

Director's Report

WVLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING March 19, 2022

CORRESPONDENCE

2022 WVLS Board of Trustees Appointments

In February, following the WVLS Board of Trustees meeting, a press release announcing the 2022 WVLS Board Appointments was submitted to all the newspapers in the WVLS seven-county service area. The announcement also included the names of the newly elected officers and WVLS Executive Committee members.

Notes of Thanks

To the **WVLS Annual Reports Team**: *"You're so thoughtful and thorough. I appreciate the time and effort you put in to make the report a painless process. I also found the Staying Together session helpful so we could hear the concerns and answers that other libraries had. Thank you to each and every one of you!"*
 —Teresa Hall, Loyal Public Library Director

To **Susie Hafemeister**: *"I just wanted to thank you again for all your help on the annual report. Those always make me so nervous, even though I've gone through three of them over the years. Just appreciate all the feedback and patience you have for us library directors when we fill them out incorrectly.! Thanks again!"* — Brandon Hardin, Withee Public Library Director

PEOPLE / LIBRARIES / SYSTEMS IN THE NEWS

Langlade County Honors Former WVLS Trustee

After more than 30 years representing Langlade County on the WVLS Board of Trustees, Peg Jopek retired in December 2021. During her tenure, Peg volunteered more than 10,950 hours to attend meetings and other functions for WVLS and the Antigo Public Library to ensure exceptional library service for all Langlade County residents.

At a recent Langlade County Board meeting, Peg was recognized for her many years of service to libraries. During her acceptance speech, Peg highlighted the value of libraries and the



Pictured from left to right are former WVLS trustee **Peg Jopek**, County Board Chair Ben Pierce and Antigo Public Library Director **Dominic Frandrup**.

importance of reading for Langlade County residents. She also thanked the County for the recognition and for the investments made by the county to the library for the good of the community. Peg was given a standing ovation.

The Langlade County Board appointed Judy Peterson from White Lake to the WVLS Board of Trustees in 2022 and will serve a 3-year term.

Leadership Positions in 2022 (Exhibit 10a)

Thank you to all on the WVLS Team and in the WVLS community who can assume leadership positions this year. Your engagement and support matters, and your involvement makes a difference. WVLS and our member libraries are better because of you!

WVLS Hires New Accounting / HR Specialist

On January 31, **Brenda Walenton** became the new Accounting/HR Specialist for WVLS. She replaces **Augo Hildebrand** who retired in December. Brenda has over 25 years of business and human resources experience, and she is looking forward to navigating the ins and outs of the library field, as well as learning all the acronyms! Welcome to the WVLS Team, Brenda!

Greenwood Hires New Director

The Greenwood Community Library Board of Trustees has selected **Amber Brill** to be the library's new director. She replaces **Kim Metzke**, who left the position in February. Amber's first day on the job was February 25.

Member Library Cataloging Assistance Continues

The WVLS partnership with the Antigo and Minocqua libraries to provide temporary cataloging assistance will remain in effect in 2022. Trained in December 2020 and under oversight by WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist **Rachel Metzler**, **Maria Pregler** from Antigo and **Cindy Wendt** from Minocqua will continue to provide up to 10 hours each week on cataloging tasks. WVLS appreciates their support.

Matczak to Teach iSchool Course, Provide Webinar Presentations

WVLS Continuing Education Consultant **Jamie Matczak** is teaching a new Continuing Education course called ***Libraries and the Customer Experience*** for the iSchool at UW-Madison. This four-week course examines the role customer experiences have in libraries, how it relates to marketing, ways to assess it, and more. The 22 learners enrolled are from public and academic librarians all over the world, including one from Sydney, Australia! Jamie will be teaching the course again in August 2022.

Jamie also received requests from state and national colleagues to do presentations for their institutions. The presentations Jamie provided include:

- January 12 – ***Providing Great Customer Service (During a Pandemic)*** for Marquette University Libraries
- March 2 - ***Having Hard Workplace Conversations*** for Power Up: A Leadership Conference for

Youth Services Managers and Staff (iSchool at UW-Madison)

- March 15 - ***Having Difficult Workplace Conversations*** for Somerset County Library System of New Jersey

WVLS Awards Six PLA Conference Scholarships!

