



Access

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First Quality Services Advisory Committee Meeting a Success

by Martha S. McKee, Project Coordinator

When asked "Why benchmarks?" the Quality Services Advisory Committee (QSAC) members' answers were clear and concise. They answered, benchmarks:

- Give us credibility;
- Inspire us to achieve more;
- Give us a vision, from the minimum to the highest level of service;
- Justify our current funding and can lead to more; and
- Provide uniformity and consistency of service across the state.

The organizational meeting was held February 22, and by mid-morning the QSAC had reached the conclusion that public librarians need guidelines that will define: 1) What are essential library services; 2) What are enhanced library services; and 3) What are excellent library services.

"It was a very heads-up and promising start," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "I was impressed and gratified by the enthusiasm generated in that first meeting. Consensus from every type and size of library represented on the committee was reached. I think we are on our way to the creation of a set of guidelines that can enhance public library service throughout the state for years to come. I'm proud to work with such leadership as the Quality Services Advisory Committee."

The QSAC created criteria for the development of each measurement of quality. Each criteria should be:

- Customer-focused;
- Following the Keep It Simple Sweetheart (KISS) standard;
- Measurable;
- Easy to understand;
- Attainable and appropriate;
- Not so burdensome that they crush good intentions;
- Incentive-driven and not punitive; and
- Results-based. (For example, the measures will call for telephones to be answered within four rings, rather than calling for libraries to have x number of telephones.)

The QSAC discussed a three-tiered approach for quality measures. Each level will apply to all libraries, regardless of size:

- **Essential Services:** These standards are the basics of all library service. They are relatively low-cost standards that every library can and should achieve. They are helpful to libraries starting out, and a review for those who are established. This will be known as the Bronze Level.
- **Enhanced Services:** These standards are more of a stretch to achieve. They require more



Notes from the State Librarian



Dear Colleagues:

Perhaps you have heard the old adage “if you don’t aim for something, how will you know that you’ve achieved it?” That adage comes to mind when I think of the Quality Services Advisory Committee (QSAC) and the work they have before them in the creation of benchmarks for public library service in Michigan. This is no small task. In preparation, the group is looking at measures of quality from other states, reading about indicators of service such as the American Customer Service Index and ISO, and discussing what could work in this state.

Why are we doing this? To give us benchmarks, that “something to aim for” in the old adage. To put it simply: how will we know that we are providing excellent library service if we can’t define what it is?

But benchmarks, measures of qualities, standards, excellence indicators, whatever you call them, can also bring angst. It is true that QSAC is charged with the creation of benchmarks for Michigan. But it is also true that librarians across the state will have input into this project and none should fear that they would be forced to meet unachievable requirements in order to receive state aid. First, it should be understood that whatever the committee recommends would be presented to the library community with many opportunities for discussion. Then we “try out” the benchmarks as in a voluntary program of achievement. Only after we have agreement that these benchmarks are meaningful and helpful – and this could be some years down the road – will we consider having these requirements tied to funding.

Although this is a long-term effort, we need to start somewhere, and Martha McKee and the QSAC have given us a good start (see lead article in this issue). You’ll be hearing more about this as the work progresses, and I hope you will join in the discussion of defining excellent public library service.

Christie

Praise for Distance Ed MLS

More and more library schools are starting to offer the option of getting an online degree. Jan Stevenson, director of the Presque Isle District Library in Rogers City, tells about her experience with the University of Wisconsin distance education MLS. The Presque Isle library board made a conscious decision to “build local talent” and provided important support for this effort.

Jan writes....

Growing up in a non-digital age made it difficult for me to believe I would ever be able to obtain my Masters in Library and Information Science degree totally online. Old beliefs and ideas that had been formed in my mind about such educational endeavors caused me to question the credibility of such a degree. Would I get the quality education I truly desired? Even if it were a quality education, how would I ever convince others of its quality, or fight deeply rooted stigmas about online degrees? One thing I knew for sure was that because of my remote location and inability to afford my education without maintaining my full-time position, online was the only way I would be able to do it. After making a list of all of the programs I could find any information on, I eliminated any that were not ALA accredited and after a good deal of deliberation settled on the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. Having to actually appear on campus only to take my Comprehensive Examination was what originally drew me to this program, but the quality of the program and the excellent instructors are what kept me there. Two years later I have graduated with only one thing to say, whew! Someone asked me if I felt my education was as good as the students who had participated in “actual” classes? My answer surprised them and probably will surprise you as well. UWM did a study that showed overall their distance education students do better on the final Comprehensive Examination than the average on-campus student. As far as actually attending classes, our classes may have been a virtual experience, but there was a dimension to them that could only exist in an online environment. Everyone felt free to contribute, without prejudice and without many of the barriers that exist in “actual” classes. I learned so much from other students, and also gained tremendous insight into other cultures and beliefs. So, is obtaining your degree totally online possible? Yes, but it is not for everyone. It took countless hours of dedicated work, a very cooperative employer, and a very patient family, before I obtained my degree. Would I do it again if I could go back?

You better believe it!!



kids Korner

by Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist

It's mid-July, the library is swarming with excited children, you have handed out what seems like the millionth sticker and the magician who was supposed to perform at 2 p.m. just cancelled. It's the Summer Reading Program, year 2002, and you sometimes just don't think you can make it through another year. Take heart, all of your hard work and dedication is not only greatly appreciated but also wildly popular. In 2000, there were 42,857 children's programs offered in Michigan's public libraries; the attendance was 1,354,863. There were 3,410 young adult programs offered with an attendance of 83,941.

Have you ever wondered how it all began? Where was the first summer reading program and what did it look like? Some of the pioneer summer reading programs began to appear in the late 1890s. They weren't necessarily called summer reading programs but they most definitely resemble what we consider the traditional summer reading program (i.e. Kick-Off Party, read books, get rewards, go to programs, Finisher's Party). They included the Hewins' vacation reading club out of Hartford, Connecticut; the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Summer Playground Program; and the Library League of Cleveland.

