

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
Director's Report
June 2009

Northland Interim Director:

Northland Board and member libraries continue to work on a new arrangement to run the cooperative after the contract with MMLC expires September 30. The Plan of Service has been revised and will include hiring a part-time director for the cooperative. Just as in our cooperative the change in the Plan is now in the hands of the member library boards awaiting their approval

Library of Michigan: No news on the disposition of the state library. We are still waiting for the Executive Order from the Governor dissolving HAL and directing where the various departments in HAL will be sent.

Broadband conference: On May 20th I attended the Broadband Conference offered by the Library of Michigan at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Over 200 attended the conference which brought together librarians, trustees, and community members to discuss plans for improving the infrastructure of the state to provide better access to the Internet. I presented in a session on the impact that e-rate discounts have in making Internet access more affordable for all public libraries.

MLC meeting: I attended on May 15 the meeting of the MLC board of which I am a member. Major discussion was held regarding the future of MLC and their relationship with OCLC. More info on the future will be forthcoming.

MMLC Plan of Service has been sent to our member libraries for approval.

Workshops: In June we will have a workshop featuring Sonya Norris from the Library of Michigan presenting on the topic of "social networking and using these new technologies in libraries. Sonya will talk about Facebook, YouTube, Twittering, RSS feeds and more. The workshop will be held at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library in Midland. At present we have 35 registrants.

May Tour: The tour this year featured The Storytellers (www.thestorytellers.org). We had great attendance and will give a full report at the meeting.

Rural Libraries Conference. Irene and I attended the conference, scheduled for April 29 to May 1 in Acme, Michigan. I was the recipient of the Rural Librarian of the Year Award.

Director Search: Interviews were held June 2 and June 4 to interview the 4 candidates for the Director position. Further information will be given out at the meeting.