

# Mid-Michigan Library League

## Director's Report

November 2016

### Administrative:

- State Aid – The MMLL Cooperative Application for State Aid has been submitted. A check for half of this year's Direct State Aid will be forthcoming. All members have until February 1 to file their annual reports with the State.
- The FY2016 annual audit is being conducted and will be presented by Ryan Howell of Baird, Cotter & Bishop at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MMLL Board.
- Our budget is very lean going forward with 39 member libraries. We have been reduced in 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! That said, we will need to strategize a bit so we can continue to offer services within the confines of our new service population/per capita funding.
- FY17 Board members and groups they represent:
  - Group 1 – Mary Edens
  - Group 2 – Chuck Haemker
  - Group 3 – Patti Colvin
  - Group 4 – Diane Eisenga
  - Group 5 – Eric Smith
  - Group 6 – Heather Bassett
  - Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh
  - Group 8 – Chris Cook
  - Group 9 – Jeanette Fleury

### Trainings:

- There were 65 attendees at our annual membership meeting and luncheon at the Cadillac Grill on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We heard from Randy Riley, state librarian, Clare Membiela, library law specialist, and Karren Reish, grants coordinator all from the Library of Michigan. And, after the meeting and lunch, we had an engaging program with Jenifer Strauss of Story Be Told.
- Other than lots of offerings via webinar that I share via the newsletter (see [News of Interest](#)), we are working on collaborations with other cooperatives and library partners.

### Initiatives:

- Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant – I met with Eric Frederick, Executive Director of Connect Michigan (<http://www.connectmi.org/>) and together we brainstormed a grant idea in which the Mid-Michigan Library League and Connect Michigan would partner to provide several units per library to circulate to the public which would act as a Wi-Fi Hotspot for other devices and also have access to MeL resources and local library resources pre-loaded, and whatever else the patron wishes to download for loan. Surveys before and after would be taken with digital literacy and future broadband adoption in mind to continue to fill in the gaps in broadband availability in our MMLL service area. See the "Intent to File" included in the November Board packet. We need to decide as a cooperative if it is worth the time and resources to apply. The Library of Michigan has stated that they will fund 1-3 projects per year. This is their first year and it looks as though there are 35 applicants and of those, there are five from our cooperative. MMLL members Bellaire, Benzie Shores, Benzonia, and Mason County have submitted their "Intent to File" documents and 30 other libraries and library organizations from around the state have also submitted.

- Rotating Maker Kits – The Maker Team has re-convened with new members and selected even more materials. Soon we will offer to member libraries 15 maker kits (the original 9 plus six more) they can borrow to try out various maker programs in their service area. We send a “kit-in-a-box” so they can try new materials before they decide whether or not they want to buy them locally. We also have two 3D printers that we rotate among members so they can demonstrate this growing technology for their patrons.
- Group Discounts – Currently we are handling group purchasing for Movie Licensing USA, Syndetics jacket art for online catalogs, and Zinio e-magazines. I have gathered lots of information and will be putting it out to the membership to prioritize vendor negotiations. Let us know what you want.
- 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 (c1)	Kit 4: Q-BA-Maze	Kit 7: Sewing! (c1)
Kit 2: Squishy Circuits (c2)	Kit 5: Photography	Kit 8: Sewing! (c2)
Kit 3: Ozobots (c1)	Kit 6: Virtual Field Trip	Kit 9: Ozobots (c2)
  - ✓ 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.
  - ✓ *Soon we will have these six additional kits:*

<i>Kit 10: MakeDo</i>	<i>Kit 12: Little Bits</i>	<i>Kit 14: Makey Makey</i>
<i>Kit 11: K'NEX</i>	<i>Kit 13: Digital Photography</i>	<i>Kit 15: Doodler 3D Pens</i>
- We now also can offer you the ALA DVD to borrow if you would like to make your own READ posters. We will add it to Librarika (<https://mml.librarika.com/>) and you can request it from us.
- We have changed our group calendar on the mml.org website. Instead of using the Google calendar, we have purchased a trial year with Plymouth Rockets Event Keeper. This system will allow you all to enter your own events, and if you like you can simply point to the URL where the calendar is hosted to send online patrons to this group calendar. Some of you will want this and like to have your events posted with others. I do not know if all of you are interested in this, so let us hear some feedback. Click here for the [Calendar](#).

**Travel:**

- 9/7 – Meet the Candidates at Alma
- 9/14 – Manistee for planning meeting
- 9/15 – Maker program at Houghton Lake
- 9/27 – Meet the Candidates at Houghton Lake
- 10/5 – Manistee Board strategic planning (a.m.)  
Ludington/MCDL to drop off 3D printer; Shelby for visit (p.m.)
- 10/7 – Meet the Candidates at Pere Marquette (Clare)
- 10/21 – Cooperative Directors Association meeting in Lansing
- 10/26-28 – Michigan Library Association annual meeting in Lansing

**Member Libraries:**

- We are very proud of Benzonia Public Library, the director Amanda McLaren, staff, Board, and many friends and volunteers for receiving the State Librarian's Excellence Award for 2016. Benzonia is a class I public library that is small but mighty!
- 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