

Director's Report
WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
August 19, 2017

CORRESPONDENCE

WVLS was notified by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction that our 2017-18 LSTA noncompetitive technology grant application was approved. The noncompetitive technology "door counter" grant, and two competitive digitization grant applications submitted by WVLS were not approved.

Notes of thanks were received from scholarship winners, **Denise Chojnacki** and **Debbie Valine** (Rhineland District Library) for funding their attendance to the national American Library Association conference in Chicago, and from **Kay Heiting** (Granton Community Library) and **Vicky Calmes** (Colby Public Library) for again offering each member public library a Summer Library Program grant to bring in a performer sometime during the summer.

WVLS Communications Coordinator **Anne Hamland** received a thank you card for presenting at WILSWorld 2017. She was joined by Steve Meyer, Data Strategist at UW-Madison and Doug Way, Associate University Librarian for Collections and Research Services at UW-Madison, to present on "Uses and Strategies of Data for Libraries."

WVLS received notice from the Public Library System Redesign Steering Committee that WVLS Business Manager **Augo Hildebrand** was selected to be on its Human Resources subcommittee and WVLS IT Director **Joshua Klingbeil** was selected to be on the Funding subcommittee.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

With the resignation of **Kristin Slonski**, who was hired in July to replace retired director Mary Dunn, the Tomahawk Public Library Board of Trustees has reopened its search for a new director. The Board appointed **Allison Puestow** as Interim Director until the position is filled.

Dominic Frandrup has been hired as director of the Antigo Public Library. He replaces Cynthia Taylor, who retired from that position in May. Dominic has 20 years of experience working in academic, corporate, and public library environments at various levels of responsibility, and most recently was the Assistant Director/IT Manager at the Waupaca Public Library. His first day at the Antigo Public Library was Monday, August 7.

WVLS PROJECTS

V-Cat Administration

On Tuesday, June 20, the V-Cat software underwent an upgrade. The migration was a success and libraries experienced minimal downtime and inconvenience. WVLS ILS Administrator **Inese Christman** shared tips and information with member libraries to prepare them for the upgrade and ensure all went smoothly.

WVLS renewed its contract for one year with the current vendor for the V-Cat online catalog, Innovative Interfaces, Inc. The cost of the contract, which covers Sierra software maintenance from September 2017-August 2018, is \$55,374.

Inese Christman, **Ann Mroczenski** and MCPL staff member **Chris Luebbe** hosted a Cataloger's Retreat on Thursday, August 10, in the WVLS office. The 24 participants who attended the retreat learned about the WVLS cataloging process, steps to creating accurate MARC Alerts (short bibliographic records) and Z39.50 cataloging.

Inese was elected to continue as a member of the WILIUG Steering Committee for two more years. The committee is currently planning a November 2017 fall conference.

Youth Services / Inclusive Services Update

2017 WVLS Summer Library Program Grants of \$240 per location enabled 21 libraries and all Marathon Co. Public Library branches to delight young readers with 18 different performers during the summer months. Gilman, Owen and Dorchester chose not to participate. This year's SLP theme was "Build a Better World." Preventing the "summer slide" continues to be the main objective of summer reading programs. For many families with elementary-aged children, the public library is the only community space available during the summer months where they can access free educational and cultural enrichment activities and programs. Many WVLS member libraries included events for teen and adult readers in their summer program offerings.

WVLS OverDrive Advantage Account

Under the leadership of MCPL's **Katie Zimmerman**, a WVLS OverDrive Advantage Collection Development workgroup met on June 22 to establish criteria for selecting content. The workgroup's first order was placed at the end of July.

Legislative Update

Net Neutrality Day of Action, an online effort to counter the FCC's efforts to give big cable companies control over what we see and do online, was held July 12. A *Digital Lites* blog post shared information about the event and invited library supporters to take action. Attached (**Exhibit 9-a**) is a chart that does a good job illustrating what the net neutrality discussion is all about (courtesy of Software Engineering Daily).

