

The Citizen

The Newsletter of Citizens for Maryland Libraries
P.O. Box 267, Funkstown, MD 21734

Number 24

Fall 2005

CITIZENS FOR MARYLAND LIBRARIES REPORT

With Lynn Wheeler at the helm, Citizens for Maryland Libraries (CML) had a very busy and productive year. Below are excerpts from Lynn's report to the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators (MAPLA) in October.

Revenue initiatives have been used to cover CML's budgeted expenditures and allowed for new initiatives.

On behalf of the CML Board, thank you to the libraries of MAPLA for their sustaining membership payments. Twenty library systems, or 83%, participated in this first-year initiative. We also want to thank Western Maryland Regional Library for its contribution and MAPLA for its \$1,000 kick-off donation. The Board put together this initial dues structure based on annual operating budgets. However, based on concerns about equitability expressed by sustaining members, CML has established a **Dues Structure Task Force** comprising Jim Fish, Kathleen Reif, Darrel Batson, Maurice Travillian and Denise Davis.

The Cheryl Wheeler concert at Centerstage in Baltimore to benefit CML/Maryland Library Association (MLA) education initiatives raised \$7,000. Thanks to all who attended, Sylvia Dodd and the Enoch Pratt Free Library for donating gift bags for the VIP reception, Bill Wilson for assembling the bags, Stacey Aldridge and Pat Fisher for updating the library pocket cards, Division of Library Development and Services (DLDS) for printing the 2004 cards and Jim DeArmey, BCPL, who was master of ceremonies. Cheryl had a great time. She loved her Read poster, designed by Lisa Back, Carroll County Public Library and other gifts, notably the MPower card.

Centerstage Subscription Series Fundraiser

This year there will be a three-play subscription series at CenterStage to benefit CML/MLA education initiatives. The package costs \$100 and includes a special event following each performance. The education fund makes \$22 on each subscription. To date, there are 24 people signed up for the series. We hope this will be an initiative enjoyed by all subscribers and one that grows in coming years.

CML and Outreach

In September, CML Board authorized \$1,500 for MLA Scholarships (including a scholarship for a library staff member from the University of Baltimore Law Library to attend 2006 American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter) and \$1,000 for the MLA Katrina Sister Library initiative. A sub-committee was also established to make recommendations for further education-related expenditures. The Board also authorized an expenditure of \$2,000 to create permanent Pro Display panels and \$846 to staff the MACO booth.

I addressed the Friends of the Accokeek Library in October highlighting CML's mission, goals and initiatives; encouraging their involvement in CML activities.

CML and Partnerships

CML/MLA/MAPLA continued their productive partnership by sponsoring a booth at the Maryland Association of Counties Conference at Ocean City in August. The four library exhibit booths – The joint DLDS, Sailor, Regional Libraries, CML/MLA library booths featuring giveaways, Internet access, photos with Sneaks, and a fast-paced slide show of the photos put together by Scott Reinhart was very popular.

Special thanks to Ray Coiro and the Eastern Shore Regional Library staff for their coordination of the MACO exhibit activities. They hauled tons of material back and forth, handled all registration details, worked with the exhibit hall decorators to ensure an attractive booth presence and fronted all the costs. Thanks to Western Maryland Regional and Washington County Public Libraries for allowing CML/MLA to use their ProDisplay and to Tom Sollers, BCPL, who designed the panels, which featured a corner thanking the legislators for their unanimous support of the Library Funding Bill. The ProDisplay panels are now available through the MLA office for library awareness activities.

At the 10th Annual Baltimore Book Festival in September, the CML/MLA booth design won third prize. Thanks to Margaret Carty and library community volunteers, Nancy Aldous, Lisa Back, Beth Pelle and of course Rocco DeRosa.

Thanks. Thanks. I want to thank all the sustaining members, Margaret Carty and MLA, DLDS, the Regional Libraries and members of MAPLA for your support of CML. I also want to thank Jim Fish and the Baltimore County Public Library for their ongoing CML newsletter layout support, Carroll County staff for their ongoing technical support and support of the MACO booth and Anne Arundel County for hosting our payroll account. **It's all about partnerships!** These important partnerships are the reason for CML's busy and successful year. We could not have done it without you!

Sustaining Members

Allegany County Library

\$100

Anne Arundel County Public Library	\$600
Enoch Pratt Free Library	\$1,200
Baltimore County Public Library	\$1,200
Calvert County Library	\$600
Caroline County Library*	\$250
Carroll County Public Library	\$600
Cecil County Public Library	\$600
Charles County Library	\$600
Dorchester County Public Library	\$100
Frederick County Public Library	\$600
Harford County Public Library	\$600
Howard County Library	\$600
Kent County Public Library	\$100
Prince George's County Memorial Library	\$1,200
St. Mary's County Memorial Library	\$300
Talbot County Free Library	\$100
Washington County Free Library	\$600
Wicomico County Free Library	\$600
Worcester County Library	\$100
Sub-total	\$10,650
Western Maryland Public Libraries	\$100
MAPLA	\$1,000
Grand total	\$11,750

Maryland Library Leadership Institute/CML/MLA

In her report, Lynn forgot to mention that the previous year CML/MLA gave the Maryland Library Leadership Institute over \$17,000. This enabled 23 future library leaders to spend 5 days at the Donaldson Brown Conference Center exploring their leadership strengths and weaknesses. The graduates rated the Institute very highly. The Institute was facilitated by Becky Schreiber and John Shannon, whose fees were paid for by DLDS.

