



MHLS BULLETIN

Mid-Hudson Library System | Serving the Staff and Trustees of Public Libraries in the Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam & Ulster County Area
103 Market Street - Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 - 845.471.6060 - Fax: 845.454.5940 - <http://midhudson.org>

Trustee Education Series

The MHLS Trustee Education Series Dates are now set for Spring/Summer 2007. Sessions are presented by Josh Cohen, MHLS Executive Director, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator of Member Information and Merribeth Advocate, MHLS Outreach & Education Coordinator.

Trustee Essentials - Essential sessions are designed to educate public library trustees in:

- background and structure of libraries in NY
- roles and functions of a board
- running effective meetings

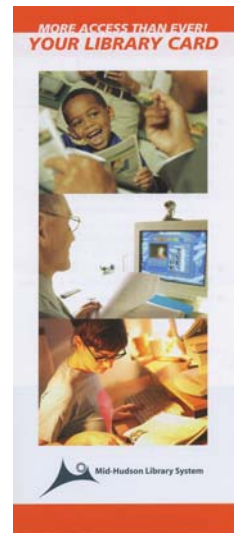
Wednesday, May 16, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Mahopac Library (668 Route 6, Mahopac - in the Periodical Room)
or
Saturday, May 19, 1:00pm-3:00pm
Kingston Library (55 Franklin Street, Kingston)
or
Thursday, May 24, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Mid-Hudson Library System Auditorium (105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie)

Advanced Trustee – 2007 Topic: Smart Growth for your Library. Advanced sessions are designed to focus on issues benefiting and affecting libraries in our system, and address a different topic each year. They are designed for trustees who have been on the board at least a year.

Saturday, June 9, 10:00am-12:00pm
Catskill Public Library (1 Franklin Street, Catskill)
or
Thursday, June 14, 6:00 - 8:00pm
Mid-Hudson Library System Auditorium (105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie)

Register for either of the above trustee workshops online through the MHLS calendar by going to <http://midhudson.org> and clicking on *Calendar* OR get there directly at <http://www.midhudson.org/evanced/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

MHLS Announcements



Members of the MHLS Marketing & Program Advisory Committee noted that the MHLS “**Your Library Card**” brochure is the #1 handout to a new patron getting their first library card at their library. This tri-fold brochure is available, free of charge, from the MHLS Material Request Form in packs of 25. The brochure helps to introduce a patron to the power of their new card, explaining how their card interacts with online resources like the online library catalog (OPAC) and Home**ACCESS**. We’ve heard that people need to hear a message *seven times* before they process it so start early with new patrons and help make their lives easier by pointing out that:

- Their card works at any library in the Mid-Hudson Library System service area.
- They can request books online from any MHLS member library to be delivered to your library for pick-up.
- They can view their record online to see what they have checked out, due dates and any fines owed.
- That the electronic databases found in your library are available to them at home if they have an internet-connected computer through Home**ACCESS**.

Access the Material Request Form at <http://midhudson.org> → *Material Request Form* or get there directly at http://midhudson.org/forms/material_request.htm.

MHLS Libraries

Mahopac Named as National Finalist: Caitlin Bollbach of Mahopac, NY, and Rita Covelli, librarian at the Mahopac Public Library were announced as the Northeast Region’s National Finalists of the

"Whoa, whoa, whoa, this is cool in here!"

-Isaiah Morales, 5, "Children help stock new [Town of Esopus] library," by Kathryn Heidecker, Daily Freeman, 3.28.07

Young Adult Library Services Association's (YALSA) WWE WrestleMania Reading Challenge. Each finalist won airfare, hotel, and spending cash for two to Detroit, tickets to WrestleMania, \$2,000 for their library and a chance to compete for ringside seats at WresleMania 23 in Detroit. The WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by WWE, asked teen participants in grades 9-12 to read 10 books between Teen Read Week, October 15-21, 2006, and January 16, 2007. Two books, *Athletic Shorts* by Chris Crutcher, winner of the Margaret Edwards Award, and *Black & White* by Paul Volponi, were required reading. Teens then self-selected the 8 other titles they wanted to read. Each teen participant was required to submit a short reading log that described the books that have been read, along with a 300 word essay or web space describing/portraying some aspect of the two required books.

Marketing, Advocacy & Funding



National Library Week (NLW)

Resources from ALA: NLW is April 15-21 visit <http://www.ala.org/pio/nlw> for

graphic and press resources support:

- Customizable print PSA featuring George Lopez
- Sample letter to the editor (English & Spanish)
- Sample Op-Ed (English & Spanish)
- Sample press release (English & Spanish)

Also during NLW are two notable events:

- **National Library Workers Day - April 17**
- **Support Teen Literature Day - April 19**

Visit the link above for more information about these two events.