Six WVLS-area library staff have received full scholarships to attend the national 2022 Public Library Association (PLA) Conference in Portland, Oregon on March 23-25. Recipients are:

Laurie Ollhoff, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)

Dan Richter, Marathon County Public Library

Elisha Sheffer, Rhinelander District Library

Julie Kinney, Marathon County Public Library

Ashley Polinski, Rhinelander District Library

Jennifer Davis, Minocqua Public Library

All PLA Scholars expressed gratitude for the opportunity, as covering out-of-state conference expenses is not easy. Laurie Ollhoff, Assistant Director at the T.B. Scott Free Library, mentioned that just flying to Portland from Wisconsin is a significant expense. "I would have a difficult time going to the PLA Conference if I had to cover the expenses myself," she said, "I am extremely appreciative of the scholarship and the support."

Conference reports from the 2022 PLA Conference Scholars will be shared with the WVLS Board of Trustees later in the year.

Northwoods Library Collaboration Awarded Competitive Federal Humanities Grant

A group of seven Northwoods libraries has been selected to receive one of 200 nationwide library grants for the American Library Association's American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries opportunity, an emergency relief program to assist libraries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic. Libraries in Boulder Junction, Lac du Flambeau, Manitowish Waters, Mercer, **Minocqua**, Presque Isle, and Winchester will use the funding to support their annual **Northwoods Book Festival** author event series.

With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, these seven libraries will use funds to anchor themselves in the community as strong humanities institutions. The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help deliver excellent programs and services related to culture, history, literature, and other humanities subjects.

Since 2016, the Northwoods Book Festival has been uniting libraries in the Northwoods to provide a series of author programming for local residents and visitors. The theme for the 2022 Northwoods Book Festival is "Open Books, Open Minds," and the seven participating libraries will invite authors to share their life experiences. Events will be scheduled from June through August.

To learn more about the Northwoods Book Festival and the libraries' plans for the grant, visit www.northwoodsbookfest.org. Humanities Grants for Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. These seven Northwoods libraries serve residents and visitors in Iron, Oneida, and Vilas Counties, Wisconsin. They are members of the [Northern Waters Library Service](#) and [Wisconsin Valley Library Service](#).

(Edited from Mercer Public Library news release; March 3, 2022)

MARKETING PROJECTS

Library Marketing Plan Workshop and Grant Update

After attending a Library Marketing Plan Workshop led by Kathy Dempsey and Angela Hursh last November, the 15 public libraries selected in 2021 to receive Library Marketing Plan Mini-Grants are now working on their marketing plans and other activities stated in their grant applications. During this aspect of the grant project, Jamie Matczak and other members of the Public Library System Marketing Cohort are offering support and guidance to grant recipients. Jamie is mentoring Amery Area Public Library, E.D. Locke Public Library (McFarland), Fond du Lac Public Library, Menomonee Falls Public Library and Mercer Public Library, and, since December has been holding monthly office hours for them to share their progress or ask questions.

Rhinelander District Library was one of the 15 libraries awarded a [Library Marketing Plan Mini-Grant](#). This grant project is supported by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Public Library Development Team, with funding support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Aspen Discover Layer Integration

