

# **Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative**

## **Director's Report**

### **March 2010**

**Strategic Plan:** The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the three year plan that was adopted in 2006. In February, the Advisory Committee approved the revisions as presented and sent it forward for Board approval.

**State Aid Budget:** MMLC received its first payment of the fiscal year late in January. The second half will be transferred in July. Public libraries are still waiting for their first payment.

**Universal Service Fund:** 471 forms have been submitted for telecommunication services and internet access. MMLC costs will be reimbursed at 80% this year and expects to receive \$2,016 in reimbursements in 2010-11.

**Workshops:** The January 26 millage workshop was a resounding success. Held at Flint Public Library in their lower level meeting room, attendees heard outstanding presentations from Stephanie Mallak Olson, Iosco – Arenac District Library Director; Shirley Bruursema, Kent District Library Board Chair; Richard Butler, Jr., Law Weathers, and Trenton Smiley, Genesee District Library Community Relations Officer. On March 16, we will host a book repair workshop featuring Nora Carr, Michigan State University Archivist. April brings an outstanding opportunity to hear three prominent speakers on the topic of teens, especially boy readers, and features Michael Sullivan, Patrick Jones, and Erin Helmrich.

**Library of Michigan:** Mike Flanagan, Michigan Department of Education Superintendent, issued a surprise announcement on February 12, 2010. Supt. Flanagan reported on the progress made to enact the two Executive Orders that Governor Granholm introduced last year. The report detailed the efforts of the Library of Michigan to downsize its operations and find new homes for the Genealogy Collection, the Federal Depository materials, General Main, Dewey and Reference Collections. The budget, cut this year by 10%, will be further reduced by 23% in the next fiscal year and includes a staff reduction from 45 to 32 employees. The elation from the presumed victory to save LoM (in tact) was short-lived.

**Michigan Library Association:** Gretchen Couraud, Executive Director, and Larry Neal, President, made a presentation to the Cooperative Directors that stressed the importance of Institutional Membership in MLA. The MLA Board is reviewing the dues structure for Institutional as well as Personal memberships and will also define the reasons why each membership is important to the profession.

**Midwest Collaborative for Library Services:** MLC and INCOLSA became MCLS on February 15, 2010. The first Board meeting was held by conference call due to the weather. The next meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2010 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. There is an equal representation from Michigan and Indiana libraries. I will be serving on the interim Board for the 2010 calendar year.

**Friends of Michigan Libraries:** LaRene Klink, MMLC Board member, was asked to be a presenter at the February 18 Friends Linking event on Communication at the Ypsilanti Public Library.

**Haiti Relief Efforts:** Gwenda Motley's son, Navy Petty Officer Dennis Motley, was featured in a Flint Journal article Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Petty Officer Motley's ship was deployed to Haiti to help after the earthquake that devastated Haiti. His ship helped distribute more than 125,000 meals and 1,000 gallons of water.