

LM4x



Library of Michigan's Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2007
*In Every
Issue*



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*Happy
Holidays!*

News from Nancy

State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson

It's been about a month since many of us gathered at the Michigan Library Association conference in Lansing. Back to our day-to-day responsibilities and jammed workloads as we try to squeeze in everything that needs to be completed in calendar 2007!



Before I close the book on the MLA conference, however, I am compelled to do a bit more back-patting for the libraries and staff who this year were recognized with State Librarian's Excellence Award and Citations. The creative thought, extra effort and problem solving you bring to the table is a testament to the commitment you have made to serving your communities.

It's not just because these libraries demonstrated the best in library service – they did. It's not just because I like singing the praises of the library community – I do. Honestly, it's because I think the underlying mission of the State Librarian's Excellence Award bears repeating, to libraries of all sizes, shapes and types.

Service for service's sake is not enough, not nearly enough, in the lean economy in which we find ourselves. Today and in the years to come, service will be about more than finding the right book, directing to the right Web site, or matching a patron with the right community-enrichment class.

The smartest librarians – the ones most likely to emerge from even the darkest financial days on solid footing – are those who constantly retool and think ahead, anticipating the broadest of patron needs. When you put that kind of thought into your library programming, outreach, collection and service, you'll find you'll no longer have to worry so much about defending your library's value. Your patrons will be standing up to do it for you!

Ask anyone today – a parent, a teacher, a business owner, your average guy on the street – whether he or she thinks libraries are important. Chances are you're going to hear nothing but solid support. But, as library directors around the state strive for excellence and do their utmost to anticipate changing needs and wants of their communities, I believe the support will become very specific, very personal.

When that happens, you've earned not only a library supporter in the generic sense, but a community member who will shout from the rooftop about the importance and "can't live without it" nature of today's library.

Best wishes for a safe, thoughtful and happy holiday season,

Nancy



- Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City is the recipient of the 2007 State Librarian's Excellence Award for exemplary public service. The Library of Michigan Foundation annually gives this prestigious honor, which includes a trophy and \$5,000 in privately raised funds to be used for library service, to one Michigan library.
- Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie and Peter White Public Library in Marquette each received a Library of Michigan Foundation Citation of Excellence, including a \$1,000 prize and a trophy.
- The State Librarian's Excellence Award is sponsored by Hantz Group Inc. and Edward Surovell Realtors.



Celebrating at the State Librarian's Excellence Award luncheon during the Michigan Library Association annual conference in November are (from left) Judith Moore, executive director of the Library of Michigan Foundation; Pamela Christensen, director of Peter White Public Library in Marquette; Kate Van Auken, director of Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City; Kenneth Miller, director of Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie; and State Librarian Nancy Robertson.

LM News

New Statewide Goals Come with New Five-Year LSTA Plan



By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The new *Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2007 Through September 2012* for the Michigan LSTA program began Oct. 1. With a new plan come new goals.

To give some background about the plan, the Library of Michigan receives funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the purposes of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). As part of the LSTA program, the library is required to have a five-year plan detailing how the federal funds will be used to meet the goals of LSTA.

To figure out which goals would help the current and future needs of Michigan libraries, the Library of Michigan spent much of 2007 asking that question and listening. Many librarians from all types of libraries, as well as the public, participated in the evaluation of the previous five-year plan and State Librarian Nancy Robertson's series of town meetings.

The Library of Michigan combined the ideas we heard with the goals of LSTA and came up with three new goals, based on three statewide needs.

To meet the need for equitable statewide access, the first goal is:

Equity of Access

Increase equity of information access and library resources by providing basic statewide access to information and resources, and special assistance to libraries in underserved rural and urban communities, and to libraries that are working to provide service to persons having difficulty using a library.

To meet the need for improved basic services and programming in rural and underserved areas, the second goal is:

Equity of Service

Increase equity of service to Michigan residents by providing professional development resources and opportunities to libraries throughout the state to improve public services, programming and outreach, especially to underserved rural and urban populations.

To meet the need for new technologies and programming in rural and underserved areas, the third goal is:

Equity in Innovation

Foster new, innovative services and programs by funding scalable pilot projects for use by libraries statewide to meet and anticipate Michigan residents' constantly changing needs for library services and information.

To accomplish the three goals, statewide programs are listed in the plan, complete with appropriate output and outcome targets. In the next issue of *LM4X*, we will have an article explaining the LSTA programs.

In the meantime, for more information, including the complete *Five-Year Plan*, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/lsta>.

