

**Northeastern Maine Library District
Annual Report
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009**

NMLD DISTRICT GOALS

1. To increase public awareness, use, and support of Maine libraries
2. To facilitate professional development
3. To encourage resource sharing and regional cooperation
4. To foster literacy
5. To improve communication among libraries, library organizations, and other groups
6. To foster improved library service

Executive Board 2008-2009

Anna Carr/VC – Northeast Harbor Library
Helen Fogler – Thompson Free Library
Jane MacDonald – Mount Desert Island High School
Paula Maker – Washington Academy, East Machias
John McManus – Millinocket Memorial Library
Linda Packard – Guilford Memorial Library
Marianne Thibodeau/C - Fort Fairfield Middle/High School
Anna Tremblay - Fort Fairfield Middle/High School
Lucinda White/S - Eastern Maine Medical Center

Ex-Officio:

Molly Larson – Maine Library Commission Representative
Linda Lord – Deputy State Librarian, Maine State Library
Barbara McDade – Director, Bangor Public Library
Valerie Osborne – Consultant, Northeastern Maine Library District

The Northeastern Maine Library District serves Aroostook, Hancock, Knox, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo and Washington counties. The Office is located at the Bangor Public Library. Mailing address: 145 Harlow St, Bangor ME 04401. Phone: 1-207-947-8336 or 1-800-427-8336. www.maine.gov/msl/nmld/

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DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the Northeastern Maine Library district is **205 libraries**. There are 104 public libraries, 69 school systems representing 270 schools, 16 academic libraries, and 16 special libraries.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

- July 15, 2008 Annual Retreat at Valerie's
- September 23, 2008 LiveSpace
- November 21, 2008 Conference Call
- February 13, 2009 Conference Call
- April 10, 2009 Conference Call

INQUIRIES TO THE CONSULTANTS OFFICE

The District Consultant responded to **919** inquiries this past year. The majority of inquiries were e-mail and the rest were by telephone. Some examples of inquiries were: personnel issues, automation, collection development, grant writing, weeding, and construction.

77 of the inquiries received by the NMLD office were from librarians who are members of the CMLD or SMLD.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Northeastern Maine Library District publishes the **Nor'easter** newsletter twice a year; in the fall and spring.
- The N.M.L.D. website is being hosted on the Maine State Library server at www.maine.gov/msl/nmld/. On the site you can find the Calendar of Events, NMLD member libraries, SCOOP, council, board information, pertinent bibliographies and other services for members.
- New to the NMLD this year is the **Readers' Advisory Listserv**. The listserv will serve as our vehicle for sharing tips, ideas, successful techniques, RA tools, and information that assists librarians from all sizes and types of libraries as we continue to provide the very best services to citizens across Maine.
- The **NMLD Listserv** (NMLD-L) is a list for all libraries of all types in the Northeastern Maine Library District. This is a list similar to MELIBS, but designed solely for libraries in our district.

BOOK REVIEW PROGRAM

The N.M.L.D. offers district librarians the opportunity to review new children's and young adult books sent by a variety of publishers. One copy of the written review is sent to the publisher after they come back to the N.M.L.D. office. Reviewers may keep all of the books that they review for their collection. Any unwanted books are returned to the NMLD office along with the written reviews. **The district office received 969 books from publishers during 2008-2009.**

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

The Northeastern Maine Library District professional collection holdings contain **466** books, **324** periodicals, **24** videos and **5** cassettes. Total circulation for the 2008-2009 year was **125**. No new books were added to the collection during this time.

The collection consists of seven professional magazine titles including: American Libraries, BookList, Book Links, Kliatt, Library Media Connection, LibrarySparks, and VOYA. Total yearly circulation for periodicals was **75**.

Please Note: The Maine State Library is now purchasing many new books related to library professional development that is available for borrowing and can be received through the van delivery or mail. For this reason, the NMLD office will no longer be ordering professional books for the collection or renewing magazine subscriptions.

DISTRICT LEVEL CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

CLUSTER GROUP MEETINGS (Total Attendance-147)

- September 12, 2008 Mid-Coast Librarians, Alice L. Pendleton Lib., Islesboro
- September 25, 2008 Tri-County Librarians, Bartleys Bed & Breakfast, Greenville
- November 7, 2008 Mid-Coast Librarians, Stockton Springs Community Library
- November 20, 2008 Tri-County Librarians, Abbott Memorial Library, Dexter
- December 8, 2008 Tri-County Librarians, Guilford Memorial Library
- January 15, 2009 Tri-County Librarians, Thompson Free Library, Dover-Foxcroft
- February 12, 2009 Tri-County Librarians, Hartland Public Library
- March 12, 2009 Tri-County Librarians, Stewart Free Library, Corinna
- March 13, 2009 Mid-Coast Librarians, Rockland Public Library
- May 1, 2009 Washington County Librarians, Machias
- June 26, 2009 Mid-Coast Librarians, Gibbs Library, Washington

Most meetings start off with "shop talk" and dedicate the remaining time to a specific topic. Occasionally there are outside presenters, which are often arranged by the Consultant. The librarians and staff embrace the opportunity to share ideas, plan cooperative events and have problems solved with input from the group.

LIBRARIANS THAT LUNCH (Total Attendance-24)

The purpose of this group is to give librarians/library directors the opportunity to network with colleagues, discuss issues that are important to them as administrators, and to share ideas and stories.

