

Director's Report February 12, 2020

RLC Scholarships As of this morning we have funding for 1 more person to attend the RLC! That is 31 folks who may have never been before or who haven't gone in years. I think that is \$11,000 well spent! Remember, you need to register for the conference and get your own hotel room. White Pine will reimburse AFTER the conference. In order to be reimbursed, you, or whomever received the scholarship from your library, need to find me at the conference and I will check off your name on my list to make sure you attend.

MI Notable Book Tour-Apply! Great opportunity to have a Michigan author at your library. Michigan.gov/notablebooks deadline is February 21, 2020. This program was revamped a few years ago and they are really trying to spread out where the authors go. It comes with a \$100 mini-grant. https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88854_90002---,00.html

Census ALA has updated the Librarians Guide to the 2020 Census and Sheila has provided a link on our website. The first mailing is scheduled to go out March 12.

Macmillan. CEO John Sargent was at ALA and drew some ire from those who heard him speak at the conference. Macmillan is continuing the embargo for now and opted not to share the data which ultimately led to the embargo decision. There are several large library systems that have decided to boycott Macmillan by not purchasing their eBooks for their patrons. Digital Book World (publishing group) has banned Macmillan employees from attending or speaking at its conference and has created a scholarship for librarians to attend. On White Pine's OverDrive we have one title that has a 6 month wait based on the Macmillan embargo.

Redistricting. Has anyone received an application for the redistricting commission? In 2018, Michigan voted to establish the 13-member Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to pick the lines that will define our future political districts. The state picks who will serve on the commission which will be comprised of four people who affiliate with the Republican Party, four who affiliate with the Democratic Party and five who don't affiliate with either. Applications are open until June 1, 2020. The constitutional amendment also requires the Secretary of State to mail out applications to at least 10,000 people at random, but the state sent out 250,000. Michigan.gov/sos for more info.

Advocacy

- 1) Remember WebJunction has a great webinar called "When Advocacy Becomes 2nd Nature". It is not just about lobbying, but how to tell your story and why your library is so vital and important in your community.
- 2) Anyone view the "Legislative Day" webinar put on by EveryLibrary Institute?
- 3) If you haven't already, please respond to the MLA Advocacy and Legislative Priorities Survey. This was email to the White Pine list on February 5. The deadline to respond is Valentine's Day!
- 4) For Legislative Day on April 22, please register via the MLA website at <https://www.milibraries.org/advocacy-day>.

- Everyone will meet at 9 am at Cooley Law School, 300 South Capital, Lansing, on the first floor for the morning rally and lunch and the afternoon will be set aside for legislative appointments.
- The charter motor coach will leave White Pine at promptly 7:30 am for a 9:00 am arrival and leave at approximately 3:30 pm for a 5:00 pm return to White Pine.
- As the day gets closer, I will send an email requesting you let me know if you and others from your library will be coming on the bus. If you know you are going, please sign up on the sheet located on the back table. I will need a head count for the bus company as there are spots for 48.

Website. A Huge Thank You to Sheila for creating the 10 OCLC Interlibrary Loan Tutorials showing each step when ordering from Worldcat and how to request and update through our Peabody software.

Also, on our front page, there is a link to subscribe to received updates. When Sheila makes changes or adds new items to the website, you can sign up to receive email notifications of the change. Please do!

Public Library Association Conference. I will be in Nashville for PLA Tuesday, February 25 through Friday, February 28.

Library Visits! Ok...THE BEST PART OF MY JOB!!! I love how welcoming you are to your patrons, how you go above and beyond ALL THE TIME, how creative you are with programming, how you optimize space, and how you do it on the tightest budgets! You guys are AMAZING! I have visited all but 9 facilities and again, I am beyond impressed.

Building Lease

White Pine's lease with VLC, who owns the building, is up September 30, 2020. In late fall, VLC was looking at the possibility of selling the building. The White Pine Board suggested looking for other suitable office space. After looking in numerous communities, a space was found in Caro. The Board will review the option at the afternoon meeting.