

Mid-Hudson Library System Board Meeting Director's Report September 2005

Technology: We have made some slight changes to our OPAC and we added Book Jackets, Title information, Series information, First chapters and Booklist reviews through Syndetics Inc.

Plan Of Service: We met with several directors to create a process for writing our 2007-2012 plan of service.

Getting to Yes: Beginning work on our LSTA funded project, Libby Post will be conducting focus groups to help develop messages about libraries. This project will create strategies and a toolkit to help libraries build support in their communities for successful budget votes. As part of the project, we will be looking for libraries that are interested in having a budget vote in 2006.

Continuing Education: We are holding our first staff orientation session on September 13. This will be an overview of library and system services designed to acquaint new library staff with an understanding of system wide resources sharing and the role of libraries.

Battle of the Books: Margeret Keefe has organized the first regional Battle of the Books. Five teams will read ten books and compete to answer questions about the books. We have received good support from our legislators and Gannett.

SAM: We have been installing SAM in several libraries. The installation process is going well, but there are still some bugs we are working through with the vendor.

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.

Correspondence:

- Thank you note to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith from Karen Baumann, Board President of the Putnam Valley Library, for their presentation on funding to the Putnam County Library Board.
- Thank you note to MerriBeth Advocate from Carol Martin, Board President Heermance Library, for being the guest speaker at the Greene County Library Association meeting.
- July issue of the Poughkeepsie Journal's On the Shelves feature submitted by Clinton Library Director, Nancy Nelson.
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Barbara Haymann-Diaz, Head of Youth Services at the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, for donating the use of the Auditorium for the *Las Familias y La Biblioteca* grant project.
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Chester Straub, Jr., President Ulster County Development Corporation, for his participation in the Creative Economy Roundtable.
- Article from the NYSALB *Trustee* by President, Norman Jacknis, entitled "Ten Lessons Learned From A Library Election".
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Mary Ratzer, Internship Coordinator, University at Albany for mentoring Dee Cotherman for the School of Information Science and Policy during the Summer 2005 semester.
- August issue of the Poughkeepsie Journal's On the Shelves feature submitted by Howland Public Library Director, Phyllis Keaton.
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Carol Ann Desch, Coordinator Statewide Library Services, for being part of the New York State Library's Interview Team for two Library Development Specialist positions.

- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Erin Bohn, employee at the Sarah Hull Hallock Library, for awarding her a MHLS Course Scholarship Grant.
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Janet Welch, State Librarian, for his letter, on behalf of PULISDO, supporting the Youth Services Consultants' recommendation regarding the 2007 Summer Reading Program.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report