CML Annual Meeting/SLRC Tour

On November 5, the CML annual meeting was held at the Enoch Pratt Free Library. It was a special event sponsored by DLDS, MLA Trustees Division, CML, SLRC and the Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL). Lynn Wheeler, CML President, Carla Hayden, Director of EPFL, and Irene Padilla, Assistant Superintendent of DLDS, welcomed the attendees.

SLRC staff, headed by Wesley Wilson gave tours and made presentations on SLRC's collections and services. Everyone was impressed by the extent of the collection, by the willingness and hard work of the SLRC staff, including those staff members who assisted with serving breakfast and lunch. SLRC staff assured the attendees that the resources were there for Maryland libraries and Maryland citizens, and informed the group that they were willing to lend some of their collections for displays in other libraries. Among the special collection on display was a piece of Edgar Allen Poe's coffin of, a lock of his

hair, an historical Jewish parchment from the 1400's, a notebook with the handwritten minutes of a women's suffragette meeting, as well as a letter by Susan B. Anthony.

Many thanks to the EPFL and SLRC staff for their hard work in providing a wonderful and educational day.

Important Dates

January 20-23, 2006 – American Library Association midwinter conference, San Antonio, Texas

February 1, 2006 – Legislative Day/Reception, Annapolis, Maryland

Tuesday, February 28 2006 – James Partridge Award Presentation

CML and the Maryland library community reach out to libraries devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Below is a report from Marion Francis, Director of Anne Arundel County Libraries, originally from Mississippi, who was asked to identify a library project for our support.

Hello everyone,

I am very pleased to report some exciting things that have recently taken place that will substantially contribute to our effort on behalf of Mississippi libraries.

First of all, after much conversation with Sharman Smith, State Librarian of Mississippi, I have concluded that the Pearlington Library in Hancock County should be our "adopted library." The Pearlington Library was a combination school and public library and was located in the elementary school. Sharman said it really was the delight of the Pearlington community, heavily used before almost entirely destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The need is great there and that library has not yet been adopted by anyone else that we know of. Also, I have spoken to John Taube, Director of the Allegany County Library who has delivered to me some wonderful news! The Allegany County Library is about to retire its Bookmobile and is considering donating it to a library system on the gulf coast. I realize that we had already discussed possibly writing a grant for that purpose but this donation would allow it to be transported to Mississippi sometime in December. The Allegany Board seems to be in favor of this and will have to officially approve it, as would the Director of the Hancock County Library in Mississippi. I want you all to know that our fellow Mississippi librarians are overwhelmed at the generosity of the Maryland Library community, as am I.

Second of all, but certainly not least, is that Margaret Carty has reported she has received a generous donation of lovely new children's books that we can send our adopted library. BCPL has donated \$700 of raffle money from their Staff Development Day activity plus another \$60 to the cause.

All this, combined with the \$1000 donation by CML has really gotten us off to a great start.

Best,
Marion

Current Board Members

Nancy Aldous, Margaret Carty, Executive Director, MLA, Denise Davis, Director Cecil County Public Library, Mary Lou Dewey, Sylvia Betts Dodd, Patricia H. Fisher, David Goldsmith, Theodore Haas, Patricia Hammond, Mary Mallery, Executive Director, (non-voting), Michael Osborne, Irene Padilla (Ex-officio) MSDE, DLDS, Maurice H. Rindskopf, **Treasurer**, Glennor Shirley, **Vice President**, Nettie Taylor (Ex-officio) , J. Maurice Travillian (Ex-officio), Patricia Turner, Lynn Wheeler, **President**

Membership Application

Yes I want to join CITIZENS FOR MARYLAND LIBRARIES (CML) and continue to work for the best possible public library service for all the people of Maryland.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Membership through December 2006:

- \$15 Individual
- \$38 Friends of Library Groups
- \$75 Corporations/Organizations
- \$155 Benefactors

Membership through December 2008:

- \$38 Individual
- \$98 Friends of Library Groups
- \$188 Corporations/Organizations
- \$375 Benefactors
- \$750 Life Member

Additional contributions to CML \$ _____ work toward improved library service and libraries in Maryland.

Payment

Checks should be made payable to:

CML (tax-deductible)

Mail to

Citizens for Maryland Libraries

P.O. Box

Funkstown, MD 21734-0267

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The Newsletter of Citizens for Maryland Libraries
P.O. Box 267, Funkstown, MD 21734
Web site: <http://www.citizensformarylandlibraries.org>
Lynn Wheeler, President /Glennor Shirley, Editor