

**Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative  
Director's Report  
March 2009**

**Northland Interim Director:**

The Plan of Service committee will meet on March 13 to discuss the changes in the Northland Plan of Service to include having a part-time director. The Northland Board will meet on March 27 to conduct business which will include a discussion of how Northland will function after the MMLC contract expires.

**Library of Michigan:** The revision of the new rules for PA 89 of 1977 have been approved and are going the process in state government so that will be in place by the October 1, 2009 due date. Cooperatives will have to revise their Plans of Service to accommodate the various provisions of the rules.

**Our Plan of Service committee will** review our Plan to see what changes need to be made. The Cooperative Directors have drafted a template of a Plan of Service which we will use as a guide. Our goal is to have the Plan ready for adoption at the May meeting. After adoption by the board we will need to have a majority of the member libraries approve the new Plan and then it is sent on to the State Librarian.

**Workshops:** In February, we had a very successful workshop on Marketing Library Services. Twenty five were in attendance including a number of librarians from neighboring cooperatives. In March, we have contracted with Warren Graham to do his Black Belt Librarian program. This program will be co-sponsored by the Suburban Library Cooperative and will be held at the Fenton Community Center. In April, we will be co-sponsoring a workshop on customer service in Frankenmuth with the White Pine Library Cooperative.

**May Tour:** The tour this year features The Storytellers ([www.thestorytellers.org](http://www.thestorytellers.org)). We anticipate that 40 performances will be done during this tour. It's great to see the response to this program since the libraries have to pay this year as they did last year. Previous to this the Cooperative budget absorbed the cost, but due to the 17% cut in funding we have had to change it to a cost share program.

**Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL).** The big news since our last meeting is that the Governor has decided to disband HAL in an effort to cut costs. The good news for the library community is that in her budget for next year she has not cut the amount of state aid. Also, she has kept the Library of Michigan intact, so when HAL is dissolved it will be moved to another department in its entirety. At this point there is talk that LM will go to the Department of Education, but things may change. On the day of our meeting, March 12 there is a hearing in Lansing on the changes to HAL. If the timing is right I will attend the meeting.

**Rural Libraries Conference.** Irene and I will be attending the conference, scheduled for April 29 to May 1 in Acme, Michigan. This year the Cooperative Directors Association will have a booth at the conference with information on what the cooperatives offer. We will prepare a handout to distribute at the conference.

**Website enhancements:** We have added the Director Search ad to the MMLC website ([www.mmlc.info](http://www.mmlc.info)) as well as contact information for the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Services.