Michigan Reads! 2007 Was a Winner for Michigan Libraries

By *Elisia Johnson, state census data coordinator*

Michigan Reads! 2007 and the children's book *Big Chickens* by Leslie Helakoski were a huge hit with libraries across the state. From the kickoff celebration in August until the last event wrapped up Oct. 1, children and adults alike had a great time with *Big Chickens*.



This one-state, one-children's-book program is devoted to boosting early childhood literacy. The Library encouraged Michigan residents to read *Big Chickens*, by Michigan author Helakoski, throughout the month of September. The book follows four timid chickens on a humorous romp through the woods as they manage to overcome obstacles and ultimately conquer their fears.

Michigan public libraries, K-2 schools, Head Start programs and Michigan School Readiness Programs received a Michigan Reads! 2007 kit that included a hardcover copy of *Big Chickens*; a programming resource guide; a brochure on early literacy for parents and caregivers from the FACT Coalition; reproducible tips for parents and caregivers from Reading Is Fundamental Inc.; stickers and a poster.

The 2007 Michigan Reads! program was sponsored by Target, with additional support from the Library of Michigan Foundation.

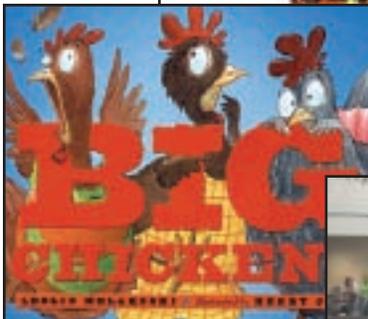
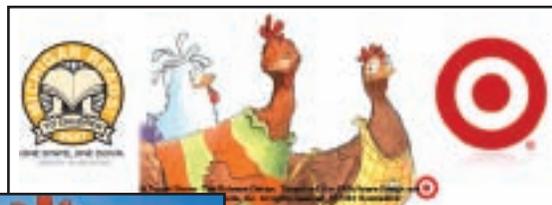
A Michigan Reads! survey showed the majority of recipients, 95 percent, thought the materials were good to very good, and many recipients used ideas from the programming guide, which the Library developed just for this year's program. The 411 survey respondents provided a total of 1,250 programs using the Michigan Reads! kit and attracting children of all ages. Program offerings included:

"A fifth-grade class put the book on as a play with costumes. They performed the play for the local elementary school and classes at the parochial school."

"A live chicken brought in for story time laid an egg before the story was over."

Governor Jennifer Granholm also proclaimed September as Michigan Reads to Children Month, encouraging Michigan residents to take an active part in the program.

Michigan Reads: <http://www.michigan.gov/michiganreads>
Leslie Helakoski: <http://www.helakoskibooks.com>



Wayne State University (right) hosted a reading of *Big Chickens* on Sept. 28 in the David Adamany Undergraduate Library atrium. About 50 preschool-age children attended from WSU's Child Development Laboratory at the Merrill-Palmer Skillman Institute.

Summer Reading 2008

By Sheryl Mase, director, statewide services

On behalf of the state's public libraries, the Library of Michigan is a member of the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP, <http://www.cslpreads.org>), a grassroots consortium of states working together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials for children at the lowest cost possible to their public libraries. Federal LSTA grant funds go toward the membership fees, and also to purchase and distribute a summer reading manual to each public library outlet in Michigan. The Library of Michigan recently sent out nearly 700 manuals for next summer's reading program, "Catch the Reading Bug" for children and "Metamorphosis @ Your Library" for teens.

The Library of Michigan heard from 105 Michigan libraries/library systems that they had 63,931 children and teens sign up for summer reading in 2007. These libraries reported offering 10,720 different events associated with their summer reading programs. It is great to see so many kids reading during the summer months. Congratulations on your success!

Bookmarks Available for Adult Summer Reading Programs

By Karren Reish, Michigan Center for the Book coordinator

A sample copy of the Michigan Center for the Book 2008 bookmarks for adults is on its way to libraries, included with the 2008 Summer Reading Program materials.