In the Hewins program, librarian Carolyn Hewins visited schools prior to summer vacation and invited children who were staying in town to come to the library once a week for book talks. Since this was prior to the opening of the children's room, books taken from the adult shelves were displayed and discussed. The Pittsburgh program revolved around providing books for six weeks during the summer at selected neighborhood playgrounds. Story hours were also conducted there. Cleveland at first stressed good book care, advertising of the library to children and directing the reading of the city's young people. This new league coincided with the purchase of more than one thousand new children's books. Instead of visiting each school, the library sent a letter to each child in Cleveland urging them to: 1) work for clean books; 2) help recruit new members; 3) use the library in the summer and find the pleasure books will add to vacation good times; 4) help find a motto for the club; 5) record the books they read, and new members found; and 6) list six or more of the best books they read to share with other children. Membership began in the spring of 1897 with 3,500 members, and by the fall the numbers had increased to 12,615. A firm offered to furnish silver pins/badges for five cents to each of the members. The library felt that offering the pins to children for three cents helped to reach those who had not been reached by ordinary methods. A program in the fall where the league sang their theme song drew in 5,000 participants. Bookmarks with booklists were also distributed to encourage reading.

These programs were widely publicized nationally and adapted and expanded in libraries of all sizes in all areas of the country. Today's traditional summer reading programs include parts of each of the three programs listed above (we don't celebrate clean books as

Challenging Young Minds



by Linda Neely, Public Services Librarian

About a year ago, a Harper Woods elementary teacher spied an impressive bronze sign while crossing a footbridge over the Huron River in Ypsilanti. The sign identified the Huron River as the home of the rare Smeeth Frog, a fur-covered creature dwelling in the Huron River bottom. Feeling her herpetologist's hackles rise, the teacher immediately checked reference materials in public and university libraries and emailed several amphibian experts concerning this fantastic frog. All scientific resources concurred that no such frog exists. In fact, while at a library computer the teacher discovered the official Smeeth Frog web site (<http://members.aol.com/smeethfrog/>) which cleverly exposes the critter as an EMU student hoax.

The story might have ended here, but the teacher showed her 4th grade class a photo of the sign and challenged them to discover whether the furry frog is real. Students did their own research in reference books and on the web. They too contacted frog experts until they had proven beyond a doubt that the Smeeth is a fantasy creature. Many of the enlightened students thought it inappropriate that the Smeeth Frog sign is so prominently displayed. Soon the editorial desk of the *Ypsilanti Courier* was barraged with letters from Harper Woods 4th graders protesting the public posting of an untruth. Much to the delight of the young authors, many of their letters were printed in the *Courier*, as were responses from local adults and students. Thus, a chance occurrence led to an exciting opportunity for youngsters to explore research methods and constructive means of protest.

Is there an issue in your locality that cries out for the attention of student inquiry? Be sure your patrons know that they can learn about frogs and just about everything else at their library.

much as we used to... at least not publicly!). These programs were the precursors to today's summer reading programs.

Why do we do it? Well, there is research and statistics that point to how children who participate in summer reading programs are more prepared for the upcoming school year and retain more of what they learned the previous year. Teachers can tell the difference between those kids who read during the summer and those who didn't. Summer reading programs encourage children to spend significant amounts of time with books, a first step toward reading achievement. Library programs also encourage parents to play greater roles in their children's literacy development – another factor leading to reading achievement. I could go on and on because there are so many different reasons why summer reading programs are good for kids, teens and parents. I congratulate you for your dedication and commitment to families and literacy as you prepare for your 2002 summer reading programs. They are not easy but the rewards are endless, and they often pop up when you least expect them, even when the magician cancels his 2 p.m. performance and you've run out of stickers. Enjoy your summer and have fun!

2002 Beginning Workshop Just Around the Corner

It's that time of year again! The Library of Michigan will be hosting the Beginning Workshop May 19-24 at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey. The Beginning Workshop is a week-long introduction to public librarianship which covers topics such as the selection and organization of library materials, reference services, administration, library law, cataloging, public relations, children's services and much more.

Qualified attendees who complete this workshop may earn a Level VII Certificate of Library Experience. Registration is limited to 72 participants, and priority will be given to personnel in public libraries who must earn a Level VII certificate to meet state aid requirements.

Registration is only \$125, which includes all sessions, meals, break refreshments and workshop materials. Reservations and payment for hotel accommodations are the responsibility of individual participants.

For more information, call Karrie Waarala at (517) 373-3746 or Donna Holdridge at (517) 373-1587.

(Continued from page 1)

the Essential Services leave off. This will be known as the Silver Level.

- **Excellent Services:** These standards call for the highest level of service obtainable. They are a stretch for any library and require funding and commitment to superb service at every level. This will be known as the Gold Level.

Within each tier (Essential, Enhanced and Excellent) there may be different levels of competency for different classes of libraries. For example, reaching the Excellent Level for hours open may be different for a Class I library as opposed to a Class VI library. The subcommittees will make class-related recommendations if deemed necessary.

The committee recommended that the Library of Michigan should award libraries with certificates as they successfully complete each area. (Not all guidelines in each area will apply to every library. A library can consider a guideline "not applicable" for their particular mission.) These certificates can be displayed at the library and can be used for publicizing the library locally.

The QSAC also made a list of "thoughts" library staff and boards need to keep in mind as they work through areas of competency. They ask that libraries:

- Work through the levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold, each area of competency at a time;
- Recognize that completing each level may take as long as five years, or longer as funding allows;
- Realize they possibly have Bronze, Silver and/or Gold levels in different areas of competency, depending on their mission, funding and history; and
- See achieving the guidelines in the areas of competency as part of their long-term strategic planning process.

The QSAC used examples from other states, Alabama, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Virginia and Wisconsin, and from the Detroit Suburban Libraries Roundtable as a basis for their discussion during the February 22 meeting.

