

**Mid-Michigan Library League
Director's Report
January 2020**



Administrative:

- Board members, groups they represent, year term ends, officers for FY20
 - Group 1 – Mary Edens – 20
 - Group 2 – Susan LaBelle –20
 - Group 3 – Patti Colvin, Vice-Chair –20
 - Group 4 – Diane Eisenga – 22
 - Group 5 – Eric Smith, Chair –21
 - Group 6 – Lois Langenburg, Treasurer – 22
 - Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh, Secretary – 22
 - *Group 8 – OPEN
 - *Group 9 – OPEN
- Advisory Council
 - FY20 Co-Chairs – Debra Greenacre (Manistee) and Mary Barker (Pentwater).
 - Future Meeting dates: March 12, 2020, 11:00 a.m. (Shelby District Library), May 14, 2020, 11:00 a.m. (White Pine District Library), August 13, 2020, 11:00 a.m. (Surrey Township Public Library)

Advocacy

- The Michigan Library Association will have an [Advocacy Day](#) on Wednesday April 22, 2020. They will arrange the schedule and meetings with legislators and the only cost for participants is for a t-shirt if they want one. Some of the cooperatives are arranging a bus for their members to travel to Lansing.
- The American Library Association [Legislative Day](#) in Washington, D.C. will take place May 4-5, 2020. They do a great job helping anyone new to talking to legislators on “the hill” during the first day of training and sharing resources with attendees. The Library of Michigan coordinates and provides information packets and schedules visits for the Michigan team with their legislators. We have money in the budget to send one person, and there may again be a grant to send another person if we are so fortunate.

Continuing Education:

- The CE Committee (Patti Skinner, Tracy Logan-Walker, Debra Greenacre, Amanda McLaren) met to discuss training needs for FY20. The group wanted to have HR training and Storytime training, plus some afternoon trainings at the Advisory Council meetings that have already been scheduled (MeL resources, Tech training). The group is still working out how these will happen, and we will put out the final information soon.
- The Loleta Fyan Small & Rural Libraries Conference will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort April 13-15, 2020. Registration is now open – see the [conference web page](#).
- Monthly opportunities for webinars and in-person trainings are offered to the membership via the [News of Interest](#) newsletter. Find member library news there as well!

eResources:

- There is a new master contract for [Up North Digital/OverDrive](#). There are currently 26 MMLL libraries participating. Interested MMLL members may join either in July (apply by June 12) or January (apply by December 13) of any given year. Billing now is handled via the cooperative, and there is a

Collection Development team working on purchasing titles for the collection and minding the holds ratio so patrons do not have to wait so long for reserved titles.

- The RBdigital unlimited collection of over 30,000 instantly downloadable eAudiobooks is available to all members of MMLL. ***Don't forget to put the link on your website and let patrons know about this service! <https://wmlpmi.rbdigital.com/>. Transparent Language Online (TLO) is there for everyone as well, so all members have a language learning resource for patrons.

Mini-Grant Program:

The first round of the [Library Service Expansion and Mini-Grant program](#) brought in 16 applications for a total of \$10,395. The Grants Committee (Mary Barker, Jennifer Thorson, Eric Smith) deliberated and made hard choices to fund 11 proposals for \$6,020. Funded grants are posted on the website and via the group email. Round two of the program was announced January 6, 2020 with applications due March 6th and announcements made on March 13 for expenditures made until August 7, 2020. There is now a scoring rubric to help applicants understand the factors that are used to judge their proposals.

Tech Assistance:

- FY20 began with each MMLL member library holding four hours of credit for computer services from Cory Walker, "Emergency Geek."
- See the [website here](#) for how to contact Cory and arrange for your needed service

Member Libraries:

- We say goodbye to Mary Ann Lenon who has retired and welcome new director Juliane Schafer at Morton Township Public Library.
- We wish Nellie Danke all the best in her new position as director at Suttons Bay, leaving the position currently open at Leelanau Township Library.
- There will be a reception for Jane Gyulveszi January 17th at 1 p.m. to wish her well in retirement, welcoming new Bellaire Public Library director, Cindi Place.

In the News:

- Possible new legislation in process to change the Michigan Library Privacy Act. [Senate Bill 611](#) has been introduced, and the Michigan Library Association's Legislative Committee is looking at all aspects, working with ALA and GCSI to make sure there are no unintended negative outcomes.
- The Macmillan eBook issue is still much in the news. PLA has compiled resources on their [eBook Lending & Pricing](#) webpage.

Travel/Meetings:

11/19/19 – Big Rapids, Reed City with 3D printers
11/26/19 – Manistee for CE Committee meeting
12/11/19 – Ploud setup for Chase Public Library (online)
12/20/19 – MCDA (co-op directors) meeting, Lansing
1/3/20 – MMLL Grants Committee (online)

~Sheryl

Sheryl L. Mase
MMLL director