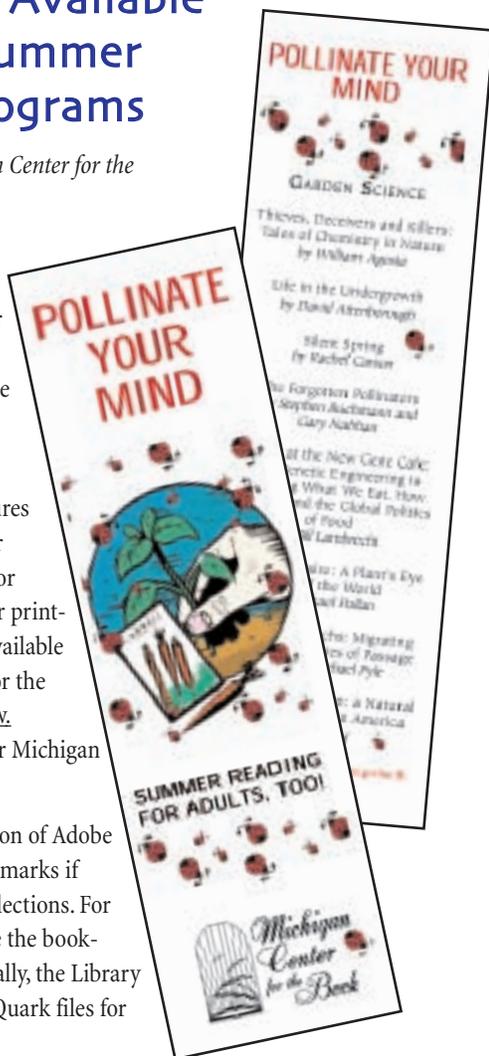
The color bookmark features the phrase, "Pollinate Your Mind: Summer Reading for Adults Too!" A PDF file for printing these bookmarks is available on the Michigan Center for the Book Web site, <http://www.michigan.gov/mcfb>, under Michigan Book Lists.

Anyone with the full version of Adobe Acrobat can edit the bookmarks if needed to match local collections. For libraries that want to have the bookmarks printed professionally, the Library of Michigan can provide Quark files for the printer.

A direct link to the file can be found at:

<http://www.michigan.gov/documents>

[/hal/lm_SummerReadingBookmark2008_206727_7.pdf](http://hal/lm_SummerReadingBookmark2008_206727_7.pdf).



2007 Family History Month a Success

By Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/genealogy coordinator

With the holidays rapidly approaching, we can look back on another successful Family History Month. Throughout October, the Library of Michigan celebrated Family History Month by offering 30 free genealogy programs.

Topics included Beginning Your Family History Research, Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online, Preservation Hints for Your Family Treasures and Vital Records at the Library of Michigan. The annual Michigan Genealogical Council seminar, held Oct. 20 at the Library of Michigan, was another success, with more than 100 people attending.

Seeing all the new researchers the programs draw is particularly exciting, too, as it captures the essence of Family History Month: bringing people together to investigate their ancestral roots. In addition, Family History Month has always offered the Library of Michigan the chance to thank the state's genealogical community for its dedicated support throughout the past year.

Plans are already under way for next year's genealogy programming, including the Learning More at the Library of Michigan genealogy seminar on Saturday, March 29. More information about this program, as well as a registration form, will be posted online at <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory> in 2008.



Save the Date

Learning More at the Library of Michigan genealogy seminar set for Saturday, March 29.

Ingham County Genealogist Praised for Contributions

By Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/genealogy coordinator

The Library of Michigan this fall honored John Castle with the 2007 Genealogy Appreciation Award, which recognizes Michigan's genealogical community by acknowledging individuals who have been notably supportive of the Library's programs and services.

As chair of publishing for the Ingham County Genealogical Society, John oversaw the society's microfilming of Ingham County township records. Thanks to



Family history researcher John Castle and Randy Riley, Library of Michigan special collections manager, celebrate after John received the 2007 Genealogy Appreciation Award in October at the Library of Michigan.

his efforts, family history researchers now have access to these underutilized and unique genealogical resources, which include burial cards, vital records and much more. Copies of the microfilmed township records were donated to the Library of Michigan on behalf of the Ingham County Genealogical Society. John is a charter member of the society, which also has microfilmed Ingham County newspapers.

The Library of Michigan has presented the Genealogy Appreciation Award since 2002 as part of the October Family History Month celebration. Previous award winners are Peggy Sawyer Williams, Barbara Brown, J. William Gorski, Ruth Lewis and Dr. Joseph Druse.

Library of Michigan Honors Two Employees Retiring in 2007

By Sue Adamczak, Law Library administrator

The Library of Michigan celebrated the retirement of Richard Lucas on April 30. Family, friends and patrons gathered to reflect on Lucas' 39 years of service and professional accomplishments.

Lucas began his career with the Michigan State Library in 1968 as a student librarian. After graduating from Western Michigan University with a master of science in library science, he joined the Michigan and Family History Unit as a reference librarian and Michigan documents specialist. Among his other duties, Lucas was responsible for collecting and organizing publications from state departments and agencies. While engaged in this work, he created the Michigan Documents Classification System (MDCS). He was widely recognized for his expertise in the history of the state and, in particular, the history of state government.