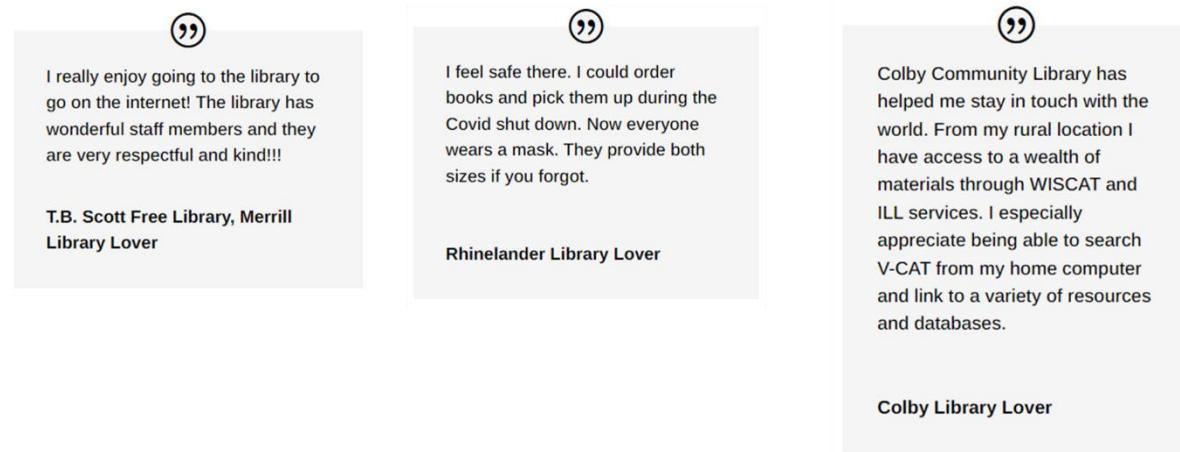
WVLS ILS Administrator **Katie Zimmerman** and WVLS Public Library Services Consultant **Anne Hamland** developed a library staff and public facing marketing and training campaign to ensure the successful launch of the new V-Cat Aspen Discovery Layer in February and March. They worked closely with each member library to customize each member library's catalog functionality and design, creating social media templates, and integrating the new service into its websites.

Katie and Anne worked diligently on every aspect for every library to provide a customized experience of value to the user. From determining which items are featured on a library's catalog home screen, to the logo and imagery at the top of the home screen, to the menu icons, to "how to" tutorial videos, to featuring Gale Courses, Ancestry and other library resources, this was a project powered by steadfast resolve to provide a quality product at the end of this project.

Tell Your Library Love Story!

In preparation for WLA's Library Legislative Day in February and advocacy efforts throughout the year, Anne Hamland asked WVLS libraries if they would like to collect Library Stories using a button and image on their websites. As library users began to share stories, Anne created a Library Legislative Day "leave behind" and an accompanying "Library Stories" webpage to display to great effect the library love

stories collected via library websites. The Library Love Story will remain on participating member library websites and Anne will be distributing Library Stories to member libraries as they are submitted.



GRANT PROJECTS

ARPA Grant Application Receives Approval

IFLS, WVLS, and NWLS collaborated to apply for [ARPA Funding](#) on behalf of each system's member libraries. **Leah Langby** (IFLS), **Anne Hamland** (WVLS), and **Jackee Johnson** (NWLS), worked quickly within the grant's tight application window to come up with options that would be helpful to members and be within grant restrictions. Consultants gathered interest in project options and collaborated to submit four grants totaling over \$450,000 that included 83 project items ranging from library pickup lockers, book bikes, and large event tents, to virtual program technology and solar powered benches for seating and charging personal smart devices. Unfortunately, and not unexpectedly, grant applications far exceeded available funds, and one of the four grants submitted were approved:

- Event Tents: Expanding the Library as a Third Space – NWLS on behalf of 13 libraries
- LEAN WI Library Pickup Lockers – WVLS on behalf of 7 libraries
- Outdoor Seating: Space and Safety Improvement – IFLS on behalf of 37 libraries
- **APPROVED** - Outdoors and In: A Hybrid Library Service Model – IFLS on behalf of 26 libraries

2021 LSTA (FY21/22 LSTA) Technology – Increase Capacity for Technology Tools and Resources Sparsity Aid

LEAN WI partners were allocated \$108,490 in aggregate. The LSTA grant was available for application and initial budget submission prior to the ARPA grant in the WISEgrants portal. The \$82,000 project to fund Princh Mobile Print Management services for all public libraries in the LEAN WI footprint was attached to the initial application for this grant. It was originally intended for the ARPA grant, though out of an abundance of caution regarding the timing for implementation targets and grant application/awarding, LEAN WI moved the project to the LSTA grant. Planning for the utilization of remaining LSTA allocations will follow the planning of ARPA grant funds (see next bullet) to support non-

conflicting projects. LSTA grant projects/progress updates are available via the LEAN WI landing page for LSTA <https://leanwi.org/lsta2021>.