Developing the guidelines is a year-long process and will include six subcommittees working in different areas of library service. Please read the article "Quality Services Subcommittees Want You" on michlib-1 and on the Library of Michigan's web site (libraryofmichigan.org) and sign on as a subcommittee volunteer today!

All subcommittee recommendations will be published on michlib-1, in *Access* and via the library cooperatives. Even if you cannot serve on a subcommittee, your suggestions and ideas are welcome. Please send them to Martha McKee at the email addresses listed at the end of this article.

Full minutes of the meeting will be forthcoming on the web site: <http://www.plfig.org/qsac-committee.htm>

QSAC Committee members:

Class I

Ward A. MacCready, Director, Sunfield District Library
Capital Library Cooperative

Susan E. Warner, Director, Wolverine Community Library
Northland Library Cooperative

Class II

Kathleen A. Hepker, Director, Hudson Public Library
Woodlands Library Cooperative
Elizabeth A. Nordin, Director, Hesperia Public Library
Lakeland Library Cooperative

Class III

Julie Toole, Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library
Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Paul T. McCann, Director, Dexter District Library

Class IV

Mary Kynast,
Director, Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library
Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative

Kathleen Mosher,
Director, Kalkaska County Library
Mid-Michigan Library League

Class V

Pamela R. Christensen,
Director, Peter White Public Library
Superiorland Library Cooperative

Stephanie Mallak Olson,
Director, Iosco-Arenac District Library
White Pine Library Cooperative

Class VI

Christine Hage,
Director, Clinton-Macomb Public Library
Suburban Library Cooperative

Jon Cawthorne,
Assistant Director for the Main Library
Detroit Public Library, Detroit Associated Libraries

Cooperative Director

Alida Geppert,
Director, Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative

Trustees

Babs Krause, East Lansing Public Library,
Capital Library Cooperative

Don Green, Clinton-Macomb Public Library,
Suburban Library Cooperative

**Public Library Funding Initiative Group
(PLFIG) Representative**

Bob Raz, Director, Grand Rapids Public Library,
Lakeland Library Cooperative

Michigan Library Association Representative

Stephen A. Kershner, Executive Director

Library of Michigan

Christie Pearson Brandau, State Librarian

Karrie Waarala, Continuing Education Library Specialist

Martha S. McKee, Project Coordinator

If you have questions, concerns, or comments,
please send them to Martha McKee at mmckee@library-ofmichigan.org or msmckee@iserv.net.

Building an Award-Winning Children's Collection

by Karrie Waarala,
Continuing Education Specialist



We all recognize the prestige that goes along with a Caldecott or Newbery Medal for excellence in American children's literature. Have you ever thought of showcasing the Caldecott and Newbery winners in your collection? It's not only a great way to honor the authors and illustrators who have received those medals throughout the years and highlight the best of the best in children's literature, but it can also be a way to honor donors to your children's collection.

The Mendon Township Library and the Sturgis Public Library in St. Joseph County have done just that. Both libraries feature a complete collection of all 65 Caldecott winners and 81 Newbery winners which were funded by donations from the community. The Kiwanis Collection at the Mendon Township Library was made possible by a donation from the local Kiwanis Club, while the Moira Rose Memorial Collection at the Sturgis Public Library grew out of donations made to the library in memory of patron Moira Rose. At both libraries, the donors wanted the money to be used for quality materials for the children's collection. At Sturgis, the money enabled the library to purchase replacement copies of many of the worn titles. Mendon, a much smaller library, was able to add many of the award-winning titles to the collection for the first time, even obtaining some out-of-print titles in good condition from used book-sellers across the nation.

Both collections are appreciated and used extensively by children, parents and children's literature students alike.

This year David Wiesner's *The Three Pigs* and Linda Sue Parks' *A Single Shard* joined the ranks of the Kiwanis Collection and the Moira Rose Memorial Collection. Wiesner received his second Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children for his whimsical take on the story of the three little pigs. The Newbery Medal for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children went to Parks for her story of dedication to one's dreams set in 12th Century Korea.

LIBRARY of MICHIGAN BOARD MEETING DATES SET

April 22nd

May 10th

July 12th

September 13th

October 11th

November 8th

All Board Meetings start at 10:00 a.m.





LIBRARY OF
MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

Read Indeed! Program Program Restrictions

Literacy, A Definition

Literacy means an individual's ability to read, write, and speak in English, and compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function on the job and in society, to achieve one's goals and develop one's knowledge and potential.

Program Limitations:

Read Indeed! Program grants will be made consistent with the following program limitations:

- Applications will be accepted directly from public schools, correctional facilities, or community or adult education programs only when they are in collaboration with a qualified applicant organization.
- Applications will be accepted only from organizations located in Michigan.
- Your services *must* focus primarily on the literacy needs of adults.
- Funds will not be provided for any request that designates more than 50% of the proposed grant for salaries.
- Requests for library collection development must have a service/tutoring component.
- An organization is eligible to receive funding for one challenge or one innovative program in a calendar year.
- Each organization is eligible for a maximum of one challenge and/or one innovative grant.
- MICS license number is required to apply.
- Maximum amount to be awarded per challenge or innovative grant is \$7,500.

01/02 02/03

2002 Read Indeed! Program Deadlines to Remember

- April 26th Grant applications mailed out
- June 14th Deadline for receipt of applications
- June 28th Proposals to committee members for review
- July 19th Committee meets to review
- August 20th Recommendations to Foundation Board
- August 21-23rd Grantees notified
- August 21st Press Release of Awards out

For complete guidelines including restrictions and an application form: please contact the Foundation office at our toll free number 1-888-469-8605, or Email: lmfoundation@michigan.gov.

**Read Indeed!,
the adult literacy
grant program
of the Library
of Michigan
Foundation.**



The award is in the form of working abacus with an appropriate plaque and was given to Christie Pearson Brandau and Molly Dwyer.

