

## OWLS Director report

Jan 14, 2016 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

- Nov 17 at 8:00 AM, we started the switchover to the new Sierra application server. The new server was up by about 10:00 AM, as we'd predicted. One library used offline circ, but the rest wrote down circ transactions or used a computer program to keep track for later editing.
- Process went well with a few problems:
  - No need to reinstall Sierra locally as had been the case with previous Sierra releases
  - Notices did not print correctly locally – problem corrected by early afternoon
  - Next day there were server backup issues
  - Autonotices FTP process failed, and notice format changed, fixed by early afternoon
  - Telnet access initially didn't work, but was fixed by early morning
- Nov 17, I attended a meeting of the Black Creek Library board.
- Nov 20, I visited the New London Public Library and met with the director to go over their responses to the OWLS/Winnefox survey.
- Nov 26, Thanksgiving, OWLS experienced a DNS problem. Dave came into the office to fix it. Since then, hardware has been replaced and issue resolved.
- December 3, the Automation Committee of the OWLS Board met at the OWLS office.
- December 4, I visited the Winnefox Library System to discuss the OWLS/Winnefox planning process and the consulting services offered by both systems.
- December 15, I visited the Shiocton Public Library and met with the director to go over their responses to the OWLS/Winnefox survey.
- December 15, we upgraded Sierra to 2.0. The process went remarkably smoothly. A few installations needed to have printer settings changed, but the process went quite well.
- December 18, Dave and I had a meeting with Tony and Spencer from Kaukauna, a Kaukauna utilities representative, and staff from Amplitel regarding the Kaukauna network. Kaukauna was interested in having a live network at the old location and the new for about a month, and Amplitel was able to accomplish this with very little work from OWLS. After the meeting, Tony gave us a tour of the new facility, which is coming along nicely.
- Dec 22, I visited Black Creek to attend a joint meeting of the Black Creek Library Board and the Black Creek Village Board. Prior to the meeting, the library director and library board members resigned, so I've been consulting with the village of Black Creek on appointing a new library board.
- The Resource Library contract was approved and returned to OWLS.
- I applied for a scholarship to the Wisconsin Women in Government Graduate Seminar, and was notified of acceptance on December 31. "The program is designed to emphasize skills for high-level managers, management techniques, effective networks, and strategies to achieve professional success." The program runs from mid-January to mid-February.
- January 5, I attended a meeting of the NFLS board, and presented the annual update.
- January 7, I attended a meeting of the newly appointed Black Creek Library Board.

- Gerald Brown from Waupaca has volunteered to be on the OWLS board. He will be appointed to the board by Waupaca County on January 19, and plans to attend the January meeting.

### **SRLAAW update**

Since OWLS hosts the SRLAAW website, I've taken over website management duties. We'll be meeting in Madison on February 8, the day before Library Legislative Day.

### **Wisconsin Library Legislative Day**

Wisconsin Legislative Day will be February 9, 2016 at the Madison Concourse Hotel. It's an interesting process, and I know several OWLS board members have attended in the past. I'd like to encourage newer board members to consider attending. It's always an interesting day, and it makes a real impact on legislators to see board members, rather than just staff. If you're at all interested in attending, please let me know – we may be able to arrange carpooling. Unfortunately, I won't be able to carpool with anyone since I'll be in Madison the day before for SRLAAW and that evening have a Wisconsin Women in Government event, also in Madison.

### **Wisconsin Library System Redesign Steering Committee**

The committee met on November 17<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the WiLS Project Management Contract , and discuss communications with the library community prior to the next steering committee meeting. They met again on December 10 to continue work on the project. The public may now attend these meetings via GoToWebinar. Meeting agendas and other information are available from the project website at <http://www.iflweb.org/wlsrsc>.

### **WLA Legislation**

Update on WLA Sponsored Legislation from the WLA Legislative Newsletter

#### ***RETURN OF MATERIALS***

*The second WLA endorsed legislation relates to the permissible release of patron data to collection agencies and local law enforcement officials to assist public libraries in the recovery of and/or collecting reimbursement for unreturned materials under [s. 43.30](#). This proposal is at last on the verge of being released by the legislative authors for co-sponsors.*

*This legislative effort initially involved many hours of survey work and discussions by the members of the LD&L sub-committee chaired by Shannon Schultz. The preparation work was followed by special attentiveness from LD&L member Heather Johnson of the River Falls Public Library and WLA Government Relations Advisor Steven Conway to secure the support of co-authors Senator Harsdorf and Representative VanderMeer and ensure that the final version accomplishes the goal of assisting libraries with retrieval and collection while avoiding unintended consequences. The exchange of information about library policies and procedures has underlined how librarians are frugal and attentive guardians of the public's assets.*

*It appears that Senator Harsdorf and Representative VanderMeer have agreed on the final concepts and will be releasing a draft bill within the next two weeks. All WLA members will be*

*alerted and asked to contact their personal representatives to support this important legislation. The deliberative progress on this bill illustrates the care with which the co-authors have approached WLA's request.*

I contacted Rep Murphy's office about co-sponsoring the bill on December 3, and Rep. Murphy will be signing on to the bill.

Update: Committee hearings have now been scheduled for SB466/AB 609, the "Return of Library Materials" bill. Hearings will be held on January 14 and January 20. More information can be found on the WLA Legislative Alerts page at <http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/legislative/legislative-alerts> including a list of the legislators on these committees.

### **2016 Annual System Plan and State Aid**

The 2016 annual system plan has been approved by the state. A copy of the approval letter is included in your board packet. The first state aid payment (75%) was received in November of 2015; the second (25%) should be received in April of 2016.

### **OWLSnet agreements**

We have received all of the OWLSnet agreements back from OWLS libraries. NFLS was to sign the NFLS agreements at their January meeting. Update: Unfortunately, the agreements were not back to NFLS at the time of their January meeting. The agreements will be completed and signed by the February NFLS Board meeting.

### **WAPL**

Bradd will be working with the WAPL conference committee to design the logo for the 2016 conference.

### **Google Communities**

For many years, librarians in the state have communicated via a listserv – the wispublib listserv. DPI is in the process of moving to Google Communities for Libraries. If you're interested in being part of the statewide community for libraries, I'd encourage you to check out the post: **Google + Rolls Out New Interface** on <http://wilibrariesforeveryone.blogspot.com/>