Township Community Library), Honora Mason (Calumet School Public Library), Lynne Wiercinski (Ironwood Carnegie Library) and Angela Badke (Ojibway Community Library) have completed the New Director's workshop.
- Michigan Library Association Annual Conference: Jean Montgomery of the SLC staff, Maureen Derenzy, Sheryl Cormicle Knox and Mitch Shapiro presented a program on the TV White Space projects being implemented at the Ironwood Carnegie Library, Otsego County Library and Capital Area District Library at the MLA Annual Conference. The Library of Michigan has provided technical and funding support for these projects.

The Library Network – James Pletz, Director

- TLN votes to go Civil. At the annual TLN picnic (July) and Q-1 Membership Meeting (October) the TLN membership endorsed the cooperative wide program theme – Choose Civility. The program, initiated by the Howard County Library, in Maryland, positions the Library as a community place where the rules of civil conduct and discourse are practiced by all members of the library community. The Choose Civility program will mark the return of noted library innovator, Valerie Gross, to Southeast Michigan. Gross will be the FY 2018 Michael P. Tyler lecturer, a lecture honoring the years of leadership Tyler provided as Chairman of the TLN Board of Directors. Novi Public Library will host the Choose Civility Tyler lecture on May 25.
- Leaders Book Club selections announced. Beginning the fourth year of celebrating practical advice titles of use to library leaders, the selections for the FY 2018 series are as follows:

November	The Art of Leadership	J. Donald Walters
January	Leaders Eat Last	Simon Snek
March	How the Best Leaders Make Everyone Smarter	Liz Wiseman
May	Awakening Compassion at Work	Monica Worline
July	Find Your Way	Simon Snek
September	Communicate Like A Leader	Dianna Booher

White Pine Library Cooperative – Bryon Sitler, Director

- There are several new Directors in the White Pine area and I have been visiting them to explain cooperative services and options.
- The Annual Meeting on the 11th had James LaRue speak on intellectual freedom as well as the Awful Librarians giving a presentation on "awful" books in the library and the importance of weeding. Author Matt Faulkner talked about his writing and illustrating work. He has completed over 30 books.
- The MLA Conference this month had many good programs, and as always, was a good place to network and find potential speakers for the Cooperative.

Woodlands Library Cooperative – Kate Pohjola Andrade, Director

- Since August, Kate has been out to three member libraries, giving board trainings and/or one-on-one talks with library directors. One library is very seriously considering making the transition from township library to district library.
- WLC's Ancestry Library Edition group has grown to 29 members taking advantage of cooperative-negotiated discounts on a service patrons absolutely love.
- The FY 2017-18 budget was approved by both the Advisory Council and the Governing Board. It includes reimbursement for professional memberships for both MLA and MCLS, mini grants to each member library to use for programming or services, and a cooperative-wide subscription to Consumer Reports online.
- We have had volunteers (new or returning) step up to serve on every Woodlands committee, which is wonderful. The committees are starting to meet and plan programs and workshops based on the needs indicated by our membership in a coop-wide survey administered over the summer.
- In FY 2012-13, when our previous director announced his retirement, the cooperative's Personnel Policy & Plan of Service were updated in such a way that the new director only works 32 hours per week, Mondays through Thursdays. We will be examining if this is still working for our membership and the workload. It is likely that the cooperative director position will return to a 40 hours/week position.

- Our Teen & Tween Mental Health First Aid workshop was VERY well received. Twenty attendees left the day certified in Mental Health First Aid. This week, roughly 40 library staff members from Woodlands and neighboring cooperatives will spend a day with Brian Mortimore, being trained on the nuances of Human Resources in library.
- WLC's webpage was updated with a fresh look. New features to come include an interactive member directory and highlights of the mini grants by each library.
- Our Penal Fines task force has had its first meeting. We have representation from all class sizes, along with a representative from Library of Michigan and MLA. We are currently auditing the dollars reported to the libraries and paid by the counties to see if they match what is being reported to Library of Michigan. The Task Force is looking to create a toolkit and/or online resource that libraries can use to educate their local officials about penal fines - we're discovering that local officials don't always understand, nor do board members and some directors.
- Kate gave two talks at the New Director Workshop at the Library of Michigan in September. In the first, she represented the Michigan Cooperative Directors Association and spoke about how fantastic Michigan's library cooperatives are for libraries. In the second, she talked about the board/director relationship. She also facilitated a table talk and learned that there are MANY library boards out there that could use further training on what it means to serve as a board member.
- Kate was elected to serve on the Board at MCLS for a three-year term. She will be attending training in the first week of November to learn their governance style.
- Sign up to receive WLC's monthly e-newsletter, Woodlands Wanderings, by visiting:
<http://eepurl.com/cuQKvb>