Additional legislative information (**Exhibit 9-b**) will be shared at the board meeting.

Internal Technology Projects

The **Active Directory migration** is underway. A new File Server is established for WVLS staff use, and some movement to the new schema for operations services (VPN for access from home/outside of network) has begun. Prior to finalizing migration to the new Active Directory schema for WVLS staff, the IT staff will be upgrading the rest of the staff computers to Windows 10. Currently five of nine staff laptops are running Windows 10. The others are still utilizing 8.1.

The **Audio/Visual Enhancement Project** in the WVLS meeting room is about 50% complete. Speakers were on backorder when the installers came to put in the hearing loop and related equipment. We are working to schedule the final installation of wireless microphones, and in-ceiling microphones and speaker systems. Once audio is complete, we will finish the wireless display/video integration.

LEAN WI

We are getting prepared for the **2018 ERate filing process** as early as possible this cycle. Though a recent email from DPI hinted at a second round of a fiber-to-libraries project by TEACH/BadgerNet, we want to ensure we have all bases covered and that all interested LEAN WI member libraries have the opportunity to leverage funding for internal networking upgrades and/or Internet service discounts.

WVLS is preparing for the **Sierra Application and Database** migration from the physical server to virtual servers hosted on the LEAN WI private cloud. The migration will occur in October.

We are working with **Northern Waters Library Service** (NWLS) staff to execute our scope of work, providing them access to our network and private cloud and virtual servers for their ILS (similar to the project for WVLS mentioned above).

We are in the process of upgrading most libraries' routers, switches, and WiFi equipment in our evolution to integrated services. WVLS is also helping libraries implement or convert to **Pharos computer session management software**, with assistance from IFLS which already supports that product for many of their members.

We intend to continue the **"Door Counter"** project, though the funding category for it within LSTA was cancelled. Scheduling of that project is on hold pending network equipment upgrades and Pharos installs.

Technology Planning

2018 Budgeting. The budgeting process for the joint LEAN WI and other aspects of WVLS IT services is complete and the 2018 proposals for WVLS Technology and LEAN WI budgets are being presented. WVLS acts as fiscal agent for the LEAN WI budget, but as it represents funding and expenditures by all LEAN WI partners, it will be reviewed by all respective boards.

Technology Strategy and Plan. The current WVLS Technology Strategy and included Technology Plan expire at the end of June 2018. A major revision to the strategy, including and reflecting the LEAN WI partnership and setting the stage for a bridge between the WVLS and IFLS technology plans began late June. We had hoped to present an initial vision report for the board's review by the August WVLS board meeting, but we are still collecting service development and enhancement information at this time. We will do our best to have a vision draft for the September meeting to present to the board to ensure we are on the right track. Due to the timing of scheduled WVLS board and LAC meetings, we are still targeting March 2018 for initial draft preview by the board, April 2018 for revised draft review by the LAC, and May 2018 final draft approval by the board. Direct participation by and feedback from member library administrators and staff are an integral part of the planning process with draft language being shared several times between August/September 2017 and April 2018.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING

WVLS Training Survey 2017

To help WVLS plan training tools and opportunities for in-person training in 2018, a survey was sent to WVLS libraries in mid-June. Results of the survey ([Exhibit 9-c](#)) indicated the top three training preferences are small group training, written training guides and pre-recorded training videos, and suggested many training topics in the areas of ILS and technology.

