

Mid-Michigan Library League

Director's Report

August 2016

Administrative:

- Since the last report, we have moved! Lots happened in the last two weeks of May:
 - Signed the lease for 201 N. Mitchell, Suite 302
 - Paid for an office floor plan drawn to scale with our furniture dimensions
 - Hired contractor to build interior office in the suite, adjust air vents and lighting
 - Selected carpet and paid for installation in the suite
 - Moved over our phones and internet, complete with new wiring installation
 - Engaged a local moving company
 - Packed, packed, packed and then MOVED! In by June 1st as planned.
- State Aid – the first round of payments have all gone out from Treasury, and the second round should be coming to libraries very soon if it is not yet received. Second payments to the cooperatives have been made, and we have received ours. MMLL members will receive a bill from us for the second half of their cooperative support money.
- All but one of the member libraries signed up for RIDES service renewal. We paid the annual MCLS invoice on behalf of our membership.
- There was a membership-wide vote on the representation plan developed by the Ad-Hoc committee, and the results were 34 yes, 3 no, and 2 not returning their ballots. **PASSED.**

Trainings:

- The Continuing Education Committee for the cooperative has decided to focus on programs for the next two Advisory Council/Board meetings. The **August 18th** meeting will be held at the Cadillac Wexford Public Library and will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the Advisory Council. At 10:30, the Board meeting will begin. After the meeting, we will have an **open house** of the new office at **201 N. Mitchell, suite 302**. We will have food and drink in the elevator lobby and a tech petting zoo at the back table. ***Bring copies of things you want to share with colleagues – cool programs, nice policies, whatever!
- The annual meeting is **September 22nd**, and it will be held at the **Cadillac Grill** (7839 E. 46 1/2 Road, Cadillac, Michigan, <http://cadillacgrill.com>, situated on the Eldorado Golf Course). We will send out invitations, as it will be open to everyone – directors, staff, trustees, friends – whoever wants to come. We will have a registration so we know numbers for the luncheon. The state librarian, **Randy Riley**, and library law specialist, **Clare Membiela**, will join us and give presentations. ***Please send me your questions to compile ahead of time so they know the topics we want covered. The AC and Board meetings will happen next, then the luncheon. When we are beginning dessert, we will have a program by **Jenifer Strauss, Story Be Told** (www.StoryBeTold.com) called **Humans Are Hard Wired for STORY!** that promises to be interactive, dynamic, and very informative.
- Other than lots of offerings via webinar and in person by other entities, we will be working on collaborations with other cooperatives and potentially offering some rural library conference-type programs in non-RLC years. We will get an “ask the tech experts” program ready, and continue to seek out good options for in-person workshops.

Technology:

- Congratulations to the libraries that have recently joined MeLCat!
- There will be a new round coming soon for those that have submitted applications
- The MeLCat participation form does not obligate the library, it serves as a planning tool for MCLS in their implementation scheduling and is an agreement that IF you join, you will follow the rules

and procedures created by the representative committees. You can join even if you are not automated! http://mcls.org/files/5614/1157/3968/MeLCat_participation_agreement_2014.pdf

- Some member libraries are looking at changing their ILS. If you are too, I am glad to coordinate some vendor demos and if you all want to go together, we could possibly drive down costs. Let me know!

Initiatives:

- Library Service Expansion & Mini-Grant Program – Our Ad-Hoc Grants Committee, Heather Bassett (Reed City), Kim Frazho (Houghton Lake), and Eric Smith (Mason County/Ludington) considered the round two applications and awarded the following grants:

ROUND TWO ~

One-time cost mini

McBain	Summer Reading program - Joel Tacy	\$ 250.00
Richland Twp	Rent inflatable bounce house for SRP	\$ 250.00

Library Improvement

Alden	Purchase books to give to kids - Book Buddies	\$ 250.00
Cadillac	Install surveillance cameras for security	\$ 500.00
Darcy/Beulah	Equinox script creation for MeLCat interface	\$1,000.00
Leelanau Twp.	Zinio subscription for patrons - try before buy	\$ 250.00
Mancelona	Upgrade to automation - cloud libraries	\$1,000.00
Surrey Twp	Upgrade genealogy resources, subscriptions	\$ 500.00
Suttons Bay	Upgrade staff printing to save time to serve patrons	\$ 400.00
Wheatland	Collection development (books and audio books)	\$ 600.00
	GRAND TOTAL	\$5,000.00

See <http://mml.org/grants.html>

- Rotating Maker Kits – Our group has lost two members, so we could use another one or two people to step up. It is a hard-working and fun group! Current members are Tracy Logan-Walker (Cadillac) and Stacy Pasche (Benzie Shores/Frankfort). Jack Sheehan and I also participate. Remember that we have the following for your library to borrow:
 - Nine Maker Kits with instructions and program ideas ([MMLL maker space resources](#))
 - Kit 1: Squishy Circuits (copy 1)
 - Kit 2: Squishy Circuits (copy 2)
 - Kit 3: Ozobots (copy 1)
 - Kit 4: Q-BA-Maze
 - Kit 5: Photography Studio
 - Kit 6: Virtual Field Trip
 - Kit 7: Sewing! (copy 1)
 - Kit 8: Sewing! (copy 2)
 - Kit 9: Ozobots (copy 2)
 - Two MakerBot Mini Replicator 3D printers, each with laptop and supplies (extruder, filament, build plate tape) and warranty coverage; one with a 3D scanner attached to an iPad for use with the printer.
- There is one more maker training in our cooperative this summer, presented by UMSI with a grant from IMLS. The Benzonia Public Library will have **Making as Learning: Three-Day Workshop Tues., Aug. 16 – Thurs., Aug. 18, 9:30am – 4:30pm**, [REGISTER HERE](#) [PROMOTIONAL FLYER](#)
- Group Discounts – Currently we are handling group purchasing for Movie Licensing USA and Syndetics jacket art for online catalogs. I have gathered lots of information and will be putting it out to the membership to prioritize vendor negotiations. Be thinking about what you want. ;-)

Cooperative Services:

- The Plan of Service for our cooperative needs to reflect the changes that will take place beginning October 1st, 2016. A draft of the Plan will be included in the Board packet for the meeting on August 18th and also available to the Advisory Council for review and discussion. It is reviewed in August and then finalized in September at the annual meeting along with the new budget for FY17.
- Our budget is very lean going forward with our 39 member libraries. We will be reduced by more than 25% for population (from 407,087 to 297,516) and for income (from \$331,654 to \$237,315), because we have a majority of class I and II libraries. We may be small, but I believe we have wonderful people and talents in our midst, so we are mighty!

Travel:

5/24 – School of Information, Ann Arbor – invited to focus group session about library program
6/15-17 – Making as Learning UMSI grant funded training – Houghton Lake Public Library
6/27 – Missaukee District Library – visit with Laura Marion, new director
7/7 – Reed City Area District Library grand opening, new location
8/16-17 – Making as Learning UMAI grant funded training – Benzonia Public Library

Member Library Visits:

- 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

~*Sheryl*

Sheryl L. Mase