

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Director's Report June 2006

Author Tour: The all consuming activity for May was the tour of author Jerry Pallotta. Jerry did his program at 42 locations in our area and had a total audience of over 5,000. His program was a great success and one that will be remembered by the children for a long time. Although Irene did most of the on-site visits with Jerry I did get a chance to do some myself. Jerry's response to the tour was very positive and something he would do again sometime in the future. On to next year with the plans for the MadCap Puppets.

MLA Legislative Day: I attended Legislative Day and talked with a number of our state legislators. Funding for the near future seems bleak and if there is a significant cut in state aid this will be a financial blow to the Cooperatives.

Orientation: On May 16 I went to Midland and met with our new board member Stu Bush and Melissa Barnard (Director) and held an orientation. Stu is taking on the unexpired term of George Pratt and in October will serve his first three year term.

Ball Game: The ball game at Comerica Park was a success. Jim Seidl and myself were on the field to accept the check from the Tigers and Ernie Harwell. The weather was better than last year and the Tigers won. With the winning season the Tigers are having the ball park was sold out for this game. The over \$7,000 raised this year will be available for libraries planning to add to their endowment funds or to start a fund. Details will be forthcoming this summer.

PR: This summer the cooperative is promoting the summer reading programs at our libraries utilizing ads in the theaters in our eight county area. The promotion will go from May 15 to August 15.

Workshop: In partnership with White Pine Cooperative, MMLC held a PR workshop on May 24. There were 40 people in attendance and Trent Smiley from CADL was the presenter.

Website We are working with George Pratt to update our website. Hopefully by our meeting date we can show you a mock up of the new site.

Internet Connection: Recent changes in the Flint Chamber and the Flint Visitors and Convention Bureau mean that the connection to the Internet that we have enjoyed for the last six years may change. I had a meeting with the parties involved on May 25 and we plan a second meeting on June 7. I should have something to report to the board at our meeting.