Trustee Training Week

The annual Trustee Training Week (TTW) will be held August 21-25, with one hour webinars held each day from noon-1:00 p.m. Folks can register for one webinar up to all five. If unable to attend, sessions will be recorded for later viewing. Some libraries offer opportunities for trustees to watch one webinar before or after a board meeting until all five have been viewed, still other libraries have a special lunch each day of the week for board members to watch sessions live, and others just encourage board members to watch on their own. The schedule of topics to be discussed include:

- Monday: **Turn Your Library Board into an Effective Team** with Amy Climer
- Tuesday: **Policies for Results** with Bonnie McKewon
- Wednesday: **Engaging your Board, Staff, and Community in Strategic Planning** with Sarah Armstrong Keister and John Keister
- Thursday: **Everyday Advocacy** with Donna McDonald
- Friday: **The Beginnings, Current Status and Next Steps of PLSR** with John DeBacher, Tasha Saecker, and John Thompson

Additional details about each program and registration information may be found at <http://www.wistrusteetraining.com>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 10 – V-Cat Council's BIB Committee **"Cataloging Retreat"** (Christman, Mroczenski)
- August 14 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Events subcommittee GoToMeeting (Sepnafski)
- August 15 – **WVLS Library Advisory Committee meeting** (Wendt, Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Hamland)
- August 15 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Steering Committee virtual Q & A
- August 16 – Camp Tech-a-Talka, Stevens Point (Klingbeil, Christman, Mroczenski, Heitman)
- August 17 – System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) gathering at the home of WVLS Director Emerita Heather Eldred; Wausau (Sepnafski)
- August 17-18 – DLT- sponsored Bootcamp for New Directors; Marshfield (Hamland)

- August 18 – System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) meeting; Marathon County Public Library (Sepnafski, Christman)
- August 19 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hildebrand)
- August 21 – Total Solar Eclipse (<http://nationaleclipse.com>)
- August 21-25 – **“Trustee Training Week”** – daily webinars on topics of interest to library trustees (Hamland)
- August 22 – Meeting with ILS/Digitization staff at IFLS; Eau Claire (Christman)
- August 24 – BiblioBoard webinar sponsored by the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC); (Christman, Hamland, Klingbeil)
- August 25 – **WVLS Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE)**; Antigo Public Library (Wendt)
- August 29 – **V-Cat Cooperative Circulation meeting**; WVLS office (Christman, Mroczenski)
- September 4 - WVLS office closed for Labor Day
- September 5 – Technology Orientation; Withee (Klingbeil)
- September 7 – **V-Cat Council meeting**; Marathon County Public Library (Christman, Mroczenski)
- September 7 – **“Tips for Building a Well-Rounded Collection for Youth”** webinar – third in a 5-part collection development webinar series – sponsored by WVLS and 10 other public library systems (Hamland)
- September 7–9 – Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference; St. George, Utah
- September 11 – Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Service Hub Steering Committee meeting; Madison (Christman)
- September 14 – Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Steering Committee meeting; Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point (Sepnafski)
- September 16 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hildebrand)
- September 19 – Consultation Visit (county funding of libraries); Gilman (Sepnafski, Hafemeister)
- September 21 – WPLC Steering Committee GoToMeeting (Christman)
- September 25 – Forest County Library Board meeting (Wendt)
- September 28 – ETF Health Insurance Dual Choice Kick-Off; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 28 – DPI’s System Youth Services Consultants’ meeting; DeForest (Wendt)
- September 29 – System Office Managers & Business Administrators’ Association of Wisconsin (SOMBAAW) meeting; Madison (Hildebrand)
- September 29 – DPI’s System Continuing Education Coordinators’ meeting; DeForest (Hamland)
- September 29 – WLA’s Library Development and Legislation (LD&L) meeting; Madison (Wendt)
- September 29 – Rhinelander District Library Staff In-service; Rhinelander (Christman)
- October 5 – **WVLS Director’s Retreat**; Tribute Golf Course and Bunkers Bar & Grill (Sepnafski, Christman, Hildebrand, Wendt, Klingbeil, Hamland)
- October 17-20 – **“RECHARGE”** – 2017 WLA Conference; Kalahari Resort & Convention Center; Wisconsin Dells (Sepnafski, Christman, Klingbeil, Wendt, Hamland)