In 1991, Lucas joined the staff of the State Law Library. He was a dedicated researcher who became the Law Library's resource for answers to questions about Michigan's constitutional conventions and its legislative process. In addition, he was in charge of maintaining the Law Library's extensive print and microform collections.

Because of his intimate knowledge of the collections, he was instrumental in planning the relocation of the Law Library from the Williams Building to the Michigan Library and Historical Center this past summer. Lucas drew up the detailed floor plans that would provide a guide for the placement of each part of the law collection in its new space.

On June 29, the Library of Michigan also celebrated the retirement of Laurene Moore, as her family, friends and patrons joined together to recognize her achievements.



Richard Lucas



Laurene Moore

Moore began her employment with the State Law Library in November 1985. For more than 20 years, her efforts ensured the prompt and efficient delivery of many Law Library services and programs. She participated in the creation and distribution of a brochure detailing the Law Library's services, and promoted the Law Library by participating in local civic events and professional meetings.

Her most important contribution, however, was largely unseen by patrons. It was her ability to keep the law collection authoritative and up-to-date. This enabled patrons to conduct comprehensive research by guaranteeing them timely access to materials.

Over the years, she trained more than 60 students to assist her in keeping the law collection current. Yet, she also made herself available to listen to their concerns about the challenges they faced. Her interest and concern helped many of them to get through difficult times and to achieve academic success.

Rich's and Laurene's dedication to the Law Library is particularly apparent since, like Moses knowing that he would not enter the promised land, they wholeheartedly devoted their time, energy and expertise to preparing the collection for successful relocation to the Michigan Library and Historical Center.

Michigan Center for the Book Encourages Young Readers to Enter National Reading and Writing Contest

By Casey Warner, Department of History, Arts and Libraries Communications Office

The Michigan Center for the Book invites students to share their experiences reading a book that touched their lives as part of a national reading-writing contest called Letters About Literature.

For readers in grades 4 through 12, Letters About Literature is sponsored by the Library of Congress Center for the Book, in partnership with Target, and is coordinated on the state level by the Michigan Center for the Book.

To enter, readers write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, from any genre — fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic — explaining how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves.

The deadline for entries is Dec. 14. The Michigan Center for the Book has sent the contest guidelines to all school and public libraries in Michigan. The guidelines and required entry coupon — as well teaching materials such as lesson plans, writing samples and assessment checklists — also are available on the Letters About Literature Web page at <http://www.loc.gov/letters> or via e-mail by contacting the national program director at lal@epix.net.

Judges representing each state's Center for the Book will select the top essayists in the state on three competition levels: Level I for grades 4-6; Level II for grades 7 and 8, and Level III for grades 9-12.

The three Michigan winners each will receive a \$50 Target gift card, a \$300 donation to his or her school library and a certificate of achievement. Each state winner will advance to the national competition, in which judges will select six national winners (two per competition level) and 12 national runners-up (four per competition level). Each national winner will receive a \$500 Target gift card and a Reading Promotion Grant of \$10,000 for his or her school or community library. National winners will be instrumental in deciding how the library funds will be spent. The 12 national runners-up will win a \$100 Target gift card and a Reading Promotion Grant of \$1,000 for their school or community library.

Entries will be assessed on three criteria: content, or the writer's achievement in addressing the contest theme; exposition, or the writer's use of language skills; and voice, the writer's style and originality of expression.

Letters About Literature is one of the Center for the Book's most successful literacy programs for adolescents. Last year, more than 55,000 young people from across the nation entered the competition.

Promote, Learn About Events for Librarians



By Sonya Schryer Norris, Web site administrator

Are you familiar with the Statewide Events for Michigan Librarians online calendar at http://titan.libraryofmichigan.org/cgi-bin/calendar.pl?calendar=HAL_LM_Cal_1?

This calendar, hosted by the Library of Michigan in a cooperative effort with Michigan's libraries and library organizations, is for library staff, trustees and friends. Libraries and library organizations are encouraged to participate and submit their events to make this calendar rich in content and useful to its audience.

The calendar lists professionally related events, such as continuing education opportunities, conferences, workshops, open houses, vendor demonstrations and other events of broad interest to the library community.

