



PLS System Meeting – Summary
September 16, 2011
@ Pioneer Library System

Jeanne Ruter, **AVO**; Laurie Newell, **BLO**; Diana Thorn, **BRI**; Renate Goff, **CAL**; Ron Kirsop, **CAN**; Terry Dearing, **DAN**; Beth Horn, Tanya Thompson, **GPL**; Wendy Krause, **HPL**; Cathy Allen, **LIM**; Theresa Streb, **LYO**; Darlene Virkler, **MAC**; Tracy Whitney, **MAR**; Sharon Stanley, **MM**; Blanche Warner, **NAP**; Dorothy Morehouse, Peg Pelletier, **NEW**; Sandra Hylan, Anne Rehor, **ONT**; Patricia Baynes, **PAL**; Peggy Parker, Janet Rossman, **PER**; Louise Furber, Deb Dennis, **PHE**; Andrea Tillinghast, Liz King, **RJ**; Donna Norris, **ROS**; Angel Wright-Sackett, **SS**; Pat Evans, Lynne Madden, **VIC**; Anna Grace, Sarah Matthews, **WADS**; Mary Zingerella, Liz O'Toole, **WAL**; Cheryl Gravelle, **WIL**; Dottie Patt, **WOL**; Cassie Guthrie, Betsy Morris, Ellen Reynolds, Lindsay Stratton, Jim Frey, Bob Wicksall, Aaron Zsembery, Jeanne Hayes, **PLS**.

Birds of a Feather: ChiliFresh.com — 7 attendees

Twiki: <http://plum.pls-net.org/twiki/bin/view/Members/Meetings/SystemMeeting20110916>

Announcements

Cassie (PLS):

- Upcoming events/workshops: Oct 1, Legal Issues for Libraries (35 registered so far); Oct 12, PLS Annual Dinner/Meeting @ Valley Oak Events Center, Geneseo; 10/21, Full Day Strategic Planning Focus Group (see TWiki for brochure); 10/28, Fall Support Staff workshop
- Handout – NYLA Advisory opinion regarding tax cap. Cassie spoke with Michael Borges this a.m. and no new information. Consensus building between Comptroller and Governor's office is on-going regarding implications for public libraries.
 - 259 school ballot votes (association & municipal libraries having funding on ballot, Governor's office views the same as school district libraries)
 - 414 are more controversial, no consensus as yet
 - School district public libraries and special district libraries have begun receiving emails/letter for filing a form with regards to property tax cap. Some libraries have received a letter and it did not seem to apply to them. (Bloomfield will fax letter to Cassie.)
 - DLD stance regarding tax cap info –libraries should speak with one voice through NYLA. NYLA has kept contact with decision makers and is following the issue closely on our behalf. Cassie made a pitch to libraries for organization/individual membership to NYLA.

Sandra (ONT) asked if other libraries who participate in the NYS Retirement program have adjusted their budget to reflect that retirement pensions are not subject to a 2% tax cap. Betsy will add a link to the system meeting page on PLUM, to the Comptroller's web page that includes a formula for calculating pension changes.

Betsy (PLS): Reminder: Fall Staff Support workshop Oct 28. So far 35 registered and that only represents 15 out of 42 libraries. Good programs on the agenda and door prizes (swag).

Ellen (PLS) shared the brochure developed with funds from the Adult Literacy Grant *Wyoming Connects*. Libraries will receive jump drives preloaded with job training information.

- Outreach Mini Grants will be awarded to 4 libraries. Contact Ellen with any questions.
- 81% of PLS member libraries have filled in the Summer Reading survey. Need the remaining 8 to complete the survey.
- Congratulations to Diana Thorn who was awarded NYLA Public Library Section scholarship to attend the NYLA conference!
- NYLA has started a disaster fund drive for libraries affected by the recent floods.

Jim (PLS): In the Evergreen system, Allens Hill abbreviation will be changed from AH to **AHill**—the same code that is used for delivery. (AH when hand-written looks too much like ATT and items are often misdirected.)

