

Mid-Michigan Library League

Director's Report

August 2018

Administrative:

- Final State Aid payments should now have been received by member libraries. We are sending out invoices for the cooperative aid portion, and appreciate payment before mid-September.
- Word back from state librarian Randy Riley regarding a special non-competitive LSTA grant to complete public library automation in Michigan was that the Department of Education (under which the Library of Michigan falls) does not allow non-competitive grants. We are still waiting to hear whether or not they could make a category of the competitive grants that is specifically for automation of the remaining un-automated libraries in the state.
- Look for a survey to be sent out to all member libraries asking about the amount of penal fines you received this year. I have it almost ready to go. There is a Penal Fine Committee looking at whether libraries are getting the correct portion of these funds on a consistent basis according to the law.
- The Personnel Committee chair sent me a compiled report of the director evaluation. I am very appreciative of the overwhelmingly positive comments! Overall, it appears we are on track and moving forward quite well as a cooperative. I welcome feedback at any time during the year.
- FY18 Board members, groups they represent, year term ends:
 - Group 1 – Mary Edens – 17
 - 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, Mary Edens
- Joint committees:
 - Grants – (FY18) Jeanette Fleury, Miriam Andrus (Ad Council Co-Chair, Big Rapids), Jennifer Thorson (Reed City)
 - E-resources – Chris Cook, Eric Smith, Stacy Pasche, Terri Lukshaitis, Tom Burnosky, Emma Ereksen
 - Maker Team – Patti Skinner (Ad Council Co-Chair, MCDL Scottville), Tracy Logan Walker (Cadillac), OPEN
 - Up North Digital Steering Committee – Eric Smith, Patti Skinner, Stacy Pasche, [also from Northland, Val Meyerson, Maureen Derenzy], with co-op directors Roger Mendel and Sheryl Mase as ex-officio

Continuing Education:

- Six of the eleven cooperative directors, along with several members of the Northland Library Cooperative, are collaborating together to plan of a conference that will take place late April or early May of 2019, which is the "off year" for the Loleta Fyan Small & Rural Libraries Conference. We have yet to name this conference, but it most likely will be a day and a half and be open to library staff and trustees. The venue we are looking at is in Gaylord. The focus will be on small and rural libraries. Stay tuned, I am sure there will be an opportunity for your input and/or volunteerism!
- Soon, member libraries will receive an invitation to the annual meeting, which will be held on September 20th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Caberfae Peaks Ski & Golf Resort. Mark your calendars now! We will have a very similar agenda as last year, with Library of Michigan staff providing updates and member library staff doing "speed round" presentations.
- There are lots of archived webinars available on our website: <http://mml.cloud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars>. The most recent one was Anne Seurnyck's Top 5 Policies for Libraries. If you have suggestions for others, please let us know!
- The Library of Michigan pays for 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.cloud.net/news-events/news-of-interest-newsletter>.

Services:

- New maker kits for member libraries include a button maker, a printmaking kit, and "Teknikio" activating origami. To see what is available and reserve materials, go to <https://mml.cloud.net/a/maker-space-resources>. We have openings on the Maker Team, so think about whether you might like to join.
- The E-resources Committee is looking at resources to add for the entire service population of the cooperative. There will be an increase in State Aid and some cost savings that will allow us to provide more E-resources for everyone (without the need to charge back). We will continue the RBdigital downloadable audiobooks and access to Transparent Language Online. Training, marketing resources, how to get statistics are all posted on the MMLL website at <http://mml.cloud.net/a/rbdigital-resources> and <http://mml.cloud.net/a/usage-statistics>.
- The "Emergency Geek" service is still available and at the ready! If you need tech support, contact Cory Walker to set up an appointment. See <http://mml.cloud.net/a/tech-corner> for instructions. Don't forget to use your hours or donate them to the pool. If you need more hours, just ask! There are 12 hours in the "pool" and 57 that have yet to be used by members (everyone started with four hours).

Member Libraries:

- Manistee County Library passed their millage renewal August 7th. The renewal of 1.000 mills covers operations and building maintenance from 2018 through 2023.
- The Lake County library millage renewal for Pathfinder Community Library, Chase Public Library, and Luther Area Public Library passed on August 7th by a margin of 3:1.

- The Betsie Valley District Library also passed a millage renewal through 2023, at .35 mills.
- There are several new directors this year:
 - Stacy Pasche, Benzie Shores (Frankfort)
 - Tracy Logan-Walker, Cadillac Wexford
 - Karen Salyer (was Simpkins – she got married!), Darcy/Beulah
 - Nellie Danke, Leelanau Twp
 - Mark Morton, Leland Twp
 - Sigrid Robertson, Leroy
 - Terri Lukshaitis, Luther
 - Debra Greenacre, Manistee
 - Tom Burnosky, Reed City
 - Bethany Romanowski, Richfield Twp (Saint Helen)
 - Emma Ereksen, Seville Twp (Riverdale)
 - Big Rapids will be hiring a new director soon
 - Walkerville will be hiring a new director soon
- We still have three un-automated libraries: Chase, Walton Erickson, and Wheatland. 33 of the 37 member libraries are now on MeLCat – YES! Walkerville is now automated, but they still need to implement MeLCat.
- If you would like me to plan a visit, attend a Board meeting, a fundraiser, or just come to talk with you about any issues you like, let me know. I can assist with Board training or strategic planning.

Travel/Meetings:

5/22 – West Shore Community College, Broadband Listening Session

5/30 – Luther, visit new director

6/1 – East Lansing, MLA Executive Summit

6/14 – Riverdale, Seville Twp Board meeting

6/20 – Alden, deliver 3D printer and train

6/24 – Frankfort, Cathy Carter retirement

7/12 – Ludington, MMLL Finance Committee

8/10 – Benzonia, MMLL Advisory Council meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

~Sheryl

Sheryl L. Mase