Grid	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
List	7	8	9 - 6:00 am - 1:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm	10 - 6:00 am - 1:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm	11 - 6:00 am - 1:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm	12	13
Today			Workshop (Online)	Workshop (Online)	Workshop (Online)		
2-Week				10:00 am - 12:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm	11:00 am - 1:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm		
3-Week							
4-Week							
Month				1:00 pm - 4:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm - 8:30 am - 1:00 pm			
Search							
Add Event							
Login							

Noteworthy New Items at the Library of Michigan

To see what's new at the Library of Michigan, go to ANSWER, the library's online catalog, at <http://www.answercat.org>, and click the button "Check for New Books." Here are a couple notable items that have arrived recently:

Abrams Foundation Genealogy Collection

Master Abstracts of Certificates of Enrollment Issued for Merchant Vessels at Selected Great Lakes Ports, 1815-1911. 5 reels. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2007.

Genealogy Microfilm VK 23.7 .M37 2007

Certificates of enrollment, registration or license were known collectively as vessel documents. They were issued to managing owners or masters after proper measurement and proof of place and date of construction were provided as evidence that vessels of five-ton or greater capacity were entitled to rights and privileges of American-documented vessels. More information can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/research/microfilm/m2107.pdf>.

Michigan Collection

Birth Records: Monroe County, Michigan. 12 vols. to date. Monroe, MI: Genealogical Society of Monroe County, Michigan, 2003-.

Michigan F 572 .M7 B57 2003

An excellent genealogy resource for early southeast Michigan residents continues with an ongoing publication of the Genealogical Society of Monroe County (www.gsmc-michigan.org).

The multi-volume set contains transcriptions of all births registered in Monroe County, 1867-1891; additional volumes up through 1897 will be published soon. Information typically found in these records includes date and place of birth, father's name and residence and mother's maiden name. The original volumes are housed with the Monroe County clerk.

Given their genealogical value, vital records are one of the most important — and popular — resources in family history research. Similar indexes to local vital records are available for a number of other counties across the state, including Genesee, Hillsdale and Muskegon. Often published by the local genealogical or historical society, all of the known published indexes for Michigan locations are available onsite at the Library of Michigan or through the interlibrary loan network.



Library of Michigan Foundation

Making a Planned Gift Is Simple

By Judith K. Moore, executive director, Library of Michigan Foundation



Donors play a critical role in the Library of Michigan's ability to annually update its materials, digitize older resources and add new digital subscriptions. This summer the Library of Michigan Foundation became the beneficiary of a generous bequest in support of the Library of Michigan's Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH). This thoughtful gift will make a lasting difference for SBPH and the patrons it serves across the state.

Donors may choose to restrict their bequest to the Library of Michigan Foundation for a specific Library of Michigan collection or program. They also may choose to memorialize or honor a family member by establishing a named fund that will provide support to the donor's area of interest. Endowment funds protect the gift in perpetuity by restricting the principal and distributing an annual payout from the investment. A restricted bequest should be made in the broadest terms possible consistent with the donor's interest to make sure the purpose of the bequest meets the changing needs of the Library of Michigan and does not become obsolete in the long term.

Sample Bequest Language to Contribute a Gift (Minimum Contribution - None)

I devise to the Library of Michigan Foundation, a Michigan nonprofit organization in Lansing, Michigan, the sum of \$ _____ (describes devise—for example "One Thousand Dollars" or "percentage of my estate") to be held, administered and used by the Library of Michigan Foundation Board of Directors for the support of the Library of Michigan's _____. (Specify the charitable purpose—for example, "genealogy collection," "Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped" or "youth programs").

Sample Bequest Language to Establish a Named Fund in the Foundation (Minimum Contribution - \$25,000)

I devise to the Library of Michigan Foundation, a Michigan nonprofit organization in Lansing, Michigan, the sum of \$ _____ (describes devise—for example "Thirty Thousand Dollars" or "percentage of my estate") to be held, administered and used by the Library of Michigan Foundation Board of Directors for the establishment of an endowed fund to be known as the _____ Fund. (Insert your name, or the name of the person you are honoring or memorializing). The earnings from this fund are to be disbursed in accordance with the Library of Michigan Foundation's

spending guidelines and used to support the Library of Michigan's _____. (Specify the charitable purpose—for example, "genealogy collection," "Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped" or "youth programs").

We invite you to become a member of the Legacy Society of the Library of Michigan Foundation by making a planned gift commitment to the future of the Library of Michigan. For additional information, please contact Judith Moore, at (517) 373-4470 or moorej10@michigan.gov, without obligation.

MeL—The Library Made with Me In Mind

We Heard You: Yes, We Have Chilton's

By Sonya Schryer Norris, Web site administrator

In 2005 a survey was posted to the MeL homepage, mel.org, for librarians and the public. The number-one new database request was for Chilton's — the diagnostic and repair database for automobiles and light trucks from Thomson Learning, Inc.