Library of Michigan Receives the Keppel Award

by Molly Dwyer, Library Research Analyst

The Library of Michigan continues their award-winning statistics reputation, with the receipt of their 8th Keppel Award. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) present the Keppel Award annually to state library agencies that have excelled in the completeness, promptness and high quality of the local public library data that they collect, edit and submit annually to NCES. The national public library data, including individual library data and state summaries, is made available by NCES in diskette form. Summary tables are also published annually in hard copy under the title Public Libraries in the U.S.

The Francis Keppel Award is named after a distinguished U.S. Commissioner of Education who served from 1962 to 1965. He was also a well-known NCLIS Commissioner from 1978 to 1983. Francis Keppel was an early and enthusiastic advocate of reliable and regularly reported national, state and local library statistics that would provide a basis for public policy formulation and the improvement of library services for the entire spectrum of the U.S. population.

Read Michigan! 2002

A Michigan Week

Tradition Since 1994



Read Michigan! 2002

by Kim Laird, Technical Services

One way to celebrate during Michigan Week, May 18-27, is to participate in Read Michigan! Do a display of Michigan books. Have a book group read a book by a Michigan author or about Michigan. The following 2001 books were selected as Read Michigan titles, either about Michigan or by Michigan authors.

Adopted By An Owl: The True Story of Jackson, the Owl, by Robbyn Smith Van Frankenhuyzen. Illustrated By Gijsbert Van Frankenhuyzen. Sleeping Bear Press. Vividly illustrated, this children's story portrays a family who adopts and cares for an owl until he is strong enough to be released back into the wild.

Angels in the Architecture: A Photographic Elegy to an American Asylum, by Heidi Johnson. Wayne State University Press. A photographic history of the Northern Michigan Asylum located in Traverse City, supported by recollections of former patients and staff members. An architectural jewel that permanently closed in 1989, the facility treated more than 50,000 patients since its founding in 1885.

Before Motown: A History of Jazz in Detroit, 1920-60, by Lars Bjorn. University of Michigan Press. This book traces Detroit's impact on the history of American jazz before the city became world renowned for the Motown sound. Full of insightful interviews with many of the musicians themselves, the book also places Detroit's jazz scene within its social context, as the city became increasingly divided by race.

Custer and the Little Bighorn: The Man, the Mystery, the Myth, by Jim Donovan. Voyageur Press. A plethora of photographs, paintings, and maps complement this new biography of the famous Michigan Civil War General.

Detroit Biography Series for Young Readers (series). Wayne State University Press. This series for young readers features biographies of individuals who have impacted the history of the Detroit area. The series includes:

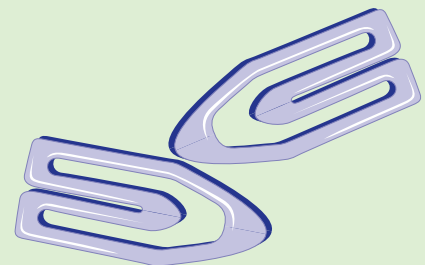
- * *Albert Kahn: Builder of Detroit*
- * *First Lady Of Detroit: The Story Of Marie-Therese Guyon, Mme. Cadillac*
- * *Reuther Brothers: Walter, Roy and Victor*
- * *Willie Horton: Detroit's Own Willie the Wonder*

Michigan Week,
May 17-28th

Michigan Week,
May 17-28th

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May 17-28th

Michigan Week,
May 17-28th



Michigan Week

Titles & Authors

Read Michigan!

Detroit Then And Now, by Cheri Y. Gay. Thunder Bay Press. This collection of photos dramatically pairs black-and-white historic photographs with a color image of the same scene, as it exists today. View the Detroit of yesterday and today, with such notable landmarks as old City Hall, Saint Anne's Church, and the Michigan Central Railroad Station.

Discovering the Peoples of Michigan (series). Michigan State University Press. This ongoing series studies the multicultural history of Michigan. Each book examines an ethnic group, their history in the state and the many challenges that they face today. The series includes:

* ***African Americans in Michigan***

* ***French Canadians in Michigan***

* ***Albanians in Michigan***

* ***Italians in Michigan***

* ***Amish in Michigan***

* ***Jews in Michigan***

* ***Ethnicity in Michigan***

The Final Season: Fathers, Sons, and One Last Season in a Classic American Ballpark, by Tom Stanton. Thomas Dunne Books. Attending every 1999 home game during the final season at Tiger Stadium, the author reflects on the Detroit of his youth, his childhood and family, and how the ballpark helped bring all of these things together. Encounters with Al Kaline, Ernie Harwell, Elmore Leonard, and fans and stadium ushers all shed insight into the continuing magical allure of "The Corner."

Frontier Metropolis: Picturing Early Detroit, 1701-1838, by Brian Leigh Dunnigan. Wayne State University Press. Using rare maps, portraits and sketches, the book traces Detroit's early history from the city's founding to the introduction of photography. Engaging the reader, these images vividly illustrate the history of the emerging city and the lives of its early residents.

Girl in Blue, by Ann Rinaldi. Scholastic. A fictitious Civil War adventure in which 16-year old Sarah Wheelock enlists in the 2nd Michigan Infantry regiment disguised as Neddy Compton. She serves as a male nurse and later works as a Union spy.

Historic Cottages of Mackinac Island, by Susan Stites and Lea Ann Sterling. Photography by Lanny Sterling And Lea Ann Sterling. Arbutus Press. A pictorial look at seventy-three cottages, including the Governor's residence, that were constructed on Mackinac Island between 1870 and 1910. Color photographs of the cottages as they look today complement the written histories of the homes and their owners.

Idlewild: The Black Eden of Michigan, by Ronald J. Stephens. Images of America (series). Arcadia Publishing. This photographic compilation explores the history of the African-American resort community in Lake County, Michigan. The Images of America series also examines the photographic record of other Michigan communities, including Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Detroit, St. Clair Shores and Marquette.

