

**Mid-Hudson Library System Board Meeting
Director's Report March 2008**

Construction: As you will see, the auditorium bathrooms are finished. The job took a few weeks longer than expected due to issues with the stall dividers and fixtures.

Technology: Innovative will be replacing our Teleforms server and upgrading the software. They will be sending an onsite tech to ensure that it functions properly.

Legislation: If you cannot make legislation day March 11, please call your legislator's Albany office on that day and tell them to restore the \$5 million for libraries.

Barnes & Noble: The Foundation for Hudson Valley Libraries and our libraries will be working with Barnes & Noble bookstores during National Library week in April. We will get 10% of all sales when the store is presented with a voucher. The money will be used to support Battle of the Books.

Annual Reports: Thanks to the work of Merribeth Advocate, Lena Smolon and the Library Directors all of our annual reports have been submitted to the State by the March 1, deadline.

NYSALB: Rebekkah, Merribeth and I were asked, and agreed, to present a workshop at the New York State Association of Library Boards (NYSALB) conference in May. The topic will be Board Leadership.

CE: We have redesigned the Trustee Essentials Curriculum and the Advanced Session will focus on *Removing Obstacles to Effective Boards*.

Summer Reading: We held our annual performers showcase and will be holding our summer reading workshops.

Library Administration: We are continuing our collaboration with Long Island University's Library Administration Certificate Program with a class at Mahopac and one at Rhinebeck.

Central Library: Sue Hermans has published the first Central Library Bulletin, which provides tips and ideas for reference.

The list below includes documents & information that are to be placed in the permanent record. Board members may request copies of documents by contacting Peggy on ext. 16 pwinn@midhudson.org.

Member Memos:

- #08-01: Millennium Passwords
- #08-02: Essential Documents Inventory
- #08-03: Friends Groups
- #08-04: Newsletter Services

Correspondence Received:

- Thank you note to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich from Deirdre Leland, former Valatie Library trustee, for their support, encouragement and advice during her tenure.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich from Karen Sipperley, Red Hook Library trustee, for their help with the library's space planning and 414 issues.
- List of Most Requested books at System libraries submitted weekly to the Daily Freeman by Rebekkah Smith Aldrich.
- Article from the Poughkeepsie Journal dated 1/18/08 re: Libraries in the Digital Age.
- Article from the Poughkeepsie Journal dated 1/16/08 re: new *Quick Answers* feature on Website.

- Thank you note to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich from the trustees of the Phoenicia Library for meeting with them about space planning and creating a long-range plan.
- February edition of the Poughkeepsie Journal's monthly feature "*On the Shelves*" contributed by Tom Lawrence, Director of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich from Maria Steinberg, Director Brewster Public Library, for conducting two focus groups at the library.
- Congratulatory letters to Josh Cohen from Assemblymen Joel Miller and Marcus Molinaro on his election as Vice President Elect/President of NYLA.
- Article from the Putnam County News and Recorder dated 2/13 re: Free Access to Rosetta Stone Language Learning through your local library.
- Thank you note to the Board from Cassandra Troini, Mahopac Public Library, for granting her a scholarship award to offset her tuition payment.
- Letter of commendation from Kingston Library Director, Bruce George, for Kirsten Litwin, Coordinator of the "Getting to Yes" grant for assisting the Ulster County public libraries in gaining a column in the Ulster County Press.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report