2021 ECF (FY21/22) – Emergency Connectivity Fund Program

In 2021, LEAN WI partners submitted two applications for federal Emergency Connectivity Fund grants managed by the Universal Service Fund Co (USAC) via the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) portal, the same organization and portal servicing the federal E-Rate program. The first application was for 110 laptops with a funding cap at \$400 each totaling \$44,000. The second application was for 240 mobile hotspot devices and data plans for January 2022 – June 2022 (the allowed period of performance) totaling \$51,247. As of March 11, 2022, neither grant was denied meaning both were still in processing for potential approval. The utility of each project given the narrowing window of performance is being evaluated to determine if the projects remain valuable and viable for continued pursuit.

FY21/22 ARPA Grants to States (G2S) – Additional Covid Response Support

LEAN WI partners were allocated \$195,791 in aggregate. The Mobile Printing services project originally intended to be attached to the ARPA grant was moved to LSTA. LEAN WI partners will still be focusing on major projects under ARPA including capital equipment updates originally intended for 2021, and additional updates to improve capacity and cost efficiency within the LEAN WI virtualization platform. The ARPA grant was loaded into the WISEgrants portal during the week of March 7. An initial application for the capital projects and for already expensed eligible procurements is in progress at the time of this projects report. The resources below have been shared during various stakeholder discussions. Those and ARPA grant projects/progress updates are available via the LEAN WI landing page for ARPA <https://leanwi.org/arpa2021>.

- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Project Funding Details and Ideas
- ARPA 2021 DRAFT Budget April 2021
- Project Funding List of Ideas - ARPA, LSTA, E-rate, Build America's Libraries, etc.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

New Boundaries for Voting

On March 3, the Wisconsin Supreme Court justices selected legislative and congressional districts submitted by the Governor over the ones drawn by Republicans holding a majority in the legislature. While the 4-3 ruling could be appealed to federal courts where further changes could be made, information about the maps chosen by the Wisconsin justices can be found at the end of this report in **Exhibits 10b and 10c**.

V-CAT AND ILS ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS

NEW Aspen Library Catalogs Go Live!

Aspen discovery implementation is nearly complete. There are remaining libraries to transition. Each library has its own custom-tailored site to highlight new materials and special collections while still allowing library users to access the wide variety of materials available throughout the V-Cat consortium.

- [Abbotsford Public Library](#)
- [Antigo Public Library and branches](#)
- [Colby Community Library](#)
- [Crandon Public Library](#)
- Dorchester Public Library – Coming Soon!
- [Gilman, Western Taylor County Public Library](#)
- [Granton Public Library](#)
- [Greenwood Public Library](#)
- Laona, Edith B. Evans Community Library - Coming Soon!
- [Loyal Public Library](#)
- [Marathon County Public Library](#)
- [Medford, Frances L. Simek Memorial Library](#)
- Merrill, T. B. Scott Free Library - Coming Soon!
- [Minocqua Public Library](#)
- [Neillsville Public Library](#)
- [Owen Public Library](#)
- [Rhinelander District Library](#)
- [Rib Lake Public Library](#)
- [Stetsonville, Jean M. Thomsen Memorial Library](#)
- [Thorp Public Library](#)
- [Three Lakes, Edward Demmer Memorial Library](#)
- [Tomahawk Public Library](#)
- Wabeno Public Library - Coming Soon!
- [Westboro Public Library](#)
- [Withee Public Library](#)

Many training sessions were offered to prepare staff for customizing their libraries' sites and assisting patrons.

