



**PLS System Meeting - Summary**  
**December 18, 2009**  
**@ Pioneer Library System**

Jeanna Ruter, **AVO**; Renate Goff, **CAL**; Erin Robinson, **CAS**; Teresa Dearing, **DAN**; Beth Horn, **GPL**; Theresa Streb, **LYO**; Blanche Warner, **NAP**; Elly Dawson, **NEW**; Patricia Baynes, **PAL**; Peggy Parker, Janet Rossman, **PER**; Louise Furber, Vicki Emerson, Deb Dennis, **PHE**; Andrea Tillinghast-Thompson, **RJ**; Donna Norris, **ROS**; Carol Garland, **SOD**; Pat Evans, Lynne Madden, **VIC**; Anna Grace, Sarah Matthews, **WADS**; Mary Zingerella, Liz O'Toole, **WAL**; Angela Gonzalez, **WAR**; Jennifer Morris, Roma Matott, Lindsay Stratton, Ellen Reynolds, Kim Iraci, Aaron Zsembery, Bob Wicksall, Jeanne Hayes, **PLS**.

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**Birds of a Feather: none**

**Announcements**

Jennifer (PLS): December 2009 issue of Trustee Talk newsletter and flyer about upcoming trustee workshop is in delivery and has been mailed to all trustees. Kim Bolan Cullin and Rob Cullin will present Ideas for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Libraries with slides of libraries around the country that illustrate the possibilities! Jennifer will present Ideas to Increase Your Operating Budget. Trustees and library staff are encouraged to attend.

Reminder: Signup sheet available. Please sign up to bring in system meeting break-time snacks.

Roma (PLS): Purging of paid bills will be done by the end of the year. Due to holidays, some libraries will receive their overdue notices earlier.

Bob (PLS): Changed to proxy server for patrons to access databases. For those libraries with fixed IPs, patrons can directly access databases from within the library. This improves reporting based on library use within the library. Patrons can still access databases from home, but there is currently no way to track usage by library. Bob is working on a solution for those libraries without fixed IPs to allow database access within the library.

Aaron (PLS): There are now directions on the PLUM for libraries to configure library owned computer to connect to the staff network. <http://twiki.pls-net.org/twiki/bin/view/Members/OwwWireless>

Kim (PLS): The posters for *Your Story Starts Here* campaign are ready for libraries to pick up after the system meeting. Each library gets 20 posters, 5 of each of the 4 designs. If you need more contact Kim. During 2009, PLS, Ad Council of Rochester, RIT's spring semester Social Marketing class and three member library pilot sites collaborated to construct a marketing campaign based on the findings of the *From Awareness to Funding* study conducted by OCLC. It found transformative stories increased library funding. The 3 pilot sites for the *Your Story Starts Here* campaign will also use billboards and have results tracked to gauge progress in effectiveness.

NYLA is gearing up to use something similar – following Libby Post model to get the word out.

Jennifer (PLS): An appeal letter to library friends groups to help fund the bus to Albany will be sent out soon. Library Lobby Day is earlier this year—March 2.

Jennifer is a member of the NYLA PAC steering committee. Ideas to inform patrons and help them better understand library issues are being discussed. Send ideas to Jennifer.

A Finger Lakes Times reporter interviewed Jennifer and Kim on the effects that cuts to system funding cause to libraries. Hard to explain services & importance.

Pat (VIC): Agree it is hard to explain. Need concrete examples to demonstrate: stop delivery? Turn holds off?

Ellen (PLS): Michael Sullivan will do a workshop at PLS on Jan 13<sup>th</sup>—a great speaker and we are very fortunate to get him. He has written 5 children's books specifically for boys. Ellen encourages all to come, including library YA folks.

*Group order:* paperbacks \$6.95, the hardcover is \$12.95.

Paperbacks:

Escapade Johnson and Mayhem at Mount Moosiluke

Escapade Johnson and The Witches of Belknap County

Escapade Johnson and The Phantom of the Science Fair

Escapade Johnson and the Coffee Shop of the Living Dead

Hardcover: The Sapphire Knight

Youth Yak meeting schedule revised. January and March meetings are now February and April. Registration now open.

