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Board of Trustees  
Mid-Hudson Library System  
103 Market St  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

RE: Introducing Myself

Dear MHLS Trustees,

Thank you for considering appointing me as a trustee from Ulster County. I would like to introduce myself a bit.

I have been a trustee of the Woodstock Public Library District for the last ten years. For the last five I have been the president of the board. During that time I have participated in many trainings put on by the MHLS staff. I have also attended four NYLA conferences where MHLS staff are always a presence.

Since I have been on the board Woodstock has also used the consulting services offered by MHLS. Not only have Rebekkah and others led and facilitated specific board trainings and retreats, but she and Merribeth have facilitated a series of community public meetings to help our planning process. In short, I have had many positive experiences of MHLS services during my time as a trustee.

I lived for many years on the San Francisco Peninsula in California. That is where my wife and I raised our two daughters. I was a licensed civil engineer for some years doing mostly highway construction and land planning. Later I became a lawyer there with a general business practice. In 1991 I earned an advanced degree in environmental law in Washington, D.C. From there I went to Prague as special counsel to the Federal Environment Minister of Czechoslovakia. After the country split I remind there in the same capacity working for a Czech business organization established to import environmental management know-how from the West.

Since I have been retired I have served on the board of Ceres ([www.ceres.org](http://www.ceres.org)), a coalition of socially responsible investors and environmental organizations who have been using shareholder power to influence the environmental behavior of publicly traded companies. I have also served on the executive committee of the New York State Chapter of the Sierra Club ([www.atlantic.sierraclub.org](http://www.atlantic.sierraclub.org)).

During my service as a trustee of the Woodstock Library I have developed a real appreciation for the Mid-Hudson Library System and for the role of libraries in the community. I am grateful for the opportunity to support the System as a trustee. I look forward to attending your December 2015 meeting, beginning to get to know you and answering any questions you might have about me.

Sincerely yours,

*Stuart Auchincloss*