- Aspen Catalog Training Part 1
- Aspen Catalog Training Part 2
- Aspen Question and Answer Sessions (5 sessions)
- Aspen Theme and Layout Training
- Aspen Discover More Training
- Aspen Patron Experience Training (2 sessions)

WVLS met with each V-Cat library individually to determine their site's specific settings and configuration. Additional consultations were necessary for Merrill (2), Rhinelander (2) and Marathon County (8) to address setup and customization requests.

In April the Classic Catalog and EDS (EBSCO) Discovery Catalog will be discontinued and a WVLS Aspen site will take their place. Library users will be encouraged to use the library specific Aspen sites.

Status on Other Key Projects

The transition to standard checkout periods is complete. Two libraries have decided to ease the transition for their patrons by allowing their own high demand new books to circulation for 21 days. WVLS is grateful to members of the V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee and the V-Cat Council for their hard work and commitment to this project. There is still some clean up to do with item types. This clean-up will be picked up after Aspen goes live.

The project to ensure that records have subject headings is close to completion. While WVLS and member libraries were able to address most of the records that did not have subject headings, approximately one third of the records were outsourced to Backstage to finish. Backstage addressed about 85% of the records received. WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist **Rachel Metzler** will address the records that were returned that had “acceptable” matches but needed review before overlaying, records with no matches, and records that need local subject headings added.

Following is a list of **Recent and Upcoming Trainings** for member libraries and WVLS staff:

- February 16 - V-Cat Marc Alert training
- February 23 - V-Cat Cataloging training
- March 16 - Aspen Question and Answer training
- March 16 - Aspen Materials Request / Purchase Suggestion training
- March 29 – 31 - Sierra Acquisitions A – Z training - March 29 – 31. Katie and Rachel are registered to attend. A grant was offered for staff from a V-Cat library to attend, however no library expressed interest.
- April 5 – 8 - Innovative Users Group (IUG) 2022 Virtual Conference. Grants have been offered to V-Cat library staff who wish to attend.

Committee Meeting Highlights

The **V-Cat Bibliographic and Interface Committee** met on December 7, 2021, and March 3, 2022. At the December meeting, the WVLS Z39.50 Cataloging Recommendation was reviewed and edited to clarify WVLS’ role and procedures. Committee members were asked for feedback on a list of cataloging functions for the ILS evaluation and review process.

December and March meetings had committee members reviewing Aspen cataloging features and functions including grouped records and cover images, as well as forthcoming fiction list. Committee members interested in assisting with record grouping changes will be granted permissions to group records on a case-by-case basis. Through this review, WVLS staff are learning more about fair use copyright guidelines as it pertains to adding cover images to the Aspen interface.

The March meeting featured a discussion regarding how Aspen reads bibliographic records, and possibilities for counting circulation of “other items” for the public library annual report.

During the **V-Cat Council meeting** on February 3:

- Updated weighted vote calculations for 2022 were shared and made available on the [V-Cat Resources and Documents page](#).
- The Council supported placing all unspent funds from the 2021 budget into the special projects fund to cover costs for outsourcing a portion of the subject headings project (mentioned above), and for the Aspen Discovery implementation.
- Minocqua Public Library Director **Peggy O’Connell** was selected as the 2022 V-Cat Chair Elect.
- The Council passed a V-Cat cataloging compliance recommendation presented by the V-Cat Bibliographic/Interface Committee.

- Antigo Public Library Cataloger **Maria Pregler** spoke about cataloging assistance she provided to the Demmer Memorial Library (Three Lakes) when the library was without a cataloger. Rachel mentioned that WVLS would be available to assist in forming similar partnerships if needed.
- A V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee was formed.

A newly formed **V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee** held its first meeting on March 10. Katie updated members on the progress of ILS Evaluation and Review processes underway at the Milwaukee County Federated Library System and Northern Waters Library Service.