*Handout:* OWWL2go Maximum Access Subscription pledge

Patrons from every library use OWWL2go. Each subscription for 25 titles is \$1,875. We need more to reach even 100 titles. It would be great to be able to have more of the "Always Available" titles. Please email me with a pledge if you haven't already. Our goal is 200 titles.

Beth (GPL): Geneva will host a public reception Jan 25 at 6pm. for David Relin, co-author of *Three Cups of Tea* and featured speaker at the Hobart and Wm Smith Colleges President's Forum. Folks will journey as a group from the library to the Smith Opera House for the President's Forum, begins at 7:30 p.m. Geneva will send out bookmarks & pencils as part of their publicity effort for the new Ask24/7 reference service.

Carol (SOD): Sodus is purchasing the property next door to expand library space. An architect will develop plans for connecting the 2 buildings. The new parking lot will be located where the neighboring property's garage is currently located.

Patricia (PAL): The renovation project of the new library building space will go out to bid. A February start is possible. 2010 is the library's first year of public funding and the library will expand library hours beginning Jan 4. A celebration is planned.

Looking into a coffee set-up that uses individual portions. Andrea from Red Jacket recommends: Elite B40 Keurig Brewer, about \$99 through Village Office Supply (<http://villageoffice.com/>), local representative Don Mordue can set the machine up, demo how it works, and how to clean it. All supplies (k-cups, sugar, napkins, etc.) can be delivered.

Jennifer (PLS): Brockport's Seymour Public Library is looking into becoming a public library district. They rely on funding by 3 municipalities and it is being cut. There is only 1 public library district in Monroe County. (Fairport)

Mary (WAL): The library's latest newsletter used *Your Story Starts Here* theme. They will use that theme to build up to 2012—the library's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Kim (PLS) asks all libraries to continue collecting library stories. PLS plans to put a banner on the website—looking into drop-down field for patrons to share their stories. NYLA is also collecting stories.

Pat (VIC): Although the library is still waiting for 75% of the 2009 member item monies, they have installed 5 new computers with what they did receive.

Aaron (PLS): Cassie was installed at a few libraries and is working very well. Additional time can be added to patrons' sessions, if needed. Cassie is time management software used to schedule computer use at the library.

Beth (GPL) reports that Cassie frees up staff time.

Angela (WAR): There is a podcast on the Capitol Press Room website (a daily one-hour public radio news magazine broadcast) of an interview with Michael Borges and a NYLA consultant explaining how decreases in library funding are affecting libraries across the state. There is also a link from the NYLA website.

Anna (WADS): Local high school students are painting fairy tale characters in the library stairwell.

## Programs

### Best of 2009

Facilitator: Ellen Reynolds

Participants showcased book titles published in 2009 that they or their patrons recommended (a few Audiobooks and DVDs were included). Ellen will produce BookLetters lists from the titles.

[www.owwl.org](http://www.owwl.org) select Readers' Corner tab, then BookLetters

## AND

### Mystery Writer Aaron Paul Lazar

Terry Dearing introduced A. P. Lazar, author of the LeGarde mystery series,

[www.legardemysteries.com](http://www.legardemysteries.com)

The author read a bit from his new book *Healy's Cave* and fielded questions about his writing, writing style, and characters.

### Highlights

- considers his LeGarde series as country mysteries and his new series, Moore mysteries, as paranormal mysteries
- keeps a collection of themes in his head and the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter mentally runs like a movie
- does not use outlines, he writes sequentially as the characters take over the story.
- Used experiences from living in Germany in his book *Mazurka*
- Has written all his life; journals, short stories, writing class, and while working full time, he wrote 4am-6am almost every day.
- Formerly an engineer at Kodak, plans to go back to school to enter the mental health/therapy profession
- Is a current member of the Wyoming Writes writing group that meets in Perry.
- Finds solace and therapy in writing
- Uses a keyboard, could not do without