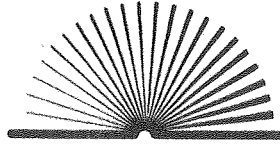


***CORRESPONDENCE RECOGNIZING STAFF
FOR MHLS BOARD MEETING OF MAY 10, 2017***

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you letter to Tom Sloan, Executive Director, from Matthew Pfisterer, Director, Middletown Thrall Library, 2017 Chair, RCLS Directors Association, on behalf of the group of library directors and Ramapo Catskill Library System Staff, for affording the opportunity to attend the March 3, meeting of the Directors Association and observe how the MHLS libraries conducts these meetings.
- Thank you letter to Tom Sloan, Executive Director, from Ellen Rubin, Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive Coordinator Empire State Center for the Book, for providing the MHLS Auditorium for the storage, housing, and distribution of the 3,938 books collected during their 2016 Holiday Book Drive.
- Thank you note from Marcia McManigal, Town of Esopus Library Trustee, to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for her consultation with their board on legal issues.
- Thank you note from Elizabeth Potter, Director of the Phoenicia Library to to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for the recently held New Directors Round Table and federal level advocacy information.
- Thank you note from Pat Placona, Board President of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for her advocacy efforts in Albany this year.
- Thank you note from Elizabeth Potter, Director of the Phoenicia Library to to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for her support of the library's capital campaign.
- Thank you note form Jeremy Johannesen, Executive Director of the New York Library Association to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for her presentation on "Increasing Circulation @Your Library at pre-Advocacy Day.
- Thank you note from Miguel Figueroa, Director of the Center for the Future of Libraries at the American Library Association to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Coordinator for Library Sustainability for her presentation at the ALA Mid-Winter Conference in Atlanta, GA on "Sustainable Thinking for the Future of Libraries," part of the Future of Libraries Symposium.



MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

March 8, 2017

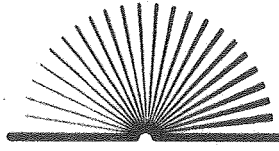
Dear Tom Sloan, Executive Director,
Mid Hudson Library System,

I am writing to express thanks from the group of directors and Ramapo Catskill Library System Staff who attended the Mid Hudson Library System's Director's Association meeting which took place at the Mid Hudson Library System headquarters on Friday, March 3, 2017. Our RCLS group consisted of the following individuals:

Grace Riario – Assistant Director, Ramapo Catskill Library System
Jessica Bowen – Director, Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Public Library
Maureen Jagos – Director, Chester Public Library
Carol McCrossen- Director, Moffat Library of Washingtonville
Pam Stocking – Director, Ellenville Public Library and Museum
Kristin White – Director, Western Sullivan Public Library
Matt Pfisterer- Director Middletown Thrall Library

Our group has been discussing ways in which we can make improvements to our Director's Association, its committees and the format of our meetings. I had correspondence with the former Chair of the MHLS Director's Association Carol Fortier, current Chair, Linda Deubert, and Executive Director Tom Sloan and we were granted permission to observe the March, 2017 MHLS Director's Association meeting. Following the meeting our group met to discuss our impressions of what we had witnessed. Our specific observations are as follows:

- *All meeting materials including the Executive Director's Report, consultant and committee reports were available well in advance of the meeting and easily accessible through the MHLS website.*
- *The Agenda was logically structured so that all items requiring a vote "Action Items." Were addressed at the top of the Agenda.*



MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

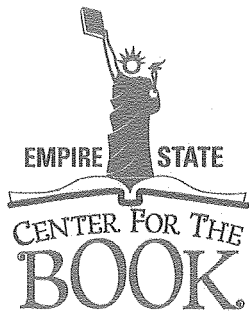
- *Technology was effectively utilized and included an online product demo and overhead projection of reports to keep the conversation focused.*
- *A high level of cooperation and collaboration between the directors, Executive Director, and Consultants was apparent in the planning, format and conduct of the meeting.*
- *A CE component "Table Talk, "at the conclusion of the regular meeting, fostered camaraderie and support between the directors and MHLS staff.*

Our group was truly impressed with the wide range of information that was addressed in a brief 1:25 that comprised the regular portion of the meeting. The group believes there is much that you are doing at MHLS that we would like to incorporate into the conduct of our meetings at RCLS, and we will be presenting our recommendations to our colleagues at upcoming consortia meetings. Thanks again for allowing us to observe your Director's Association and for your gracious hospitality to our group.

