



# 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>

## Quick Answers

**E**arlier this year over 100 member library staff helped contribute to the *Quick Answers for Library Patrons on the Go!* web site as part of the Staying Connected II Grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation awarded to the Mid-Hudson Library System.



The goal of the *Quick Answers* site is to save you time and to help you delight your patrons - even those who are novices to online searching.

*Quick Answers* [<http://midhudson.org/answers/>] pools answers to frequently asked reference questions. Rather than each individual library maintaining a list of links they refer to, now we have a holding pen for the wisdom of hundreds of library staff in the MHLS service area that we can all benefit from. Answers are currently organized into four categories:

- Smart Buying
- Healthy Living
- Personal Finance, Business & Legal
- Find a Job

From the *Quick Answers* site you can also access the MHLS Central Reference Library's *Useful Links*, the MHLS Health Information Project's *Consumer Health Resources*, *Resources for Living in the Hudson Valley* and *Career & Employment Information* from the MHLS Workforce project and the *Internet Public Library*.

We welcome submissions from library staff of a new FAQ to consider adding. Submit at <http://midhudson.org/answers/staff.htm>

If you manage your own web page and want to add this resource you can grab the graphic shown above from the list of standardized buttons and graphics available on the MHLS web site at: <http://midhudson.org/admin/web/buttons.htm> [Members with MHLS-managed web sites already have this resource linked to their web site.]

### MHLS Announcements

**MHLS will be closed Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.**  
There will be delivery.

**Reminder: November 15<sup>th</sup>** is the deadline to send in claims under the MHLS Incentive Program for payment in the next incentive checks.

⇒ **Two changes have recently been made to this year's Incentive Program thanks to the one-time funding increase received from NYS:**

- ❖ If your library chose Package B, please be aware that the grant amount for Programming support has been **increased to \$250 per library for this year.**
- ❖ Those libraries which had submitted a letter of intent to attend this year's NYLA conference, but have not submitted proof of attendance yet need to do so before November 15<sup>th</sup>. The total amount awarded has been **increased to \$5,000** and will be equally divided among those libraries.

Please call Doris Formby at extension 10 or e-mail to [dformby@midhudson.org](mailto:dformby@midhudson.org) if you have any questions or need help filing your claim. You may also look up information and print claim sheets at <http://midhudson.org/admin/budgeting/main.php>

### Professional Development

**Miss any recent workshop @MHLS? Request the handouts:**

- Leading, Maintaining & Reinvigorating a Book Discussion Group
- Marketing Made Simple
- Endowing Your Library
- FRIENDS MATTER
- Financial Management

Email Rebekkah at [rsmith@midhudson.org](mailto:rsmith@midhudson.org) to request any of these handouts.

### Youth Services

**The 2008 Summer Reading manuals** will be in the MHLS delivery boxes the week of November 5<sup>th</sup>. The children's and teen manuals are bundled together, plus there are 2 CDs with clipart and other information. Each library has already received a

125 (100%) felt the format was a logical way to organize the information; 98% of participants felt the resource should be linked to their library's web site; 100% felt the resource benefits both staff and patrons.

—Evaluation Summary from Quick Answers Workshops held in May 2007

copy of the Highsmith/Upstart incentive catalog. If you have questions, contact Kerstin Cruger at [kcruger@midhudson.org](mailto:kcruger@midhudson.org). [2008 themes: *Catch the Reading Bug (kids) and Metamorphosis @ Your Library(teens)*]



More than 6,000 teen readers across the country chose "New Moon" by Stephenie Meyer as their favorite

book in the annual **Teens' Top Ten (TTT)** vote, sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). The online vote took place during *Teen Read Week*, October 14-20, with the second entry in Meyer's popular vampire romance series winning easily. **2007 Teens' Top Ten:**

1. ***New Moon*** by Stephenie Meyer (Hachette Book Group USA/Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2006).
2. ***Just Listen*** by Sarah Dessen (Viking Children's Books, 2006)
3. ***How to Ruin a Summer Vacation*** by Simone Elkeles (Flux, 2006).
4. ***Maximum Ride: School's Out - Forever*** by James Patterson (Hachette Book Group USA/Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2006).
5. ***Firegirl*** by Tony Abbott (Hachette Book Group USA/Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2006).
6. ***All Hallows Eve (13 Stories)*** by Vivian Vande Velde (Harcourt, 2006).
7. ***Life As We Knew It*** by Susan Beth Pfeffer (Harcourt, 2006).
8. ***River Secrets*** by Shannon Hale (Bloomsbury, 2006).
9. ***Bad Kitty*** by Michele Jaffe (HarperCollins, 2006).
10. ***Road of the Dead*** by Kevin Brooks (Chicken House, 2006).

