

Director's Report August 25, 2021

WELCOME! Thank you so much for attending in person if you were able to. I have now visited all our member libraries, but not our special library members-Mid-Michigan Community College or the Saginaw Correctional Facility. They are pending now with school starting and Covid rising...

STATE AID Kathy Webb is waiting for confirmation Census numbers from the Treasury. This won't impact libraries until 2022-3. As far as State Aid amount, once the state budget is set, we will know the State Aid amount.

ARPA FUNDS (American Rescue Plan Act) Those who submitted a grant for ARPA Funds should hear by the end of this month if your project will be funded. The Cooperatives are also waiting to hear about the Technology and Digital Content Grant requests. LOM received 61 applications - 3 capacity and 58 equipment grants. There is about \$4M in grant funds and the grant requests total \$8M. The LOM still does not have the legislative approval for the funds, but once they get that Karren will send out the contracts to those awarded the ARPA funds.

BALA FUNDS (Build America's Libraries Act) There is still no movement on these funds.

HOPE GRANT (Round 2-Michigan Humanities) I applied for a HOPE Grant to help cover about 30% of the \$17,500.00 yearly cost for emagazines for OverDrive members. The applications are being reviewed this week.

LOM

Biz Gallo, Statewide Digitization Initiatives Coordinator

After a long wait with the hiring freeze last year LM has been able to hire a staff member to fill the role of Statewide Digitization Initiatives Coordinator, Biz Gallo. Biz has a background in the private sector with digitization services, especially for audio, film, and data. We are excited to have her come onboard in this completely new position for LM. Feel free to reach out to connect with Biz on questions around our digitization initiatives or questions you have about your own projects. The Library of Michigan hopes to provide more support around digitization to the statewide library and cultural heritage community with this new position. Be sure to gallob@michigan.gov
517-335-1402

OVERDRIVE I signed a two-year contract with OverDrive and the terms are the same as before: \$6,000 platform fee and \$55,000 for content purchases which include eBooks and eAudiobooks. As members, the platform fee is divided evenly among those in OverDrive (45 of 48 libraries) and you are billed per capita for content. If you recall last year, members decided to put an additional \$6,000 to content as our platform fee was reduced by \$6,000. A few weeks ago, I asked members about rolling that \$6,000 into your per capita cost, but I have since changed my mind. The reason is that for some libraires, it will be far more expensive than before, so we are leaving it as an additional fee for content on your invoices in November.

Basically, your invoice from last year will be the same as this year. eMagazines, will be paid for by the Cooperative at a cost of \$17,500.

OVERDRIVE ADVANTAGE PLUS All Advantage accounts have the option to share their content with the Fuel Your Mind Group. This is called Advantage Plus. Members would login to their Marketplace Advantage (username would contain the term “adv”) and under the Admin tab, locate the Advantage Plus. The library then customizes which titles to share, types of licenses, etc. This is important to understand because each library will use their Advantage/Advantage Plus account for the ARPA content.

SWANK MOVIE LICENSING Our movie licensing with Swank is set renew in December. As the date gets closer, they will send me a listing of libraires that participate and the cost for the next year. If you would like to join, let me know and I can get you a quote. If you just want information about having outdoor showings, let me know that as well as the pricing is different.

AMAZON PRIME If you are interested but have not signed up yet, please contact Jim Flury at TLN (The Library Network) as he is coordinating the statewide program. jflury@tln.lib.mi.us

SORA If you are interested in partnering with your local school district to have them access your OverDrive youth collection, let me know and we can work with our OverDrive representative.

MLA MLA’s Annual Meeting, *Connecting to the Future*, is virtual this year and will be on Wednesday, October 13, and Thursday, October 14. Their Coffee Hour tomorrow is with PBS Books and learning more about the 2021 Library of Congress National Book Festival, “Open a Book, Open the World” taking place this September 17-26.

Michigan Legal Help Shared a flier and information about the Michigan Legal Self-Help Centers.

Annual Meeting This year I have scheduled 2 virtual programs for our Annual Meeting.

- 1) Monday, October 4 at 10 am with Ann Phibbs, PhD, Founder and President of Strategic Diversity Initiatives. Link to the website: <https://strategicdi.com/> Link to Ann’s bio: <https://strategicdi.com/our-team/> Links to video clips from past presentations: <https://strategicdi.com/resources/>
- 2) Monday, October 18 at 2 pm with author Dan Gutman. Link to website: <https://dangutman.com/>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Dan-Gutman/60020139122?ref=ts
Follow on Twitter and Instagram @dangutmanbooks

Also, the Board will be meeting at Frankenmuth on Wednesday, October 6 at 11 am as we welcome the new Board members and say thank you to those who have served!

MyLIBRO App

Please join me and Mike Rossetti from MyLIBRO as he shows us what the MyLIBRO app is doing for libraries. The informational webinar is on Tuesday, August 31 at 10 am. The link to the webinar will be in the Weekly update on Friday, August 27, 2021.

Sheila and Jane

You should recall that Sheila is retiring in December, but Jane shared with me last week that she is also retiring in December. Together these women have worked 86 years for White Pine! Jane started in 1977 and Sheila in 1979. This Cooperative is so very lucky to have had these women provide consistent service to all White Pine members for many years. To say they will be missed is an absolute understatement. They could have retired when Bryon did, but instead, they stayed to make sure the Cooperative would continue to run as it always had under new leadership. They provided a welcoming and supportive environment when I was hired and continued to do so even as we dealt with COVID, purging files, moving the office, and figuring out remote work.

As a previous Director in our Cooperative, I knew I could always rely on Sheila and Jane to help me if I had questions. As the Cooperative Director, I am so very grateful for all they have done for me and those before me. As members of this Cooperative, I know you can also appreciate their dedication to this organization.

I will begin to search for a new hire in the fall. My plan is to hire one person and combine the duties of Sheila and Jane