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Citizens for Maryland Libraries

September 2016

THE ADVOCATE *for Maryland Libraries*

WHO AM I

and

**WHY AM I ON THE *CITIZENS FOR MARYLAND LIBRARIES* (CML)
BOARD**

and

WHY IS CML IMPORTANT TO MARYLAND'S LIBRARIES?

Karen Trennepohl

My name is Karen Trennepohl. I live in Ellicott City and am completing my first year as a member of the **CML** board. I have been a librarian since 1970 when I graduated from Kent State University with an M.L.S. degree. My career provided experiences as a young adult/adult fiction specialist with Anne Arundel County libraries; a research/reference/ legislative specialist for the Federal Communications Commission; the head children's librarian/district children's coordinator for Center County Library in Pennsylvania; a regional librarian for the Maryland Correctional System in Jessup; the Director of Learning Resources for Baltimore International College; the branch manager of the Savage Library and the Head of Human Resources for Howard County Library. While I am now officially retired, I still work part-time in the Howard County libraries. I have been active in the Maryland Library Association (MLA), serving in several board positions and as President of the Association. I have been a library user all my life. And now I am learning about, and participating in, **CML**, thanks to a friend who asked me to fill the remaining year of a board member who needed to step down.

Allow me to share some of what I have learned this first year. Please feel free to share my thoughts and to encourage others to join and participate in an organization that believes totally in the importance of libraries for everyone.

The **CML** Board meets quarterly at libraries around the state. Discussions at meetings are varied and lively – for example:

June 2015 (my first meeting) – CML awards were presented at the annual Maryland Library Association conference: Marian Satterthwaite Award, the Davis McCarn Award, the Library Employee Award, the James Partridge Award and the Dewey Award to Carroll County Library.

September 2015 – I helped with the set-up at the Baltimore Book Festival where **CML** shares a space with MLA.

October 2015 - Dr. Brian Butler from the iSchool at the University of Maryland spoke about a recent report which anticipated the type of training new graduates will need as the future of libraries is considered.

November 2015 – A report from the MLA Legislative Panel was shared. The report contained information about expected cuts to the State Library budget and a planned bill which might escalate funding for state public libraries, among other state and county issues.

December 2015 – A new monthly bulletin will be sent to all members of **CML**, and its new name will be my suggestion **THE ADVOCATE** for Maryland Libraries.

January 2016 – Work begins in earnest on the new Strategic Plan with a March deadline.

February 2016 – The annual meeting of CML was held in Annapolis in conjunction with Legislative Day when citizens and library representatives visit not only their state representatives but also members of Congress in Washington DC. Any supporter of libraries can take this opportunity to join **CML** or MLA on these days.

March 2016 – The wonderful news that Carla Hayden, who has led Enoch Pratt Library, has been nominated to be the next Librarian of Congress was celebrated. (She was sworn in just last week.)

April 2016 – I represented **CML** at the annual Maryland Day festivities at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Thus ended my first year as a member of the **CML** board. I still have lots to learn and look forward to next year. It has been a busy year, filled with activities that advocate for, celebrate, and support Maryland libraries, which is what **CML** is all about. I am proud to be a part of **CML** and hope that you are, also.



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