Sincerely,

Matthew Pfisterer
Director, Middletown Thrall Library
2017 Chair, RCLS Director's Association

CC: Camilla W. von Bergen
Linda Deubert



New York Library Association

6021 State Farm Road, Guilderland, NY 12084

518-432-6952 | 518-427-1697 FAX

info@empirestatebook.org | www.empirestatebook.org

March 24, 2017

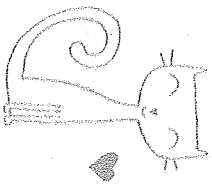
Tom Sloan
Executive Director
Mid-Hudson Library System
103 Market St.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Dear Tom,

The Empire State Center for the Book would like to thank MHLS for allowing us once again to store, house, and distribute the 3938 books collected during the 2016 Poughkeepsie Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive. Being able to move freely around the auditorium space as we sorted and then distributed books was a pleasure. Over 50 public libraries, school libraries, and social service agencies sent representatives to obtain books on January 18, 19, & 24, 2017. In addition, the online registration continued to make my life much easier!

I particularly want to thank Merribeth Advocate and Kerstin Cruger for their invaluable help.

Sincerely,
Ellen Rubin
Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive Coordinator
Empire State Center for the Book



Not even this
is a match
for the amazing
likes of you.

Dear Rebekah,

Ever wanted to let your
knees know much you appreciated
your class at our Board Meeting.
So many of us are now back
this really helps, looking
forward to many more.

Have a wonderful year!

Sincerely,
Marena McNeary

Zimbra

rsmith@midhudson.org

Re: [MHLS-DIRECTORS] ALA Washington Office**From :** Elizabeth Potter <director@phoenicalibrary.org>

Thu, Apr 06, 2017 09:29 AM

Subject : Re: [MHLS-DIRECTORS] ALA Washington Office**To :** rsmith@midhudson.org

Thank you ! I just signed up for alerts. Make myself even more of a pain to congressional phone staffers.

Yesterday was great. The DA, the roundtable. I felt renewed !

Liz

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 6, 2017, at 7:23 AM, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich <rsmith@midhudson.org> wrote:

At yesterday's Directors Association meeting it was asked that we share how to best stay abreast of funding and legislative issues impacting library at the federal level. The American Library Association's Washington Office provides lots of news and tools to keep you up-to-date:

- Key Issues briefings: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation>
- District Dispatch, the newsletter from the ALA Washington Office: <http://www.districtdispatch.org/>
- Legislative Action Center, very similar to the NYLA Online Advocacy Center but for national issues: <http://carcengage.com/ala/home>

Thank you for your time and attention. Issues important to library core values are at stake at the national level these days so staying abreast of these issue and how they can effect the lives of everyday people is

Zimbra

rsmith@midhudson.org

Library Funding

From : Patricia Placona <patplacona@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 18, 2017 08:12 AM

Subject : Library Funding**To :** Rebekkah Smith Aldrich
<rsmith@midhudson.org>

Congratulations on this good news! You work tirelessly every day and I hope you are gratified by the results. Thank you for all you do.

Pat
PATRICIA PLACONA

Zimbra

rsmith@midhudson.org

Fwd: Starry Starry Night Fundraiser**From :** Elizabeth Potter <director@phoenicialibrary.org>

Mon, Apr 17, 2017 01:35 PM

Subject : Fwd: Starry Starry Night Fundraiser**To :** Rebekkah Smith Aldrich <rsmith@midhudson.org>

Hi Rebekkah,

I have to tell you I received a short email today that is one of those once or twice a year emails when you say ... I'm really having the positive impact I'd hope to have in my job and life. And actually, it involves you, too.

The email is from the owner of the Phoenicia Diner, who is on the board at our struggling community theater. When we finally got into the new library building, I sat down with the theater folks at length and shared with them everything YOU had taught us about a capital campaign. What you taught us was so instrumental to us resurrecting the library and I told them if they followed it, they could accomplish their goal no problem. So your work has ripple effects ...

A library's sphere of activity really is the entire community, in all it's sundry functions ... Even if we simply are an example to the rest of the community of "yes, you can!"

Ironically, as these things spread (at the theater, through the new community "well-being" groups that have just formed) it means my job got a little easier. I won't have to worry about being the only place that has something going on Friday night because town is dead. :-)

Liz

----- Forwarded message -----



The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association

6021 State Farm Road, Guilderland, NY 12084
518-432-6952 / 518-427-1697 FAX
info@nyla.org / www.nyla.org

March 2, 2017

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich
33 Mahikan Dr.
Hudson, NY 12534

Greetings Rebekkah,

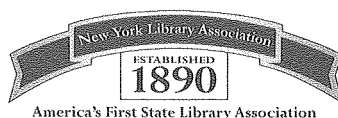
On behalf of the Council and the membership of the New York Library Association, I would like to express our gratitude for your taking the time from your busy schedule to present the workshop "Increasing Circulation @ Your Library" on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

Attendees of the workshop were fortunate to have such a knowledgeable presenter and benefited greatly from your expertise. Together with your support, NY's libraries are moving to a more equitably funded future. Thank you for your contribution to New York's Library community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Johannesen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeremy Johannesen
NYLA Executive Director
director@nyla.org



Dear Rebekkah -

A quick note to thank you for sharing
your passion, vision, and expertise at
the Symposium on the Future of Libraries.
I've heard nothing but great things -
as expected! You are awesome!

-Wynell Eyerou