We're pleased to be able to say, "Yes! MeL now has Chilton's." Chilton's allows you to search by automobile makes and models back to 1954. You can review data on Chevrolets, Fords, Porches, Saabs, Toyotas and 33 other makes.

Information on the vehicles includes technical service bulletins and recalls. You can search these based on auto system, diagnostic trouble code, manufacturer or symptom. Chilton's also includes maintenance information such as recommended intervals for servicing engine oil and filter, tires, spark plugs, etc. Chilton's has repair data including wiring diagrams and diagnostics on systems ranging from brakes to heating and air conditioning. And best of all you can answer, "Yes!" when patrons ask if MeL has Chilton's.

Check out Chilton's at <http://mel.org> or go to http://0-infotrac.galegroup.com.elibrary.mel.org/itweb/lom_accessmich?db=CHLL.

MeL Best of the Web: Jobs and Careers

By Sonya Schryer Norris, Web site administrator

MeL Best of the Web is a browseable, searchable collection of Internet resources from around Michigan and across the Internet. It strives to provide high-quality resources particularly important to people seeking information related to Michigan within subjects such as the automotive industry, history and genealogy. MeL Best of the Web also includes the highest-quality Internet resources on each topic, selected by librarians for both patrons and other librarians. You may browse Best of the Web by selecting a subject on the left side of the MeL homepage.

Spotlight on Jobs and Careers, Best of the Web

The Jobs and Careers section of MeL Best of the Web provides information on a wide range of topics of interest to job seekers, including cover letters and resumes, employee satisfaction rankings (for employers ranging from the federal government to the best places to work for people over age 50 according to AARP), exploring career preferences, internships, nearly 60 job posting sites and a section on learning about careers. MeL Jobs and Careers is a comprehensive list of high-quality Internet resources for workers of every age seeking another job in their field or a new career.

MeL would like to thank Kate Pittsley of Eastern Michigan University, MeL selector for Jobs and Careers.

To check out Jobs and Careers, go to the left-hand column of mel.org and click on Jobs and Careers.

MeL by the Numbers

As of November 2007, total libraries participating in MeLCat:

Academic: 40
Public: 117
K-12: 20
Special: 1
Tribal: 1



Items available in MeLCat: 26.2 million
Bibliographic records: 7.7 million
Average weekly MeLCat requests: 7,435 requests

2007 requests: 349,445; Fulfillments: 310,385; Fill rate: 88.8 percent

Your Good Ideas

Helping Patrons Care for Personal Collections

By Kevin Driedger, cataloger and collections conservator



Libraries have wonderful collections. We've spent a lot of time and money to build these collections, and we do what we can to preserve and repair these items for future use. Many of our patrons also have wonderful collections that they want to preserve, and they often look to their local library as a place to find preservation information. There are a variety of

things libraries can do to provide the resources patrons need to take care of their collections.

Train your staff: It is important to have at least one staff person trained in book repair. This is not only good for your collection, but it is also a wonderful public service if this person can be available to the public for consultations. The staff person can do a quick assessment of the patron's book and suggest some appropriate remediation.

Know your local resources: Get to know local individuals and businesses that are able to help patrons with their collections. Check with the staff at local used and rare bookshops, photography studios and museums for recommendations.

Add helpful resources to your collection: Include good books on taking care of personal collections and book repair in your library collection. Add a section on your Web site linking to helpful online resources.

Some good books:

- *Caring For Your Family Treasures: Heritage Preservation* by Jane and Richard Long
- *The Care and Feeding of Books Old and New: A Simple Repair Manual for Book Lovers* by Margot Rosenberg and Bern Marcowitz
- *The Care of Fine Books* by Jane Greenfield

Some good Web sites:

- Library of Congress' Preparing, Protecting, Preserving Family Treasures: <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/index.html>
- American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works: <http://aic.stanford.edu/>

Provide engaging public programming: Libraries provide a variety of adult programming, including book discussions, computer classes and financial planning. Why not add a program on caring for personal collections? A capable staff person, or an outside speaker, can discuss the basics of preservation with some real-life examples. During National Library Week, invite patrons to bring in one of their own hardcover books to have a free Mylar dust-jacket cover applied. Invite someone from a local museum to talk about how its staff cares for the museum's collection.

Consult an expert: If you are unable to solve a patron's preservation need, it might be time to consult an expert. The Library of Michigan has staff members who are ready to help. Contact Rare Book/Preservation Librarian Carol Fink at cfink2@michigan.gov or (517) 373-3765, and Collections Conservator Kevin Driedger at kdriedger@michigan.gov or (517) 373-9440.



