

# **Mohawk Valley Library System**

## **Director's Report**

**October, 2015**

### **Administration & Governance**

The 2016 draft MVLS Operating Budget has been produced and distributed to members. It is largely a continuation of the current 2015 budget. For the first time in many years, we will have a budgeted surplus. After the planning process, we will amend the budget to add new costs associated with new or expanded services. The November MVLS board meeting will begin with the annual budget hearing.

CDPHP has announced that our current health insurance plan will be unavailable in 2016. Their suggestion for a replacement plan comes with a 17% rate increase. We are setting up a meeting with our broker, Council Services Plus, to get information on additional options.

Kathryn McCary has been analyzing the CSEA's proposals to develop a response. I don't expect any real negotiations for a few more weeks. I can update you at the November meeting.

Our computer projector, purchased in 2006, has stopped working. We will be purchasing a new one. It is amazing how much less expensive they are than they were 10 years ago.

Lois Gordon continues to recover from her knee surgery. We hope to have her back sometime in November.

### **Automation and Resource Sharing**

The JA Council met on November 4 here at MVLS. Over 70 computers are on order for SALS & MVLS libraries. The JA is offering two new options: an All-In-One machine with no tower, and Mac option for library staff that do not need all Polaris functionality. JA is unable to provide service on Macs. There will be a new Polaris upgrade completed on December 2. This upgrade will allow for the implementation of the new LEAP product and e-resources integration with Polaris. Erica Wing's term on the Council will expire in 12/31/2015. We should reappoint her to the Council.

Sharon O'Brien has been working extensively with JA to assist in the implementation of enriched EDI at SCPL. This will allow SCP to have newly purchased materials come in ready to go on the library shelves with no in-house processing or cataloging required. It is anticipated that other libraries will go down that road in the future.

We have released the 2016 CLDA grant application to SCP. The completed application is due back at MVLS before our January meeting, where discussion of the proposal will be an agenda item. On MVLS approval of the 2016 CLDA grant application, we will release 90% of the 2016 CLDA to Schenectady.

We had a few issues develop with delivery between MVLS and CDLC libraries served by Empire Library Delivery. Sue has set up a Google form to help track items that move between member libraries and CDLC.

### **Outreach and Adult Services**

The 2015 Authors Among Us programs are continuing. This year there are projects in Cobleskill, Johnstown, Middleburgh and Schenectady.

### **Youth Services**

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten project is underway. Each library in Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties has received 5 bags of 10 books, plus posters and bookmarks. The eventual goal is for each library to have 10 bags. In addition, Sue is developing baby bags for younger children.

Sue and Mary Fellows (UHLS) planned and presented a Ready to Read @ NY Libraries workshop titled *It's All About the Children – No, Wait! The Parents: Strengthening Young Families Through Modeling and Readers Advisory*, held on the morning of October 2 in Schenectady. In the afternoon, Lisa Kropp from the Suffolk County Library System focused on modeling and readers advisory customer service, with funding from our NYS Family Literacy Grant. 48 were in attendance, 11 from MVLS libraries and branches. Registration fees and a travel reimbursement was offered through the NYS Family Literacy grant to MVLS attendees for this customer service workshop. Handouts and other materials will be available to members through the MVLS and UHLS websites.

Cobleskill, Northville and Mont Pleasant had duplo/lego building programs in October, borrowing 9 bins of legos and 2 bins of duplos. The Rotterdam branch had its Science @ Your Library program in October. Sue is also ordering additional science equipment through the GE Foundation grant.

Sue's Workshops, Meetings & Field Visits: *It's All About the Children – No, Wait! The Parents: Strengthening Young Families Through Modeling and Readers Advisory Workshop*, SCP, 10/1; *Science @ the Library*, ROT, 10/3; *Library Program Squared Symposium*, University of Albany, 10/11; *Planning Meeting*, UHLS, 10/11; *Weeding*, GLV, 10/14; *Ready to Read Training*, Lake Placid, 10/21; *NYS Youth Consultant Meeting*, Lake Placid, 10/22; *1000 Books Before Kindergarten Webinar*, 10/23; *Manga Bounces Back Webinar*, 10/29.

### **Member Services**

Upcoming workshops include the following:

November 5: Marketing workshop

December 3: Youth Services workshop - Maker Spaces

January 7: Best of the Best books of 2015

February 4: 2016 Summer Reading Program

The NYLA conference was in Lake Placid October 22-24. Many programs fell under the theme of advocacy, community engagement and effective customer service. We had several member library staff attend. MVLS has a Continuing Education Reimbursement Grant to assist libraries with having staff attend the conference.

## Advocacy & Awareness

The Foundation's general appeal mailing will go out in mid-November. Don't be surprised if you receive a solicitation to support the grants that the Foundation provides to member libraries through MVLS.

On the subject of those grants, we have invited libraries to apply for the Community Engagement and Local Advocacy Grants. These will be funded by the Carol Clingan Library Advocacy Fund established when Carol retired and by the Foundation. Several libraries will be applying for these grants. The awards will be approved at the January MVLS board meeting.

I have begun making presentations to member library boards of trustees on the development of the 2017-2021 MVLS Plan of Service. I visited Amsterdam at the end of October and have three meetings scheduled in November and three more in December. The rest will be in January and February 2016. We'll discuss the content of these sessions at the November board meeting.

## Meetings, Contacts & Field Visits

10/1/2015	John Naple Nicole Hemsley, Amsterdam Free Library Eric Kass, Fort Hunter Free Library Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library Terry Pavoldi, Middleburgh Public Library MVLS Workshop Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library Devon Hedges, The Community Library
10/2/2015	Mary Salluzzo
10/5/2015	Esther Swanker Foundation Board Erica Wing, Johnstown Public Library Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library Devon Hedges, The Community Library Robert Schofield, Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP
10/6/2015	Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
10/7/2015	HFM School Library System Council
10/8/2015	Peter Belenchia, ALDS Hanna Ahrens, Canajoharie Library & Art Gallery Karen Balsen, Division of Library Development Eric Kass, Fort Hunter Free Library Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library
10/9/2015	Capital District Library Council Foundation Board

	Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library
	MVLS Board of Trustees
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
10/13/2015	Sarah Beekman
	Division of Library Development, NYSED
	Erica Wing, Johnstown Public Library
10/14/2015	Capital District Library Council
10/15/2015	MVLS Board of Trustees
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
10/16/2015	MVLS Member Library Directors
10/19/2015	Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library
10/20/2015	Esther Swanker
	Catherine Caiazza, Schoharie Free Library
10/21/2015	Hanna Ahrens, Canajoharie Library & Art Gallery
	Karen Balsen, Division of Library Development
10/22/2015	Steve Bachman, Four County Library System
	Wanda Bruchis, Mid York Library System
	NYLA Conference
	PULISDO Meeting
	Devon Hedges, The Community Library
10/23/2015	NYLA Conference
10/26/2015	Amber Shultes
	Kathy Naftaly, Crandall Library
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
	Ginny Wilday, Sharon Springs Free Library
10/27/2015	John Naple
	Kathleen Gundrum, Capital District Library Council
	Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
10/28/2015	Esther Swanker
	Cheryl Cufari
	Deb Callery, Johnstown Public Library
	MVLS Trustee Education Session – Amsterdam Free Library
10/29/2015	John Naple
	Nicole Hemsley, Amsterdam Free Library
	Deb Callery, Johnstown Public Library
	Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System
10/30/2015	John Naple
	Foundation Event Committee
	MVLS Member Library Directors