Milwaukee County Federated Library System has been considering the following products:

- SirsiDynix, Symphony
- Innovative, Sierra (current ILS)
- Innovative, Polaris - dropped from consideration
- The Library Company, CarlX - dropped from consideration

Northern Waters Library System has been considering the following products:

- SirsiDynix, Symphony - dropped from consideration
- Innovative, Sierra (current ILS)
- Innovative, Polaris - dropped from consideration
- The Library Company, CarlX
- Koha, supported by Bywater Solutions

It was noted that DPI plans to allocate LSTA funds for collaboration among systems for discovery and resource sharing during the 2022-2027 fiscal period and that WVLS will be looking for opportunities to collaborate with other systems.

Functionality lists are being reviewed by the Bibliographic/Interface and Cooperative Circulation committees. Library directors and other key staff have been asked to share feedback on draft lists as well. Final functionality information will be compiled in preparation for drafting a Request for Information (RFI) document that will be shared with the Committee in April. The Committee, along with WVLS staff are working on a list of vendors to consider.

The **V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee** also met on March 10. The Committee discussed lists of ILS functions related to circulation, patron records, reports and statistics and integration with other vendors. Committee feedback will be used in the ILS evaluation and review process.

TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS OVERVIEW

LEAN WI Core Infrastructure

The Backup and Archive appliances are now operating in production, and the production backups have been migrated to the new system. LEAN WI maintains one site of a two-site, co-location system in collaboration with South Central Library System and other participating library systems.

LEAN WI Service Explorations

LEAN WI partners are starting to test an alternative managed Antivirus product along with an application version management utility (already in production use by Northern Waters Library Service) as part of a joint effort intended to consolidate Antivirus licensing and client management and common application updates support.

Libraries Win Services

LEAN WI partners are supporting a large multi-site implementation of **Princh Mobile Printing** services, currently in-progress with a vendor goal of having all member libraries (which expressed interest in immediate opt-in) set up and operating with the Mobile Printing service by the end of March 2022. Libraries that do not immediately opt into the service will be able to do so at any time over the next several years. LEAN WI will be reviewing other print management options from Princh in the future and working with interested libraries to provide as much funding and technical support as feasible once the initial implementation sweep is complete.

LEAN WI partners are procuring 250 seats of **MS Office Desktop** licensing to ensure member libraries have continued access to such licensing – at State contracted discounts – after the loss of availability through Tech Soup. The partners are working out a meaningful joint usage and cost sustainability model and will continue to monitor changes to MS licensing programs to ensure the partnership is offering the best support to libraries.

WVLS Internal Projects, Library Projects, and Core Services Support

- The WVLS technology team has begun the review and update of the WVLS IT assets tracking in preparation for the 2022 audit.
- Tomahawk Public Library is planning a comprehensive network cabling update project including the move of the library's main networking equipment to a new area in the building and the expansion of WiFi coverage inside and outside the building.
- WVLS and MCPL tech support teams are working together on the first stage (discovery) of a soft project to help bring MCPL operational documentation up to date across all sites, and to use in the next stage, the subsequent development of an assessment and recommendations report.
- All WVLS Libraries: **Achraf BenKhalifa** is working on ongoing/recurring maintenance projects including:
 - Ensuring computers throughout the membership have updated firmware and device drivers and have the latest Windows Updates
 - Ensuring all libraries are using the currently supported stable version of Deep Freeze Enterprise

ANNUAL REPORT SUPPORT

Program Statistics Tracker

*Our wonderful colleague **Anne Hamland** from WVLS has tackled the formidable Program Tracker (which is a great way to keep track of statistics for the Annual Report and beyond) so that it reflects changes made for the next annual report. This will be updated further once the DPI has a new consultant, but for now this will be a great way for you to keep track of statistics in an organized way! THANKS to Anne for sharing this. —Leah Langby, IFLS Library System Library Development and Youth Services Coordinator*

Open positions at the Department of Instruction Library Technology and Development team resulted in contracted support for the 2021 Annual Report process. The Wisconsin Department of Instruction released [2021 Annual Report Instructions](#), but time did not allow for updating all assistive tools.