Beginning Workshop Offers Full Range of Library Basics

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

Beginning Workshop is set for May 20-22 at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey. Beginning Workshop and New Directors Workshop will overlap, offering the same programming the afternoon of Tuesday, May 20.

Intended for paraprofessional staff needing a basic background in library topics, Beginning Workshop will provide 3.2 CEUs for initial Level VII certification. Participants will complete .8 CEUs before the workshop through free online classes. The workshop starts on Tuesday afternoon, includes a great Wednesday evening keynote and finishes up Thursday afternoon.

The schedule is packed with topics that cover the gamut of library services:

- For programming, we look at young adults, children, community outreach to underserved populations, and child and adult literacy.
- In technical services, we will cover basic cataloging and collection care.
- Under collections, we will learn about general collection development, young adult collection development, weeding, and the ever-popular genealogy and local history collections.
- We will look at what happens at the reference desk through reference services and interviewing, MeL – the Michigan eLibrary, and reader's advisory for children, young adults and adults.
- Service to patrons also is covered with a customer service presentation and ideas for how to deal with difficult patrons.
- We will review library staff certification and continuing education.
- Technology is always an issue, so we will cover Library 2.0, managing technology (or the nuts and bolts of software, hardware and networking), and adaptive technologies and resources for patrons with disabilities.

Speakers include Kevin Driedger, Gayle Hazelbaker, Anne Heideman, Julie Meredith, Scott Norris, Sonya Schryer Norris, Sarah Redman, Karren Reish, Fran Runnels, Kris Rzepczynski, Laurie St. Laurent, Ben Sebrovski, Angela Semifero and a Michigan State Police officer.

For a fun presentation on an important topic, well-known librarian and storyteller Michael Sullivan (<http://www.talestoldtall.com>) will provide Wednesday evening's keynote, "Boys and Books."

Registration for Beginning Workshop is available at <http://www.michigan.gov/lma> and <http://www.michigan.gov/ldds>. The cost is \$100 and includes meals. Information on hotel rates is included in the registration packet. We will see you in Petoskey!

New Directors Workshop Topics

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The New Directors Workshop is set for May 19-20 at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey. New Directors Workshop will overlap Beginning Workshop, offering the same programming the afternoon of Tuesday, May 20.

Intended for directors and trustees of public libraries needing a basic background in library management topics, New Directors Workshop will provide 1.2 CEUs. The workshop starts Monday afternoon, includes an evening reception to meet other directors and finishes up Tuesday afternoon.

Workshop areas include:

- Finance topics such as budgeting and fiscal control, state aid and the annual report and funding, millages and grants.
- Human resources, including hiring, firing and evaluations, customer service, and continuing education and certification.
- Library law and trustee and board roles.
- Technology planning: e-rate and technology plans and what the deal is about Library 2.0.
- Marketing through PR and advocacy.
- Management and advocacy with QSAC.

Speakers include Terri Assaf, Gayle Hazelbaker, Barb Hoeffner, Sonya Schryer Norris, Martha McKee, Karren Reish, Trent Smiley and Lance Werner.

Registration for New Directors Workshop is available at <http://www.michigan.gov/lma> and <http://www.michigan.gov/ldds>. The cost is \$60 and includes meals. Information on hotel rates is included in the registration packet. We will see you in Petoskey!

QSAC: Quality Counts

New QSAC Libraries

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

Congratulations to the following libraries, which recently achieved certification!

Essential Level Libraries

- Dearborn Heights City Libraries – July
- Farmington Community Library – July
- Harper Woods Public Library – August
- Hastings Public Library – August

- Troy Public Library – August
- Allegan Public Library – September
- Baldwin Public Library – September
- Mackinac Island Public Library – September



Enhanced Level Libraries

- Canton Public Library – July
- Northville District Library – October

Current QSAC Certification Statistics

	Libraries	Cooperatives
Essential:	134	6
Enhanced:	21	4
Excellent:	3	2



Legal Ease

Open Meetings, Open Microphones

By Lance M. Werner, library law specialist

A few years ago a library trustee asked me, “How well should I know the Open Meetings Act?” (OMA), 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 *et seq.* I responded, “extremely well,” which was probably an understatement. I should have said, “You should know it like the back of your hand.”



Library trustees should never become comfortable with the OMA, as comfort leads to complacency and complacency can lead to liability. I could write pages and pages on OMA, but for the sake of you readers and because of space limitations, I will limit my comments to the rights of the public to address governing boards of libraries at open meetings.

