



# 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 Essentials

**T**rustees looking for a clear summary of the essential elements of being a library trustee will want to register for one of the fall sessions of **Essential Trustee Duties and Responsibilities**. *Note that these are the last 2 sessions being offered in 2009.*

- Thursday, September 17 from 6:00 – 8:00pm @MHLS Auditorium (105 Market Street, Poughkeepsie)
- Saturday, September 26 from 10:00am – 12:00pm @ Morton Memorial Library in Rhinecliff (82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff) **← please note new location!**

Presented by Josh Cohen - MHLS Executive Director, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich - MHLS Coordinator of Member Information and Merribeth Advocate - MHLS Outreach & Education Coordinator.

*Target Audience:* Especially for new board members, but open to all. Library board members looking for essential, baseline information to increase their effectiveness in serving on a library board will benefit from attending this session.

*Learning Objectives:* Attendees will learn effective ways to carry out the nine essential library trustee duties and responsibilities (everything the library board does either falls within one of these duties or is done in support of them). Note: these sessions feature the updated content that was introduced last year.

There is a **\$100.00 incentive grant** to libraries if they send at least three trustees in 2009 to a MHLS trustee essentials and/or advanced workshop. The System will mail checks based on attendance. Light food will be served. View the Workshop Notice at [http://midhudson.org/ce/2009/trustee\\_fall.pdf](http://midhudson.org/ce/2009/trustee_fall.pdf)

**Registration is required.** Register online at <http://calendar.midhudson.org> or by calling 845.4716060 x246

### MHLS Announcements

**The MHLS Print Services Department will stop accepting jobs from member libraries on Friday, October 9, 2009.** This will enable Print Services to finish outstanding projects, as well as coordinate the disbursement of files to member libraries in preparation of the retirements of Print Services Manager Deb Begley and Press Operator John Plambeck. Both are retiring at the end of the year.

In this week's delivery each library will receive an Action Memo addressed to the library director that gives you the opportunity to request files or materials from the Print Department including, but not limited to:

- Photographs on file
- Logos – Please choose a format from the following (TIFF, JPEG, PDF, EPS)
- Bookmarks – PDF format (Press Quality)
- Stationery packages

Your Library Card  
Always Valuable,  
Now Priceless



**The new library card brochure is now available!** *Your Library Card: Always Valuable, Now Priceless* is here just in time for Library Card Sign-up Month. In the delivery with this week's *Bulletin* is a starter packet of 10 brochures. More can be requested, in packets of 20, on the MHLS Material Request Form found at the bottom of <http://midhudson.org> – or [http://midhudson.org/forms/material\\_request.htm](http://midhudson.org/forms/material_request.htm)

The new, streamlined brochure highlights what patrons can do with their library card in the online catalog and through **HOMEACCESS**. It carries through the tagline, *"Stop Searching. Start Finding."* found at the head of all the database bookmarks designed through the Marketing & Program Advisory Committee and features the graphic found on more than 60% of member library web sites that helps patrons link into our suite of databases. The brochure also explains how to get a library card, who MHLS is and lists all member libraries and the general web address of <http://midhudson.org/libraries> to help patrons connect with your library's web site.

Comments from 2008 attendees about MHLS Essential Trustee Duties and Responsibilities Workshop:

"I expected this to be very dry & frankly a bit boring. Not so. It was absolutely enlightening. Enjoyed it & learned a lot. Thanks so much!"

"Reinforced (review) of much information I have read but needed to hear again to help sink into my head."

"This is very helpful to me as a new board member who doesn't even know the questions yet, let alone the answers!"

**MHLS will be closed** Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be no deliveries.

## Resource Sharing & Millennium

### Extra session of the *mandatory* Millennium

**Circulation Workshop added:** Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00pm in the MHLS Auditorium. Register online at <http://calendar.midhudson.org>

## Reference & Collection Development



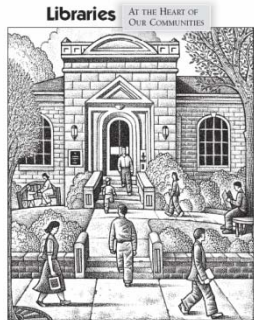
**101 Best Genealogy sites** in the August issue of *Family Tree Magazine* are made up of ten lists of sites, most of them free:

- 10 Best Web Sites to See Dead People
- 10 Best Web Sites for Vital Records
- 10 Best Web Sites for International Searches
- 10 Best Web Sites for Military Research