Anne Hamland adjusted the "Programming and Activity Count tracker workbook," she created with assistance from former Division for Libraries staff members **Tessa Michaelson Schmidt** and **Michael Dennison**, to include the new target audiences for both the 2021 and 2022 annual reports. These tools were shared with WVLS member libraries and also with NWLS and IFLS member libraries requesting assistance.

The 2021 annual report added categories for the target or intended audience. "General Interest" designates programs that are appropriate for any age, such as family game nights or holiday events while "Adults" designates programs planned for attendees 18 and older. The 2022 annual report will expand categories for reporting youth programming statistics.

Public Library Annual Reports – Compliance Issues and System Effectiveness

All 25 public library annual reports were submitted to DPI by the March 1 statutory deadline. The WVLS audit of members' 2021 annual reports revealed no issues of noncompliance. Also, all 25 member public libraries indicated in the system effectiveness section of the annual report that WVLS provided effective leadership in 2021. Favorable comments were reported in the areas of consulting, customer service, ILS administration and technology support.

PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSULTANT SERVICES

Youth Services Librarians Continue to Meet Regularly

WVLS and NWLS youth services libraries continue to meet virtually on a regular basis to discuss seasonal topics and current trends and hot topics. These virtual meetings share ideas and resources that result in improved services and reduced redundant work across multiple locations. Resources shared from the **February 16** meeting include:

- Annual Summer Program [Graphics, Reading Logs, Templates, and Resources](#)
- Summer Program "[Oceans of Possibilities](#)" Take & Make Kit ideas and sharing document

- [Summer Performer Collaborative Booking Spreadsheet](#) for performer ideas and booking discounts

Youth librarians met virtually on **March 14** for a tour of a member library's youth space and will meet **in-person** in April or May at the Rib Lake Public Library outdoor picnic shelter.

Information shared during these gatherings is made available on the [WVLS website](#).

Inclusive Services Updates Shared Monthly

Sherry Machones, Northern Waters Library System Director and WVLS Inclusive Services Consultant, shared an *Inclusive Services Update* with member libraries in January, February, and March.

The **January** update covered National Braille Literacy Month, introduced three new inclusivity training videos from the Department of Public Instruction, and promoted continuing education opportunities and the American Library Association Youth Media Awards.

The **February** update featured the long-awaited **Libraries Talk About Race** professional development series that she had been planning for over a year. Other helpful resources shared included a "Children in Trauma" bibliography and the American Library Association's "Q&A resource addressing challenges to problematic authors."

The **March** update shared state and national resources to celebrate Women's History Month, a national report on digital equity, the Libraries and Veterans National Forum Toolkit, and the ALA statement on supporting the Ukrainian library community. It also offered links to several articles and continuing education opportunities on inclusive services topics.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

IFLS Library System Joins WVLS Webinar Collaboration

In 2022, the IFLS Library System will be included in the webinar collaboration WVLS has with the Northern Waters Library Service and the Southwest Wisconsin Library System. This collaboration harnesses the experiences and professional networks of the continuing education consultants in all four systems to bring high quality, relevant continuing education experiences to its member libraries. WVLS welcomes IFLS Library System to this effort.

Spring Webinar Series

Wisconsin Valley Library Service, Northern Waters Library Service, Southwest Wisconsin Library System and the IFLS Library System are excited to announce a Spring Webinar Series!

Each webinar is worth 1 contact hour for public library certification, and all of them will be recorded for later viewing. More information and registration links can be found on the [WVLS website](#).

- *Enhancing Your Workplace Culture* - Tuesday, April 19, 12 p.m.
- *Where Does the Money Come From? Public Library Funding in Wisconsin* - Thursday, April 28, 1 p.m.
- *Public Libraries and Fake News: How to Educate and Connect with Your Community* - Thursday, May 5, 10 a.m.