In Harm's Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of its Survivors, by Doug Stanton. Henry Holt. Soon after delivering parts of the atomic bomb to be used on Hiroshima, the USS Indianapolis was sunk by the Japanese. The survivors, including Michigan resident Dr. Lewis Haynes, drifted aimlessly in the Pacific Ocean for five days, fighting off shark attacks and hypothermia, before being rescued by the U.S. Navy.

Books About Michigan

Michigan Authors

Leonardo's Horse, by Jean Fritz. Illustrated by Hudson Talbott. G.P. Putnam's Sons. See the story behind the American Horse at the Frederik Meijer Gardens in this children's book. An artistic idea envisioned but never finished by Leonardo da Vinci, the horse was subsequently completed by a pair of American artists in 1999. One bronzed statue remains in Milan, Italy, and the other resides in Grand Rapids.

Michigan Remembered: Photographs From the Farm Security Administration and the Office of War Information, 1936-1943, edited by Constance B. Schulz. Wayne State University Press. An interesting collection of 150 photographs of Michigan during the Depression and World War II from the collections of the Library of Congress. The photographs depict urban and rural landscapes from across the state, Michigan on the home front, and other representative images from both the Upper and Lower Peninsulas.

Our Hometown: America's History, As Seen Through the Eyes of a Midwestern Village, by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds. Sleeping Bear Press. This history of Chelsea, from its founding in 1834 through the present, illustrates that the town is reflective of the American experience. Full of vintage photographs, the book explores the village's local businesses, famous personalities, contributions to the Second World War and much more.

Ruin and Recovery: Michigan's Rise as a Conservation Leader, by Dave Dempsey. University of Michigan Press. An environmental history of Michigan, this book focuses on two public conservation efforts that helped put Michigan in the national spotlight. The first developed in the late nineteenth century in response to the excesses of the lumber industry, and the second grew from the push to clean the state's air and water in the 1960s and 1970s.

Schooners, Skiffs & Steamships: Stories Along Lake Superior's Water Trails, by Howard Sivertson. Lake Superior Port Cities. A wonderful collection of artistic paintings and companion stories from the Lake Superior region. The paintings illustrate the importance of the Great Lakes and their waterways to the settlement and development of the entire region.

Stories From My Life in Baseball, by Ernie Harwell. Detroit Free Press. Stories and recollections from the Hall of Fame radio broadcaster for the Detroit Tigers.

Traver on Fishing: A Treasury of Robert Traver's Finest Stories and Essays About Fishing for Trout, by Robert Traver. Edited by Nick Lyons. Lyons Press. A collection of writing by the late famous Michigan author, in which he reflects on fishing with colorful tales and anecdotes set in the Upper Peninsula.

The first priority for the Read Michigan! 2002 committee was to emphasize recently published books that reflected the diverse history and culture of the state of Michigan. Strong preference was given to those titles that were both set in Michigan and were written by a Michigan author. Our second priority was to select books displaying a wide range of topics and issues important to Michigan residents. Preference was given to books with high visual impact, high quality writing and wide public appeal. Finally, since there were quite a few high quality titles in the same specific topic areas, we had the difficult task of limiting the number of titles chosen in the same subject area and limiting the number of titles chosen for specific reading levels. Members of the committee included Kim Laird, Kris Rzepczynski and Karrie Waarala of the Library of Michigan. Representatives from the co-sponsors, Great Lakes Booksellers Association and the Historical Society of Michigan also had valuable input and suggestions for the list.

Michigan Center for the Book

What is the Michigan Center for the Book???

by Karren Reish, Michigan Center for the Book

The Michigan Center for the Book is a program of the Library of Michigan that promotes books as an art form and as the conveyors of the written word. The program works to stimulate interest in reading, libraries, the book arts, publishing and authorship. The center does this by promoting the educational and cultural role of the book, authors, writing, reading and libraries. We feel the future of the book, especially as it relates to new technologies and to other media, is important and needs a broad and deep focus from institutions of the book world, especially libraries.

The Michigan Center for the Book was established at Wayne State University in 1986 and was formally chartered as the Michigan affiliate of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. The national center started in 1977 to encourage Americans to rediscover the joys of books and reading. States are encouraged to have their own center to work for books at the state level. As of 2002, 46 states do.

In the past, the Michigan Center for the Book has sponsored exhibits, book events, contests, author events, publications and awards. We started off with the "Nation of Readers" exhibit that traveled throughout the state in 1986 and 1987. The "Michigan Collects!" program recognized local collections by students and the public at the Detroit Public Library, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University. The national "Letters about Literature" contest encouraged elementary and secondary students to write to their favorite author. In 1996, over 800 students sent letters and four won prizes. The "Meeting Michigan Authors" lecture series brought Michigan authors to speak in libraries throughout the state. We published the Portraits of Literary Michigan poster in 1994. The Michigan Author Award, started by the Thunder Bay Literary Conference in 1992, is now sponsored by the Center for the Book and the Michigan Library Association.

Currently, we continue to sponsor the Michigan Author Award. For those wanting to nominate an author for the 2002 Award, you can use the form at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfbmiauthor.html>. We are also in our second year of an exciting new Literary Landmark program. In conjunction with Friends of Libraries, USA, we are identifying historically and culturally important literary areas. Dudley Randall, the Detroit poet, publisher and librarian, was honored at the McNichols Library at the University of Detroit Mercy. On June 29, 2002, we will be honoring former Michigan Supreme Court Justice John Voelker, who wrote as Robert Traver and is best known for "Anatomy of a Murder." We are also working with the Michigan Association of Media in Education to develop a comprehensive Michigan Authors & Illustrators database that will include biographical information, lists of writings by and about the authors, and speaking engagement information. This free database will be launched later this year.

Both the remembrance of our literary past and the possibilities of our literary future are fundamental to Michigan libraries. Encouraging interest in books and the publishing arts is our trade and our passion.