Under Michigan law, there is no doubt that the public has the right to address a library board during an open meeting. Sec. 3(5) of OMA, MCL 15.263 provides:

A person shall be permitted to address a meeting of a public body under rules established and recorded by the public body.***

In addition to the right to address the board, attendees have fairly broad discretion to say what they want to say. Unfortunately, it is not unheard of for attendees to launch into personal attacks on a board member or an entire

board. The fact is that the OMA permits these types of tirades as long as they relate to how library employees, directors and trustees perform their duties. As stated in the law, library boards should put policies in place on how the public is permitted to address the board in its open meetings. The “rules” should be in writing and designed to minimize potential disruptions, clearly dictating how the public may address the board.

The board’s policies should cover, among other things: time limits for each individual addressing the board [AG Opin. No. 5332, p. 536, July 13, 1978]; when during the meeting the public may address the board; that people addressing the board must identify themselves [sec. 3(4). The OMA prohibits requiring attendees to identify themselves as a *condition precedent* to attending a meeting. The negative implication of this section is that it is permissible to require people to identify themselves when they address the board.]; and where the public may set up recording equipment within the meeting room. A library board can adopt a rule against people making personal attacks that are not related to how an officer, employee or board member performs his or her duties. [AG Opin. No. 5332, p. 536, July 13, 1978].

Attendees cannot be excluded unless there is an actual “breach of the peace” that occurs during the meeting [sec. 3(6)]. The phrase “breach of the peace” is not defined in the OMA. However, Attorney General Frank J. Kelley has defined it for the purposes of the OMA. In Opinion No. 5614 he relied on the definitions of “breach of the peace” that had been used by Michigan courts. [AG Opin. No. 5416 p. 519, December 21, 1979]. He stated:

In *People v Johnson*, 86 Mich 175, 177; 48 NW 870 (1898), the Court defined a breach of peace to be:

... a violation of public order, a disturbance of the public tranquility, by any act or conduct inciting to violence, or tending to provoke or excite others to break the peace...

In *Johnson*, the Court approved the following instruction given to the jury by the circuit judge:

To be intoxicated and yelling on the public streets of a village, in such a manner as to disturb the good order and tranquility of that village, would be an act of open violence, and would be a breach of the peace, ...

Based on this definition, it seems that coarse language by itself would not constitute a “breach of the peace,” but coarse language coupled with public inebriation might. It will be important to discuss this issue with your legal counsel.

It is also worth noting that under the OMA, attendees have a right to record the board’s public proceedings [sec. 3(1)]. Although the public has a right to attend an open meeting where an interview is being conducted, the members of the audience do not have the right to ask questions of candidates. [AG Opin. No. 6019, p. 507, December 29, 1981].

A library board’s policies on public comments at board meetings should be prepared in clear and concise language. They should be articulated in such a way that a reasonable person could understand what is and is not allowed. It is also important that the library’s policies on how the public may comment at

board meetings are drafted in a manner consistent with the OMA. Copies of the policies should be made available to the public.

As I have indicated in previous articles, once policies have been developed it is sound practice to regularly revisit them every few years. It is also a good idea to submit the library's policies to the library's attorney for review and comment.

Lastly, this article has been prepared strictly as an informational service of the Library of Michigan, Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries. It is not intended in any way to constitute legal advice. Please feel free to contact Lance M. Werner, the library law specialist at the Library of Michigan, at (517) 373-1299 or wernerl@michigan.gov for further information about this topic.

HAL Highlights

This Winter at the Michigan Historical Museum

A few of the fun events coming up at the Michigan Historical Museum over the winter months:

WinterFest: A Season of Celebrations

Saturday, Dec. 15

The museum's second annual WinterFest features a variety of family-friendly activities that celebrate the excitement of the season and the diversity of our Michigan heritage.

Saturday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Traditional Winter Sports - Ride a mule-team wagon, learn to walk on snowshoes, hear mushers' stories about dog sledding in Michigan and Greenland and listen to Native flute music.

Statehood Day Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 26, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Statehood Day 2008 honors the 171st birthday of the Great Lakes State. On January 26, 1837, Michigan joined the Union as the nation's 26th state. As part of this year's celebration, titled "Proud of the Past, Positive about the Future," you can tour the museum galleries to learn more about Michigan, its citizens and their accomplishments as well as enjoy presenters, costumed interpreters, musical performances and hands-on activities highlighting Michigan milestones.

For more details on these and other events at the Michigan Historical Museum, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/museum>.