Past Workshops

2022 Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference Recap

The Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference took place on January 26-27, 2022, and was a big success. There were 14 presentations over the two days, focused on marketing, library management, small libraries and wellbeing. Total attendance for the conference was 1637, with an average of 116 attendees per session. Session evaluations were positive, with a majority of the speakers scoring above 8.5 (on a 10.0 scale) if attendees found the webinar helpful in their library positions, and that the presentations were “mostly interesting/engaging.” Slides and videos of the 14 one-hour sessions may be found on the [Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference](#) website under “Post-Conference Resources.”

Next year’s Wild Wisconsin Winter Web conference will be held on January 25 -26, 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

- March 2 – Backup/Collaboration MOU meeting
- March 2 – “Having Hard Workplace Conversations” Power-Up Conference presentation
- **March 3 – WVLS V-Cat Bibliographic/Interface Committee meeting**
- **March 8 - WVLS/IFLS/NWLS Website Office Hours**
- **March 10 – WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee meeting**
- March 11 – Council for Libraries and Network Development (COLAND) meeting
- **March 14 – WVLS/NWLS Youth Services Librarians’ virtual discussion**
- March 15 - “Having Difficult Workplace Conversations” Somerset County Library System (New Jersey)
- **March 16 – WVLS V-Cat Aspen Q&A session**
- **March 16 – WVLS V-Cat Aspen Training: Materials Requests/Purchase Suggestions**
- March 16 - Backup/Collaboration MOU meeting
- **March 17 – WVLS V-Cat Steering Committee meeting**
- **March 17 - WVLS/IFLS/NWLS Website Office Hours**
- March 18 – Wisconsin Library Association’s Library Development and Legislation (LD&L) Committee meeting
- March 19 – WVLS Board of Trustees meeting
- March 21 – MCPL Board of Trustees meeting
- March 22 - System Directors/DPI Discussion

- March 22 – DPI-hosted Interlibrary Loan Coordinator’s meeting
- March 22 – LAWDS (Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills) SuperPac meeting
- **March 23 – 25 – Public Library Association (PLA) Conference, Portland, OR**
- March 24 – Oneida County Library Board meeting
- **March 29 – 31 – Sierra Acquisitions A-Z training**
- **April 5 – WVLS Library Advisory Committee meeting**
- **April 5 – 8 – Innovative Users Group (IUG) Virtual Conference**
- **April 7 – WVLS V-Cat Council meeting**
- April 13 – Cooperative Cataloging Brainstorm session with 3 public library systems
- **April 14 – WVLS V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee meeting**
- **April 14 – WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee meeting**
- **April 15 – WVLS Office closed**
- April 18 - 19 – KerberRose office visit to work on 2021 Financial Audit
- **April 19 – “Enhancing Your Workplace Culture” – a WVLS/IFLS/NWLS/SWLS webinar**
- April 19 - System Directors/DPI Discussion
- April 19 – DPI-hosted meeting with System Youth Services Consultants
- **April 21 - WVLS/IFLS/NWLS Website Office Hours**
- April 27 – DPI-hosted meeting with System Continuing Education Consultants
- **April 28 – “Where Does the Money Come From? Public Library Funding in Wisconsin” – a WVLS/IFLS/NWLS/SWLS webinar**
- **May 3 – WVLS V-Cat Bibliographic Control and Interface Committee meeting**
- May 5 – WPLC Content Selectors meeting
- **May 5 – “Public Libraries and Fake News: How to Educate and Connect With Your Community” – a WVLS/IFLS/NWLS/SWLS webinar**
- May 9 – WPLC Steering Committee meeting
- May 10 – System and Resource Library Administrator’s Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) meeting
- **May 10 – May 13 – Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference** – The Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee
- **May 12 – WVLS V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee meeting**
- **May 13 – WVLS V-Cat Cooperative Circulation Committee meeting**
- May 14 - Council for Libraries and Network Development (COLAND) meeting
- **May 21 – WVLS Board of Trustees meeting**

Thank you for reading! Happy Spring!

Marla