Lindsay (PLS): Heads up! The repair user function is being phased out. More info forth-coming through PLS notes, email, and OWWLUG. The Repair User accounts were imported to Evergreen from WorkFlows and handled special procedures - like damage/repair, lost, discard, etc. - in a very different way than Evergreen does. Evergreen has its own methods for creating and tracking items with special statuses.

- Many continuing education classes are being added to the CE calendar: October- OverDrive webinars; November – circ classes; Dec – holdings/maintenance trainings. Please check the calendar regularly as more workshops are being added regularly.

Bob (PLS): The wide-band trials at Newark and Geneva are completed. Amount of data being sent/received is drastically higher and is eliminating much of the slow downs and it is less likely that one patron can overwhelm the system. The wide-band upgrade requires a new SonicWall TZ210. Cost is approx. \$206/mo. Peg from Newark says that increase in speed is quite noticeable.

- OWWL.org – link to the new NovelNYdatabase, JobNow, has added to the bottom on the Online Databases page.

Aaron (PLS): Kaspersky software for library computers/laptops will need to be updated and Aaron will send out the information soon. An evening will be scheduled for libraries to leave their computers on and the update can be done overnight.

Beth (Central Library): Upcoming OWWL2go training at Newark and training for JobNow NovelNY database.

Renate (CAL): An explosion and fire broke out at the Burnwell Propane company located about 1 mile from the library. No damage to the library.

Caledonia held a very successful fundraiser that brought in about \$8,300. Wait-staff for the event dressed in costumes depicting characters from books, they had great hors d'oeuvres and desserts (such as, Velveteen Rabbit carrot cake), had a lottery tree, and everyone had a great time.

Cassie (PLS) while in Albany 2 people approached her to talk about the great fundraising event in CAL.

Dottie (WOL): The library will soon update their website! (not done since 1990s)

Pioneer Potpourri

Presenters: Cassie (PLS), Jim (GPL), and special guests from Tri-Delta, Richard Withrow and sales rep, Lori Kroll (585- 412-7006 or lkroll@tri-delta.com)

<http://plum.pls-net.org/twiki/bin/view/Members/Meetings/SystemMeeting20110916>

OWWL funding future - Cassie

At the 9/14 Board meeting, the decision was made to continue the PLS OWWL subsidy at 25% in 2013. Pioneer has lost \$650,000 of revenue over the last few years and has been operating on reserves since 2008 - continuing on the same path, PLS be out of cash by 2016.

The Board has asked Cassie to convene a Task Force, consisting of 8-10 member library directors, System staff, and the PLS Board Treasurer, charged with the task of looking at funding and service models, beginning in January 2012. Data collected from the Oct 21 Focus Group will be considered. Nothing at this point is off the table. A memo to directors and their board presidents will be mailed today.

Please email or call Cassie with any questions or comments.

Discussion:

- Cheryl (WIL) just found out at the recent Town budget meeting that the library will be cut by \$11,000. Libraries are facing cuts from all sides.
- Growth in member library costs over the past few years? – OWL subsidies were dropping approx. 3% every year
- Cassie would like to attend the next PLSDAC meeting to talk about the Task force

Options for computer support - Jim

Jim introduced representatives from Tri-Delta Resources <http://www.tri-delta.com>, who said:

- The company offers IT support: hardware, software, networking, servers, printer repair, etc.
- Offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Canandaigua. Will come out to your site and can often do the work remotely.
- Currently contracts with MCLS
- Phone support is available. If under contract (approx. \$65/hr.), often the company will not charge or will reduce cost for quick and easily resolved questions via phone.
- Same day emergency service is typical.
- Stock many spare PC parts.
- Has HP state contract pricing and also services and sells equipment from other major brands: Dell, IBM, etc.
- Send your specs and they will send a quote.

Birth of a circ modifier - Jim

After 6 months the Evergreen (EG) data shows the importance of having unified circ rules. Examples were shown of videogames borrowed and renewed at different libraries.

- different fines and loan periods for the same item when renewed from different libraries
- person may feel cheated when charges vary (e.g., renewing after .20 fine/day for one week, it increased to \$1/day for 2 days)
- seems arbitrary and unreliable
- undermines patron's faith in the system
- Goal: adopt one flexible videogame circ-modifier for all libraries