Check out all the lists at

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/101for2009/>

## Marketing, Advocacy & Funding



### Libraries at the Heart of Our

**Communities:** The feature article in the Summer issue of the Planning Commissioners Journal, "*Libraries at the Heart of Our Communities*," reports on the increasingly important role public libraries are playing in our cities and towns. The article also focuses on how libraries can strengthen downtowns and main street districts. The article is available as a pdf file at no charge. They are granting blanket permission for librarians (and others) to either photocopy

or redistribute the pdf. Download a complimentary copy from the "*Spotlight On...*" section of <http://midhudson.org>. Share this information with others!! The article will provide a valuable resource in showing the benefits that strong libraries can bring to cities and towns - regardless of their size. If you have any questions, contact: Wayne Senville, Editor, Planning Commissioners Journal 802.864.9083; [pcjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pcjoffice@gmail.com); <http://www.plannersweb.com>

**The EBSCO Excellence in Small and/or Rural Public Library Service Award** provides recognition and a \$1,000 honorarium to a public library serving a population of 10,000 or less that demonstrates excellence of service to its community as exemplified by an overall service program or a special program of significant accomplishment. The award honors a public library for all or any of the following:

- Uniqueness of service of program.
- Impact of program or service on community.
- How the service or program will affect the future of the library and its community.

Nominations accepted at <http://www.pla.org> until 1.1.2010.

## Youth Services



**Kids' Port Goes Live Today!** Member libraries with MHLS-managed web sites will see this new button on their site which links patrons to

<http://kidsport.midhudson.org> – the new web portal for kids (pre-school to age 10) and their parents with fun links, homework help and how kids can make a difference in their community. Make Kids' Port the home page on computers in your children's area to help introduce patrons to this new resource. If you manage your own web site the graphic and alt tag language are available at <http://midhudson.org/admin/web/buttons.htm>



**HEY KIDS!**  
Looking for a great web site full of fun & games?

Check out [kidsport.midhudson.org](http://kidsport.midhudson.org)

- Making a Difference in Your Community
- Saving Your Planet
- Hudson Valley Family Fun
- Arts & Crafts
- Homework Help
- Fun Games & More!

[kidsport.midhudson.org](http://kidsport.midhudson.org)



**Bookmarks** to promote this new resource to your community are in the delivery with the *Bulletin* this week and through the Online Material Request form found at the bottom of our home page: <http://midhudson.org>. This is a two- sided bookmark, one side says "HEY KIDS!" the other "HEY PARENTS!" The bookmark could be a great PR tool during local school open house nights, to take with you when you visit school librarians, principal and school superintendants – see if they will link to your library's web site from the school web site while you're at it! Don't forget to include it with the new library cards you issue during Library Card Sign-up Month as well – that's a great time to introduce new patrons to all your library (and your web site) has to offer.

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>

"Libraries Bring Value to Our Communities: Sometimes the key to a vibrant, healthy community can lie right under our nose, hidden in plain sight, so to speak... libraries may well be the single most important civic institution in America today. As scholar Vartan Gregorian has noted, "Across America we are coming to realize the library's unsurpassed importance as a civic institution ... In our democratic society, the library stands for hope, for learning, for progress, for literacy, for self-improvement and for civic engagement. The library is a symbol of opportunity, citizenship, equality, freedom of speech and freedom of thought, and hence, is a symbol for democracy itself. It is a critical component in the free exchange of information, which is at the heart of our democracy."

*"Libraries at the Heart of our Community," Planning Commissioners Journal, Summer 2009*

# Around the System | August 2009



▲ **The 2009 Battle of the Books Planning Committee** has been hard at work this summer – despite what the picture above may suggest! Twenty-one libraries are participating this year with over 200 teens! The Battle is coming up fast – Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Roy C. Ketchum High School in Wappingers Falls – come cheer on the teams!

*Pictured above, starting at 12:00:* Maureen McGrath, Cold Spring; Karen Snare, Millbrook; Kelly Tomaseski, Esopus; JoAnn Di Salvo, Beekman; Lisa Prentiss, Staatsburg; Jim Cosgrove, Marlboro; Frank Rees, Kent; Erica Freudenberger, Tivoli; Marla Hill, Fishkill; Chris Pattantyus, Wappingers; Linda Deubert, Coxsackie; Julie Johnson & Amy Thiel, Kinderhook

➔ **The Funding Task Force** has been working diligently to plan for the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Directors Retreat in Esopus. Task Force members are working toward facilitating a process that will engage all stakeholders in a discussion about the future of System funding and services.

Pictured right: (seated) Debra Kamecke, Cairo Public Library & Margie Menard, Kingston Library; (standing) Jeanne Buck, Reed Memorial Library in Carmel; Gillian Thorpe, Julia L. Butterfield Library in Cold Spring; Gloria Goverman, East Fishkill Community Library; Frank Rees, Kent Public Library; and Linda Deubert, Heermance Memorial Library in Coxsackie. Not shown: Sally Alderdice, Claverack Free Library; Pat Kaufman, Mahopac Public Library & Tom Lawrence, Poughkeepsie Public Library District