Reference & Collection Development

The Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has announced the **Best Free Reference Web Sites Combined Index from 1999-2006** created to recognize outstanding reference sites on the Internet. The 2006 Best Free Reference Websites list includes online information sources as varied as the Big Cartoon Database, the Encyclopedia of Chicago, and Recalls.gov from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission: <http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marspubs/MARSBESTIndex.htm>.

Youth Services

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), known as *Día*, is a celebration of children, families, and reading held annually on April 30. The celebration emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for children of all linguistic and

cultural backgrounds. Visit <http://www.ala.org/alsc> for more information.

Trustee Resources

Across the Board - Spring 2007: A new edition of the MHLS quarterly newsletter for member library trustees, *Across the Board*, has been sent to all member library trustees. This quarter's edition features *Codes of Ethics*. This edition and past editions going back to 2001 are available on the MHLS Trustee Resources page, <http://midhudson.org> → *Trustee Resources* or <http://midhudson.org/trustee/main.htm>.

Administration & Management

Small Libraries Roundtable – Dealing with

Difficult Patrons: Wednesday, April 25th from 10:00am – noon at the Morton Memorial Library in Rhinecliff. This users group is designed for the administrators of small libraries (3FTE or less). The purpose of the group is to discuss the issues surrounding running a small library. Facilitated by Josh Cohen, MHLS Executive Director and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator of Member Information, the group will address solutions for dealing with difficult patrons in a small library setting:

- Discuss solutions to the challenges of dealing with difficult patrons in the small library setting.
- Explore options to help your staff deal with uncomfortable and difficult situations.
- Share your questions, solutions and tips
- Learn from your peers

Register online through the MHLS calendar by going to <http://midhudson.org> and clicking on *Calendar* OR get there directly at

<http://www.midhudson.org/evanced/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

Job Openings

Library Director needed for a small, dynamic southeast Ulster County library. MLS preferred, but applicants with extensive library experience, including supervisory experience will be considered. Also available, a **part-time library clerk** position requiring some computer experience, communication skills and a desire to provide excellent patron assistance.

Forward letter/email to Sarah Hull Hallock Library, Box 802, Milton, NY 12547; miltonlibrary@hvc.rr.com
Attn: Linda LaPolla, Board President.

MHLS recommends that the minimum starting salary of a full or part-time librarian with an MLS degree be at least equal to that of a teacher with a master's degree in the same community.

Member Libraries are welcome to submit items of interest and job openings to the MHLS Bulletin: bulletin@midhudson.org. The MHLS Bulletin is available on line at <http://midhudson.org/bulletins/main.htm>.

"The library did not just change my life. It directed it, enhanced it and quite possibly saved it."

-Lynne Cavanaugh, "The Library Changed My Life," Women's Day, March 2007

Around the System | March 2007

March was a busy month for MHLS and member libraries!

Over 30 MHLS library advocates traveled to Albany for **Library Lobby Day** March 13. A decision on library funding was imminent as the *Bulletin* went to press this week – hopefully we'll have good news for you next week!



(l-r): Meghana Godambe, Counsel for the Senate Committee on Education stands in for Senator Stephen Saland to hear from library advocates; Senator John Bonacic listens to library advocates from MHLS and the Ramapo Catskill Library System; Senator John Seward addresses a large crowd of library supporters – including a great turn out from Greene County libraries.

Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the **Reaching Out: Serving the Spanish-speaking Community workshops** got off to a great start in March. Workshops are being held in each county through April to help library staff connect with the Spanish-speaking segments of their communities. (l): Joy Matusiewicz,



Poughkeepsie Public Library District, Frank Rees and Marcia Santovenia of the Howland Public Library (Beacon) work on Action Plans for reaching out; (r): Vilma Velez of Hudson River Community Health, Sgt. Sheila Hanley of the Putnam Co. Correctional Facility and Helen Limarzi of Putnam County Literacy Volunteers and the Job Information Center at Mahopac Library address the group, helping attendees gain insight into the Spanish-speaking population of Putnam County.



The ever-popular **Summer Reading Program Workshops** – held in Poughkeepsie and Catskill – were attended by over 50 member library staff – anxious to make this year's Summer Reading Program – "*Get a Clue @your library*" – the best ever.



← **Millennium for Everyone!** *Millennium Cataloging Essentials*, *Millennium Acquisitions* and the *Millennium Users Group* met during March. Coming in April: *Millennium Create Lists for Beginners*.



→ The **Office of General Services** presented at the March Directors Association meeting – helping libraries connect with discounted products and services available on state contract.