



Michigan Cooperative Directors Association Report for Library of Michigan Board of Trustees January 17, 2019

Michigan's eleven library cooperatives all serve the needs of public libraries. Many also serve academic, school, and special libraries as well. The Cooperative Directors have submitted information for this report that reflects current achievements, ongoing planning, and future activities.

Detroit Library Cooperative – JoAnne Mondowney, Director

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Several branches will offer special programming to mark the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. The Conely Branch will celebrate Dr. King's birthday with a showing of the movie, "March On! The Day My Brother Changed the World," at 2 p.m., on Saturday, January 19, 2019. On Sunday, January 20, the Wilder Branch will offer a children's story hour about Dr. King, followed by a craft activity. Information about other branch programming is available on the Library's website.
- Presidential Letters Exhibit: Mr. Henry Meyer (1895-1952), a Detroit attorney and member of the Detroit Library Commission and Friends of the Detroit Public Library, began a collection of original autograph letters from the presidents of the United States from George Washington to Dwight D. Eisenhower. The collection was posthumously given to the Burton Collection in 1955. In 2018, Mr. Meyer's daughter, Joan Jampel, wanted to bring the collection up-to-date in an effort to continue her father's legacy. She purchased Jimmy Carter and George H. Bush letters, and the beautifully crafted presentation box that houses them. The Honorable Carl Levin, former U.S. Senator from Michigan, upon learning of her efforts to update the collection, generously donated letters from George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. The letters will be on display along with a Thomas Jefferson letter from January 30 – March 3, 2019.
- Author Events: Dennis Archer visited Main Library on Sunday, December 16, 2018 to discuss his memoir, *Let the Future Begin*. In addition to serving two terms as Detroit's Mayor, Mr. Archer has served as a member of the Michigan Supreme Court and was the first African American to serve as president of the American Bar Association. Main Library will host Imbolo Mbue, author of *Behold the Dreamers*, at 6 p.m., on February 6, 2019. The book was a New Times best seller in 2017 and received the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. Culinary historian Michael W. Twitty, author of *The Cooking Gene: A Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South*, will visit on February 9, 2019.
- Branches: Two branches have re-opened for public service following closures for repairs and renovations. The Skillman Branch re-opened for public service on November 26, 2018. The Franklin Branch reopened on January 10 after a year-long closure that included renovations to mechanical and electrical systems, new flooring, shelving and furniture, and information systems updates. The Jefferson Branch closed on January 7, 2019 for renovations like those undertaken at the Franklin Branch.

Lakeland Library Cooperative – Carol Dawe, Director

- The Cooperative is looking at our return policies and partnering with Kent District Libraries to allow items to be returned between the two entities in order to improve the user experience. We hope to start this in February.

- We are now providing automated phone notifications for holds and overdues. This has been well received by staff and users at our member libraries.
- The Overdrive pilot program with MCLS has been successful. The first month of data shows a similar rate of borrowing between the two entities. Enhancements are being discussed with the vendor and will be implemented in short order, with member input.
- Nine library directors participated in a Lakeland New Director's Orientation in December.
- Sixteen Lakeland Libraries participated in an initial group purchase of 228 Vox Read-Alongs. The materials will be cataloged by Lakeland staff and sent out to the participating libraries.
- The Continuing Education Committee is offering several programs including an all-day Change Management Workshop on February 18th and Team Development and Board Leadership Workshops on March 22nd and 23rd respectively.
- We are working on staff initiatives including a wellness program through our AFLAC Health Advocate membership.
- The Crystal branch of the Carson City Public library opened its new facility in December.

The Library Network (TLN) – Jim Pletz, Director

- Six months of migration to a new Integrated Library System (ILS) managed by The Library Corporation (TLC) have challenged staff to learn new terminology and procedures. The learning curve was short. The time emphasis was spent with extra effort to get up to speed at the same time meeting patron demands for all levels of service. No one, public or staff, faced cataclysmic results while engaged with the new service. The new service, CARLx, has a new formula for filling MeLCat requests. That formula makes greater use of our small and medium sized library collections. There appears to be a faster fill rate. Use is up by 15 to 20% depending upon the day of the week.
- The annual audit is underway, with the results ready for board review and approval in February.
- The Community Engagement Specialist has put together several opportunities for Library Sponsors. This includes capturing support and partnership from the Red Wings, Fox Theater and Imagine Entertainment group. A real push to secure a corporate sponsor for the statewide MAP program is a major focus. Many TLN member libraries which minimally engage in TLN activities were among the first to sign up.

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative – Denise Hooks, Director

- We continue to book programs for libraries in MMLC and throughout the state for libraries in other cooperatives. The number so far for the 2018-19 booking year is 621. This more than doubles a figure of 297 from 2008.
- The Collaborating Partners "Removing Barriers: A Library Accessibility Workshop" held at Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids was very well-attended and highly rated by attendees.
- Planning continues on the **Small Libraries. Big Impact.** conference for small and rural libraries scheduled on April 29 and 30, 2019 in Gaylord. Six cooperatives are co-sponsoring this event. MMLC is also working on developing the registration process for the conference. Funding for member attendance has been requested through the MMLC Continuing Education Grant process.