Web Sites of Interest:

Michigan Center for the Book	http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfb.html
Center for the Book	http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/
Michigan Author Award Winners	http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfbauthoraward.html



Collaboration Around the State

by Jo Budler, Deputy State Librarian

Libraries are social institutions and, as such, share with other community agencies both concerns and opportunities for service. While it is not always easy to identify common ground, it is clear from the stories we found in newspapers around the state and the stories several of our readers submitted that when libraries and other institutions are able to do so, the community benefits. The result may be any number of things — a welcome packet which makes new residents feel more at home; the establishment of health resource centers in the public library; or the purchase of equipment which assists individuals who have difficulty using the library. Whatever the product, the collaboration in each of the instances described below, has resulted in improved library service to the residents of Michigan.

Congratulations to all whom have participated in these collaborative efforts. We realize that there are more collaborative projects being undertaken than we have described here. It was not possible to be all-inclusive. But the stories that we have included give a clear message: the possibilities are boundless. We at the Library of Michigan hope that these stories inspire all our readers as they did us.

Library Welcomes New Area Residents

When a person applies for a library card at the Stockbridge Branch Library, staff ask, “Are you new to this area?” If the answer is yes, the new library user will be given an information packet. Compiled by the friends of the library, the welcome gifts are stuffed with brochures from Outreach, the Stockbridge Area Arts Council, Stockbridge Community Education and other groups. The packet also includes area maps, library bookmarks and a free children’s paperback. These materials are intended to help inform recent arrivals of opportunities in their new community.

Four Women’s and Adolescent Health Resource Centers Established Through Collaboration Efforts

Since its opening in 1995, the University of Michigan Health System Women’s Health Program has received a favorable response to the Women’s Health Resource Center adjacent to the Ob/Gyn Clinic in the U-M Medical Center in Ann Arbor. As a result, four additional satellite sites were established in January 2002 at the Brighton Area District Library, Howell-Carnegie Library, Ypsilanti District Library and Dexter District Library.

These Women’s and Adolescent Health Resource Centers feature monthly themes, books and pamphlets on a variety of basic health and medical topics as well as Community Resource Binders that offer comprehensive information about local and statewide organizations and programs. The satellite centers were made possible with a matching grant from the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation. Ruthie Goldberg, Satellite Resource Centers Coordinator for the U-M Women’s Health Program, said the collection will be reviewed and updated monthly. In the near future, the U-M Women’s Health Program intends to sponsor programs and speakers to address women and adolescent health issues.

University of Michigan Exhibit Museum and Michigan Public Library Collaboration

This winter families are able to participate in a series of hands-on science programs at their public library or the Exhibit Museum. The programs are part of the third annual reading and science program of the Ann Arbor District Library and the University of Michigan Exhibit Museum of Natural History. Part of a five-year collaboration entitled “The World Around Us,” the program featured a family reading program accompanied by reading and science events at the U-M museum and Ann Arbor library branches from January through March.

The five-year family reading/science series was initially made possible by a \$43,000 grant to the Ann Arbor library and the U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The collaboration was one of 11 nationwide to receive a 1999 Museum Leadership Initiative Award. While federal funding has ended, the programs this year are made possible by the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and the Speckbard-Knight Charitable Foundation and the Bruce Dunlap Memorial Fund.

The program was expanded this year to include libraries in Chelsea, Dexter, Manchester, Milan, Saline and Ypsilanti.

Marshall Lions Club Partners with the Marshall District Library

The collaborative efforts of the Marshall Lions Club and the Marshall District Library resulted in a new closed-circuit television (CCTV) system at the Marshall District Library. The Lions acquired the system through a \$2,400 grant from the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund and a \$600 discount from the manufacturer, Pulse Data International, Inc. The color CCTV is an electronic device that magnifies images from four to 45 times their original size.

The system is used primarily by persons with macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, optic neuropathy and other forms of visual impairment. Intended to serve as a reading aid, the CCTV is also helpful in writing letters, filling out applications, and viewing pictures, stamps, coins, magazines, catalogs, books and other items.

Our readers tell us about their collaborative efforts

From Metta Lansdale, Chelsea District Library

The Chelsea District Library is celebrating the Third Annual Poetry Competition and Celebration. This community-wide event occurs during April to coincide with National Poetry Month and is open to amateur and seasoned poets of all ages. Sponsors include the library; the local book store; the Chelsea Center for the Development of the Arts; advertising at reduced rates through the local newspaper, The Chelsea Standard; the local public schools; and grant support from the Chelsea Education Foundation.

From Kay McFarland, Troy Public Library

Troy Public Library and Writers Voice, YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, have planned together a series of Writers LIVE! events at Troy Library, January-May 2002. We received a grant from ALA for 50% of our budget. Friends of Troy Library and Writers Voice will match the funds.

From Kathy Wedyke, Deckerville Public Library

Like a lot of small towns in rural communities, the village of Deckerville was having its troubles: we were losing a lot of businesses and downtown was starting to look bad. Some people in town decided to form a group to try to remedy the situation. I joined this group. In less than a year we have made much progress. We have banners for the downtown and new Christmas decorations. The art class came up town and painted one of the storefronts that had been boarded up. Everyone seems to be taking pride in our community.

I am hopeful that as the pride grows, opportunities will present themselves. Who knows? One of those opportunities may be collaborating on a grant for an addition to our library!

From Linda Ruby, on behalf of Oxford Area Community Schools and Oxford Public Library

We would like to mention the cooperation we are engaged in currently as we plan and execute a 4th grade Battle of the Books, sponsored by the elementary and public libraries of Oxford and Addison Township. We are presenting the challenge to our 4th graders at their individual schools this week (i.e., Jan 7th) and the final battle will be held at the public library during National Library Week in April. We certainly hope the response is a positive one. The teamwork between public library and school libraries has been great!

From Roger Mendel, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

This fall the member libraries of the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative and the White Pine Cooperative were asked to participate in a joint collaboration with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan (LSEM), which is headquartered in Flint. This collaboration allows clients to fax documents to LSEM, free of charge, from their local participating library so that attorneys at LSEM can review them and give their clients the guidance needed to resolve the problems. LSEM provides a toll free number to fax to and also for the first year will pay the participating libraries a \$50 stipend to help cover the staff time involved.

