

Director's Report August 27, 2025

Welcome! Thank you for joining us here at Briggs District Library in St. Johns, and thank you to Sara for hosting and giving us the chance to tour your renovated library!

WPLC Annual Meeting

Registration is now open for the 2025 WPLC Annual Meeting! The meeting will be held on **October 1, 2025, from 10:00 am - 4:30 pm at Saginaw Valley State University**. We will be in **Curtiss Hall, Banquet A**. Parking is available across the street in lot J1 for no additional cost. Tickets are \$30/person for member libraries, \$40/person for non-members. Payment is not due at the time of registration; invoices will be sent out after the meeting in October. There will **NOT** be a remote option.

Signup is a little different this year to make your experience (and mine) a bit smoother. The [event page](#) is still linked under the "Events" heading on the WPLC website. When on wplc.org, hover over the "Event" menu and click "2025 Annual Meeting" to reach the event page. Here you will find all the event information, including presenters, menus, etc. **To register, hover over and click ["Click Here to Register via Fillout"](#) to be redirected to the signup form**. Once you have completed the form, a registration email will be sent to the email address provided along with a copy of your responses. Please contact Alsion to make any changes.

Breakfast and lunch will be served buffet style, and we are coordinating with SVSU staff to accommodate those with food allergies and dietary restrictions. Please fill out the corresponding registration pages with any allergy/restriction info that we and the kitchen should be aware of. A copy of the menu is available [here](#). **The deadline for registration is September 17th, 2025.**

Attorney Q&A

Along those lines, one of our presenters is Anne Seurnyck from Forst Swift. I am collecting questions for Anne, and we are hoping to also have a Q&A that day. Please submit your questions to me, and I will get them to Anne. The deadline is September 5.

State Budget

I haven't heard much lately, except that the Majority Speaker of the House has stated he is expecting a shutdown on October 1, and this would include layoffs for state employees like the LOM staff. They are doing the final interview for the State Superintendent this week. This may have an impact on the Library of Michigan, as libraries are under the Department of Education. I am also still unsure about IMLS funding.

This brings us to State Aid. We have no idea. I realize that for members, State Aid is not a big budget revenue line item for you, but for the Cooperative, it is about 92% of our budget.

Depending upon what happens, if it isn't kept the same or increased, the Board may have some decisions to make about services, less travel for me, or other things will have to be considered.

GIS Project

Amber McLain has completed the input of information to the GIS Project she has been working on. Thank you to all who shared your information with her. She is now creating different categories, like mapping each Cooperative, not just the individual libraries. More will be shared at MLA. Also, Amber is one of our presenters at our Annual Meeting, but will be speaking on de-escalation techniques.

Michigan Riparian Magazine

A member library inquired about offering a digital subscription to *The Michigan Riparian* magazine. I wasn't sure how this would work, particularly if each library needed its own login, raising questions about how patrons could access it seamlessly. To explore the options, I reached out to OverDrive to ask about the process for adding magazines to our existing subscription bundle, and I posed the same question to Hoopla. Both platforms were open to escalating the request to see if adding this subscription might be feasible. I haven't received any updates yet, but I thought this was a great suggestion, especially for regional or state-specific publications.



MLA Annual Conference

Wednesday, October 29 through Friday, October 31, 2025 (early bird reg ends 9/5/25)

<https://www.milibraries.org/annual-conference>

The **Michigan Library Association Annual Conference** is the premier professional development and networking event for Michigan library staff. Each year, hundreds of library staff and library supporters gather to network, celebrate achievements, learn best practices, share insights, discuss trends, and advance the library profession. Plus, an exhibition allows library staff to connect with vendors and learn more about products and services available to libraries.

2025 Conference Venue

Lansing Center

333 E Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

<https://lansingcenter.com/>

(517) 483-7400

Reimbursable Services Support Program Grants

So far, 27 WPLC members have submitted receipts totaling \$23,960.18 for the Reimbursable Services Support Program Grants. Most have used the funds for programming, then IT, then legal support. There is still time to submit your paid bills for reimbursement. You have until September 19 to complete the [Submission Form](#).

Library Association Reimbursement - Annually, WPLC will reimburse member libraries for library association dues up to a certain amount. [Library Association Reimbursement Form](#)

I visited the Sherman Township Library in Weidman last week, as they are putting an addition on their current library building. I visited with their Board Vice Chair and two staff members for over an hour, as they are facing some challenges in finding a new director.

I met with new Director Laura Nimtz, from Sebewaing Township Library, and I am scheduled to do a Board Development at Sebewaing in September.

I also met with Seth Randall, the new Director at Pigeon District Library. The previous Director served on the WPLC Board, and Seth has agreed, with approval from his Board, to serve the remaining year left for the Pigeon District Library. We are happy to have him on board and on the Board!

[Google Doc Programming Listing](#)

Please add performers and contact information.

Your Library Policies

Reviewing and updating policies is important. Check out these resources if you need guidance.

WPLC: [Resources tab](#)

LOM: [Niche Academy Library Policies](#). If this link does not work, go to the [Continuing Ed](#) page, click on Niche Staff Skills, and then search library policies. [Administrative Resources](#)

MLA: [Policies Webinar](#). This webinar is wonky at the beginning. It appears to start about the 1-minute mark.

ALA: [Library Policies Guidelines](#)

Kent District: [KDL Policies](#)

MI Right to Read: [MLA's Intellectual Freedom Tool Kit](#)

Housekeeping Reminders...

Member Directory: Just a quick reminder that if your information has changed, like email, hours, etc., please let Alison know. [Member Directory](#)