## Administration & Management

The Fall 2007 edition of **JLAMS, the Journal of the Library Administration and Management Section of the New York Library Association** is now available online at

[http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page\\_id=62](http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=62). JLAMS provides a valuable outlet for the dissemination of articles, academic papers and essays of interest to administrators and managers of all types of libraries. Also available on the LAMS web site:

- LAMS del.icio.us Bookmarks List
- Handouts from the 2007 LAMS NYLA Presentations:
  - Don't Want to Talk About It: Uncomfortable Management Situations (*co-presented by Josh Cohen, MHLS Executive Director*)
  - Creative Communication: Using Web 2.0 as a Management Tool (*co-presented by Frank Rees, Assistant Director of the Howland Public Library in Beacon & Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator of Member Information*)

- Talking "IT"
- Creating Effective Teams

JLAMS and LAMS NYLA Conference offerings are made possible by NYLA membership. LAMS receives funding based upon the number of people who select LAMS as their primary NYLA section, as well as by those who pay an additional \$5.00 to add LAMS as a secondary section. Please keep this in mind when renewing your NYLA membership.

**The Joy of Computing Cookbook** from the MaintainIT Project is now available free for download online at:

<http://maintainitproject.org/cookbooks>

Chapters include:

- Meal Plan 1: Focusing on Your Ingredients for Success** - Learn how to develop a technology plan that keeps your computers humming and your patrons happy.
  - Meal Plan 2: Meat and Potato Patron Computers** - Learn practical maintenance techniques, such as how to lock down your computer and keep them virus free!
  - Meal Plan 3: Volunteers for the Kitchen** - Learn how volunteers can improve the services you provide!
  - Meal Plan 4: Computer Culinary Academy— Getting the Technology Training You Need** - Training is more than a class. Learn how to develop a plan to keep your staff on top--and ahead--of your technology.
  - Meal Plan 5: Future Menus for Library Technology Services** - Take time to consider the future and your library's place in it.
  - Appendix A: Library Spotlight--Tips & Techniques** - Read real stories from libraries on creative ways to keep computers available to the public.
- ➡ This resource is linked on the MHLS web site at: <http://midhudson.org> → *Administration & Management* → *Technology*. Thanks to Kinderhook trustee, Christian Sweningsen for sharing this resource.

## Job Openings

The Grinnell Library of Wappingers Falls, is seeking a **part-time circulation desk clerk** to work approximately 15 hours per week. Requirements: Applicants should possess strong customer service skills, be comfortable using computers, have a high school diploma, and the ability to work a flexible schedule which includes morning, evening and weekend shifts. Hourly wage commensurate with experience. Please send a resume and cover letter to Grinnell Library, Attention: Library Director, 2642 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590, or e-mail [glsearch@gmail.com](mailto:glsearch@gmail.com)

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](mailto:bulletin@midhudson.org). The MHLS Bulletin is available on line at <http://midhudson.org/bulletins/main.htm>.

"We are right smack-dab in the new golden age of young adult literature."

- Michael Cart, a leading authority on young adult literature, "Teens buying books at fastest rate in decades," *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, 3.7.07

# Around the System | October 2007

October offered workshops for everyone - from directors and circ staff to Trustees and Friends:



◀ Mary Brown, former Executive Director of the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System, presented a **Financial Management** workshop as the inaugural installment of the **MHLS Director's Series**.



▶ The **2007 MHLS Friends Event** once again helped member library Friends connect with each other. Here, MHLS Outreach & Education Coordinator Merribeth Advocate is shown leading one of five tables through a brainstorming activity to help Friends strategize how to build support for their libraries and help them win votes.



▲ Peggy Barber presents to a crowd of 50 at **"Marketing Made Simple."**



▲ Mark Williams, board president of the Stanford Free Library talks about setting up an endowment fund at the **"Endowing Your Library"** workshop.



▲ Laurie Shedrick leads the always-fun **"Advanced Create Lists"** session – helping members get the most out of their Millennium statistics.



▲ Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator of Member Information (shown left), leads the quarterly **System Tour**, introducing member library staff and trustees to system staff and services.



▲ (l-r) Member library trustees Judi Smith (East Fishkill), Susan Bacchi (Highland) and Christian Sweningsen (Kinderhook) work on identifying growth "flashpoints" for their libraries during an **Advanced Trustee** education session. This year's topic was **"Smart Growth."**