From Melissa Weston, St. Clair County Library System

The St. Clair County Library System collaborated with the county veterans agency to promote awareness in recognition of the 60th anniversary of Pearl Harbor and to allow reflection upon the current events regarding September 11th. The program was held at Crull Elementary School in Port Huron. More than 110 people attended, including many veterans and local politicians. The program included live footage of Pearl Harbor; a twenty-one gun salute; and the veteran's yearly ceremony depicting Pearl Harbor. It was a great opportunity for the library to create awareness and to collaborate with the schools and county veterans office to promote a part of American history.

From Lothar Spang, Wayne State University's David Adamany Undergraduate Library

The Job Shadow Day Program, a three-year-old program held at Wayne State University's David Adamany Undergraduate Library in early February, is an Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) sponsored outreach effort. The primary goal of the program is to partner junior high and high school students with library workplace mentors in order to recruit a more diverse population to the library profession. For the past two years, Wayne State's Job Shadow Day Program has hosted ninety junior high and high school children from Martin Luther King Jr. High School, Mackenzie High School and McMichael Middle School, all located in Detroit.

Librarians from Wayne State University's David Adamany Undergraduate Library, with support from such organizations as the UPS Foundation and the Michigan Center for the Book, have sponsored an annual outreach competition entitled Students Collect. Students from junior high and high schools in Ferndale, Oak Park and Detroit, are invited to participate in the annual competition. Each competing student submits an essay about the importance of the collection and how it was chosen, and a bibliography of the materials in the collection. Cash prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners and all participants are invited to a recognition reception. The competition

supports the realization that accessing, evaluating, organizing, analyzing and using information on specialized topics is a key skill required by students in today's Information Age.

Librarians Janet Nichols and Lothar Spang from Wayne State University's David Adamany Undergraduate Library have formulated a program, using the Big 6 model that demonstrates that university librarians, in partnership with public schools, can play an integral role in preparing urban area teachers and students for Information Age learning requirements. The program, which is a one-credit course offered by Wayne State's College of Education, introduces skills to Detroit area public school teachers and, in turn, students, by providing teachers with instruction and hands-on training in one of the library's instructional computing labs.

From Ann Holt, Capital Library Cooperative

Katie Sharpe, Director of the Vermontville Township Library, reports that a new Story Time program is being initiated in partnership with a local preschool. The program is called "Value for Every Child" and is funded by a grant from the Early Childhood Connections of Eaton County. The goal is to foster a joy of reading and promote developmental change in the literacy of 3 to 5 year old children by immersing them in literature. The project began in January with a goal of reading 2002 books in 2002! Children will be read a minimum of three books a day by staff at the preschool and on field trips for Story Time at the Vermontville Township Library.

From Trinidad Abinoja-Turse, Livonia Civic Center Library

One of the major partnerships we have with Barnes & Noble occurred in June, 2001 during the Relay & Life (cancer fundraising walkathon) in Livonia. Barnes and Noble, through its community relations manager Patti Stoner, graciously lent us a Madeline costume which one of your young library friends wore during the walkathon.

We also work with Linda Hoyer, an education instructor at Madonna University, to provide an opportunity for some of her students to get hands-on experience in planning and presenting storytime programs for preschoolers. Twice a year (in spring and in fall) Madonna University students provide a half-hour storytime session for 3 and 4 year-old children. The library staff evaluates the students' storytime sessions and the evaluations are shared with Mrs. Hoyer. The library benefits by being able to add another storytime to its programming schedule and Madonna students get some practical experience.

Every summer, for the last decade or so, every child who reads at least 50 hours as part of our summer reading program and checks in at the Children's Department at least five times during the summer gets his or her name published in the Livonia Observer. The payoff for the newspaper: increased circulation on the days the list appears!



Web Site-ings

by: Lucy Roehrig, Library of Michigan
Reference Librarian & Knowledge Seeker



April is...National Poetry Month

American Verse Project

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/a/amverse/>

Find Poetry

<http://www.findpoetry.com/index.php>

Fooling with Words by Bill Moyers (PBS special)

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/foolingwithwords/>

International Library of Poetry

<http://www.poetry.com/>

Michigan Electronic Library- Poetry

<http://www.mel.org/humanities/literature/LIT-poetry.html>

Poetry Archives

<http://www.emule.com/poetry>

Poetry Links Library

<http://www.sonic.net/layne/poetrylnk.html>

Poetry Magazine

<http://www.poetrymagazine.org/>

Poetry Resources from Cornell University

<http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/lit/poetry.html>

Poets' Corner

<http://www.geocities.com/~spanoudi/poems/>

Where to do Research- Poetry & Poets

<http://www.wheretodoresearch.com/Poets.htm>

Poetry for Children

Children's Book Council- Young People's Poetry Week

http://www.cbcbooks.org/html/poetry_week.html

Giggle Poetry

<http://www.gigglepoetry.com/>

Poetry for Children

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/pochild.htm>

Poetry for Kids

<http://www.poetry4kids.com/>

Poetry Organizations

Academy of American Poets

<http://www.poets.org/>

Poetry Associations & Organizations

<http://publishing.about.com/cs/poetryorganization/>

Poetry Society of America

<http://www.poetrysociety.org/>

Cultural Organizations of Jackson County: Networking, Planning and Collaboration.



by Kenneth Miller, Interim Director, Jackson District Library

I came to Jackson District Library about two years ago after a long career at Detroit Public Library. It was quite a culture shock for me, especially as I had many community contacts in my former position and none in my new situation. After the first year, I still felt that I was missing the cultural groups in town and decided to do something about it.

In Detroit, I had been part of a group called the Community Network Committee. It was simply community agencies in Southwest Detroit who met once a month, over lunch, to network. It had no other purpose. When librarians would ask how to find community partners, I would always advocate starting a group like this in their own community. It was time to follow my own advice.