- Member libraries are in the process of placing orders through the cooperative for Library Ideas VOX Books and Findaway Launchpads. Some of the funding will be through the MMLC Technology and Innovation Grant process.
- I provided a Board Orientation for the Community District Library Board in November and spoke about the value of cooperatives at the December meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Flint.
- I announced my retirement effective September 30, 2019. The search process for a new director will begin in February 2019.

Mid-Michigan Library League – Sheryl Mase, Director

- The next MMLL webinar will be on LearningExpress Library, a MeL resource that offers practice tests, tutorials, and so much more. Tom Burnosky (director at Reed City Area District Library) will take us through this resource on Thursday, January 31st at 10:00 a.m.
- The CE Committee will be making short “Bright Idea” videos that will be posted on the MMLL YouTube channel. These videos will be five minutes or less and will instruct on various topics in short segments.
- Archived webinars are on the MMLL website at: <https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars>.
- Mini-Grant Program: Member libraries who applied during round one of the FY19 Library Expansion & Mini-Grant Program have ALL been selected for funding! Total funding commitment, round one: \$4,712.15. Round two will be announced before spring.

Northland Library Cooperative – Roger Mendel, Director

- Northland has assimilated its new member, the Tahquamenon Area School Public Library, including getting the library on the PAC2 automated circulation system.
- Member libraries are preparing grant proposals for the Library Enhancement Program sponsored by Northland.
- Several directors from Northland libraries are working on the “Small Libraries Big Impact” Conference scheduled for April 29&30 at Treetops Resort in Gaylord MI.

Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative – John Mohny, Director

2019 Meeting Schedule

- February 14 Portage 1:00 Lunch 2:00 Board Steve Bryer, Auditor
- March 14 Paw Paw 2:00 Directors’ Meeting
- April 11 Paw Paw 1:00 Lunch 2:00 Council Liz Breed, Library of Michigan, Mel & Theresa Runyan, MCLS 3:00 Board
- April 30 VBISD 9:00-4:00 Technology Workshop, Pam Seabolt, MCLS & Matt Harmon, Marshall District Library
- May 9 Paw Paw 2:00 Directors’ Meeting
- August 8 Allegan 1:00 Lunch 2:00 Council Clare Membiela, Library of Michigan, Law 3:00 Board
- September 24 VBISD 9:00 to 2:00 Performers Showcase, Joel Tacey
- September 12 Paw Paw 2:00 Directors’ Meeting
- October 10 Otsego 1:00 Lunch 2:00 Council Anne Seuryneck, Library Attorney 3:00 Board
- November 5 VBISD 9:00 to 4:00 Circulation Workshop, Kevin King, KPL
- November 14 Paw Paw 2:00 Directors’ Meeting

Suburban Library Cooperative – Tammy Turgeon, Director

- The Cooperative hosted its Annual Library Update in December for member libraries' Directors and Trustees. Randy Riley, State Librarian, talked to the group about Library of Michigan activities, the new MeL databases, and support for libraries.
- The Cooperative had a successful audit completed in November. The audit presentation will take place at the Board meeting in late January.
- The SLC Director will be attending the American Library Association Midwinter conference in Seattle, January 25-29. The Symposium on the Future of Libraries will be of interest.

White Pine Library Cooperative – Bryon Sitler, Director

- The White Pine Library Cooperative has begun its search for a new Director due to the retirement of the current Director. An RFP was sent to several "head hunter" firms. Four firms responded. The Board selected Kent District Library to conduct the search.
- As part of the process, a survey has been created for distribution the week of January 7, 2019.
- Cooperative staff has been assisting member libraries in completing their State Aid Reports, and ensuring all libraries are meeting the basic income needs to qualify for State Aid.
- The Director has been visiting member libraries to discuss current library activities and respond to question while there.

Woodlands Library Cooperative – Kate Pohjola Andrade, Director

- Our workshop, Move, Groove & Sing a Song, on November 2, 2018 went amazingly well and garnered rave reviews from attendees.
- Our upcoming webinar, "One Size Does Not Fit All: Welcoming People with Disabilities in the Library," is on Thursday, January 31. As of today, we have nearly 40 librarians from around the state registered for this free webinar with speaker Jen Taggart.
- An eResources Training day is in the works to get all our member libraries up to speed on the variety of electronic resources offered by the cooperative.
- Kate served on the MCLS Executive Director search committee. Fingers crossed that all goes well, and the candidate will be publicly announced soon.
- Several visits to member libraries are on the calendar for the coming months.
- Kate is working with the collaborating partners to put on a workshop slated for in November 2019. Themes are revolving around inclusivity and taking the next steps after the excellent "Removing Barriers" workshop we had this past fall. Details will be available soon!
- Our November governing board meeting was canceled due to inclement weather, so our clean audit presentation to the board will happen tonight.
- At tonight's board meeting, we will be honoring longtime board member Larry Gregory, with the **Spirit of Woodlands** award. Larry served on both the Monroe County Library System and the Woodlands Library Cooperative boards for nearly 18 years.