I asked Barb Decker, JDL's Patron Services Coordinator, to join me at a meeting with the administrative staff of Jackson's Ella Sharp Museum. We were going to talk about possible collaboration. As we talked, I realized that this was an opportunity to propose a networking group. They were very interested. We planned the first meeting for about a month away. It took no time to brainstorm a list of appropriate institutions to ask to participate.

The first meeting was scheduled for March 14, 2001. There were 7 participants, including the library, museum, a theatre group, a poet and the local nature center. We simply went around the table, introducing ourselves and sharing information about activities. It soon became clear that this could serve as a clearinghouse for information and marketing. The collaboration would come later.

The group decided to hold meetings at a different location each month, to highlight each institution. Every month new groups were identified and asked to participate. It was very much an "ah ha!" experience, as more and different groups came to mind. As meetings moved around the community, host institutions would describe their programs and activities. From this grew understanding and cohesiveness. It became clear that cultural institutions do not compete; they complement each other.

The collaborations began to happen almost immediately. Ella Sharp Museum was having an exhibit of historic hats. The library had some empty exhibit cases at a few locations. Extra hats were placed in the cases as "mini-exhibits" and promoted mutually. As this happened, the museum began talking about a puppet exhibit that would be in late fall and winter. The library offered to do puppet programs concurrently for children, then the nature center joined in with events. The Michigan Theatre, Jackson's historic non-profit theater, offered to show *The Muppet Movie*. The museum provided promotional materials. The first genuine collaboration was born.

As all this was going on, it became obvious that more was expected of the group which now had a name: Cultural Organizations of Jackson, or CoJax. Earlier efforts at creating an arts council for Jackson had failed, due to lack of leadership. It became more and more apparent that members felt the need for more organizational structure. The

group decided that it was too early to create a formal arts council and all that entailed, but agreed to elect officers and keep minutes.

One member felt strongly that an arts and cultural master plan for Jackson County was important and set out to organize it. This resulted in a subcommittee of CoJax, consisting of representatives of the major institutions, being formed to tackle the project. By now CoJax's mailing list included 40 people, representing 31 cultural and civic organizations. It was not difficult to get 14 committee members. A proposal was submitted to the Jackson County Community Foundation, who agreed to facilitate the project. We have had several pre-planning meetings with the foundation to date.

The collaborations resulting from the formation of Cultural Organizations of Jackson County have been small so far; it is simply a beginning. What is important, however, is that for the first time, the various institutions are talking among themselves. It is easy to see the common problems, strengths and needs, as each organization has its opportunity to host a meeting. We expect good things to come from this effort. It is an exciting time to be part of a cultural organization in Jackson County.

Organizations Represented at Cultural Organizations of Jackson Meetings:

- African American Culture Club
- Black History Tour Group, Jackson
- Capital Library Cooperative
- Center Stage Jackson
- City of Jackson
- Dahlem Center (nature center)
- Downtown Development Authority
- Earthworks (pottery)
- Ella Sharp Museum
- Fitness Council, Region 1
- Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce
- Hanover-Horton Historical Society
- Jackson Area Community Theatre Foundation
- Jackson Chorale
- Jackson County Community College
- Jackson Convention & Tourist Bureau
- Jackson County's Promise to Kids
- Jackson District Library
- Jackson Nonprofit Support Center
- Jackson School of the Arts
- Jackson Storyfest
- Jackson Summerfest
- Jackson Symphony Orchestra
- Jackson Women's History Council
- Michigan Center for the Photograph
- Michigan Shakespeare Festival
- Michigan Space and Science Center
- Michigan Theatre, Jackson
- Premiere Productions (theater group)
- Peter F. Hurst Planetarium
- Region 2 Planning Commission



Milan Public Library

In December, 2001 the Milan Public Library participated in the Washtenaw Literacy Season's Readings Programs. The library collected new books for children ages birth to 18 years old. The library could only accept books which did not have a religious theme. Agencies throughout Washtenaw County, including Aid in Milan, helped distribute the books to area children.

Wyoming Library Encouraging Reading with Winter Programs

The Wyoming Public Library is kicking off two programs this month to encourage reading.

"Let It Snow" is an adult reading club for people 18 years of age and older. It started Saturday, Dec. 1, and runs through March 31. The program is open to all adults. They will be eligible for prizes if they completely read 10 books before March 31 and complete a tracking form available at the library.

Libraries, Public Schools Sponsor African-American Read-In Chain

The Public Libraries of Saginaw and the school district of the City of Saginaw co-sponsored the "African-American Read-In Chain" in Saginaw from January 28 thru February 9. The African-American Read-In Chain is a national program sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English. Its goal is to have at least one million Americans across the nation reading works of African-American writers, thus creating a chain of readers spanning the United States.

Orion Township Public Library

The Orion Township Public Library recently put together a time capsule to be opened in 25 years, on the library's 100th birthday celebration in 2026. The box was locked and will be paneled into a wall in the lobby. Also included is a copy of our web page and a Dynix backup tape and a letter from me to the 2026 library director, as well as a poster with pictures of communities around the state with patriotic activities responding to September 11th.



West Bloomfield Township Public Library

The National Institute of Children's Health and Human Development have chosen the West Bloomfield Township Public Library as one of 20 participants in a national study of early childhood literature. Parenting programs will be offered for children up to 24 months, children 2 to 3 and children 4 to 5. Class size is limited to eight families per group, and participants must be willing to take part in interviews before and after the study.

Pinckney Community Public Library

The Pinckney Community Public Library presented a class to its community called "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent." This class was based on a program established by Foster Cline and Jim Fay, founders of the Love and Logic Institute. The project was funded with a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Library of Michigan.

Kent District Library

Kent District Library held its eleventh annual "Let It Snow Reading Club" with a gala celebration featuring best-selling author Robert Morgan. Each year the number of participants has increased, with around 5,000 readers expected to register this year.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Jo Budler at 517-373-5507 or email: jbudler@libraryofmichigan.org.

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