- August 27, 2008 at Blue Hill Public Library
- October 29, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- December 19, 2008 at Bangor Public Library
- January 16, 2009 at Bangor Public Library

WORKSHOPS/PROGRAMS OFFERED BY NMLD: (Total Attendance -407)

- July 21, 2008 – **Readers’ Advisory: An Overview**, Hillgrove Community Center, Machias (10)
- August 13, 2008 – **So You Think You Know Copyright?** Bangor Public Library (44)
- September 8, 2008 – **Basic Book Repair**, Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben (18)
- September 22, 2008 – **An Evening of Dinner and Books!**, Bangor Public Library (26)
- November 20, 2008 – **An Evening of Dinner and Books!**, UMPI (23)
- January 13, 2009 – **Penobscot Reads: Finding Amy Session I**, BPL (8)
- January 21, 2009 – **NoveList Training**, Online (46)
- January 23, 2009 – **Penobscot Reads: Finding Amy Session II**, BPL (13)
- January 23, 2009 - **NoveList Training**, Online (58)
- March 16, 2009 – **Kids and Teens: Databases for Research and Pleasure**, Online (51)
- April 8, 2009 – **Readers’ Advisory 101: Nonfiction**, Bangor Public Library (39)
- April 14, 2009 – **Kids and Teens: Databases for Research and Pleasure**, Online (26)
- April 29, 2009 – **Dinner and Discussion with Area Librarians**, Bangor Public Library (28)
- May 8, 2009 – **Grant Proposal Writing Workshop**, Bangor Public Library (17)

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS

The **Joint Fall Council Meeting** was held at the Augusta Civic Center on October 3, 2008. The program featured Joan Frye Williams who presented **“Beyond Information to Transformation – Rethinking Library Services for the Future”**. This lively, interactive workshop focused on the “civilian” trends and expectations that are shaping the future of libraries. Participants learned about new service models that can update and improve their offerings without sacrificing their principles or sanity!

199 (64 from NMLD) people attended the meeting.

The **Spring Council Meeting** was held at Jeff’s Catering in Brewer on May 7, 2009. Michelle Eberle from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine presented **“Savvy Library Services for Senior Health”**. The program addressed the health information searching behaviors of seniors and how we can best serve them. Participants left with enhanced knowledge of seniors’ health information needs, resources for healthy aging and how to create meaningful programs for senior health information. There were two afternoon sessions.

Session A: Web 2.0 for Libraries This session provided public and school librarians with a basic understanding of Web 2.0. Nancy Grant, library media specialist at Penquis Valley High School, demonstrated the basic steps in setting up a library's blog and/or wiki and how librarians can apply these tools in their libraries.

Session B: Squeezing The Eagle: Transforming junk and unwanted stuff into useful additions to your library

Hartland Public Library Director John Clark showed librarians how to add almost 4000 items and increase patrons by 34% in a year, in a town that's teetering on the verge of bankruptcy no less. He demonstrated how to use the web to maximize revenues with minimal effort using multiple venues to turn things like bottle caps and donated paperbacks into great prizes for summer reading programs, new music CDs and DVDs that fly off the shelves.

40 people attended the meeting.

ONE BOOK, ONE DISTRICT

One Book, One District is a reading program built around the shared experience of youth reading and talking about the same book. Through book discussion, and perhaps other activities, the goal is to promote a sense of community, both in schools and public libraries, that link them in a common conversation around a compelling story.

Last fall thirty-seven school and public librarians submitted the titles that they thought might be "great reads" for *One Book, One District*. We targeted grades 6-12 knowing that it would be necessary to break the selections into two groups. There was a need to consider whether the titles were both age and content appropriate. Each title had to be a good, discussable book with well-developed characters that are dealing with issues in their lives, which readers can identify with. In addition, the book needed to be available at a reasonable cost and in various media formats.

The winner in the grades 6-8 category was the 2007 Newbery Honor book, *Rules* by Maine's own author, Cynthia Lord.

The winner in the grades 9-12 category was the 2008 Boston Globe/Horn Book winner, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie.

The targeted date for "One Book, One District" was **March 23-27, 2009**. Libraries were encouraged to select another week if that one didn't work with their schedule.

CONSULTANT VISITS TO INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES

Total Visits 28

- July 11, 2008 Lincoln Memorial Library
- July 30, 2008 Swans Island Public Library
- August 7, 2008 Northeast Harbor Public Library
- August 8, 2008 Norridgewock Public Library
Bailey Public Library-LMO
- August 15, 2008 Zadoc Long Free Library-LMO
- August 20, 2008 Rockport Public Library

- August 21, 2008 Cherryfield Public Library
- Sept. 23, 2008 Thomaston Public Library
- Sept. 30, 2008 Penobscot Job Corps
- October 20, 2008 Indian Island School
- October 29, 2008 Eastern Maine Medical Center
- Nov. 13, 2008 Eastern Maine Medical Center
- Dec. 5, 2008 Newport Public Library
- Dec. 30, 2008 Swans Island Public Library
- January 12, 2009 Orono Public Library
- February 17, 2009 Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben
- February 27, 2009 Glenburn Library
- March 13, 2009 South Thomaston Public Library
Thomaston Public Library
- April 3, 2009 Old Town Public Library
- April 10, 2009 Newport Cultural Center
- April 30, 2009 Lubec Memorial Library
- May 21, 2009 Old Town Public Library
- May 22, 2009 Southwest Harbor Public Library-LMO
Ellsworth Public Library-LMO
- May 28, 2009 Indian Island School
- June 12, 2009 Norway Memorial Library-LMO

*LMO-Library Makeover

HSLIC

- May 1, 2009 Spring Meeting at Thayer Hospital: Maine General Medical Center, Waterville

CONFERENCES

- September 25, 2008 Readers' Advisory Program w/ Joyce Saricks, South Deerfield, MA
- October 5-8, 2008 "Older Americans", Hershey PA
- November 6, 2008 Family Place Training, Auburn Public Library
- December 1-2, 2008 New England Lifelong Access Libraries Institute, Newton, MA

NMLD COMMITTEES

Nominating

John McManus - Millinocket Memorial Library, **Linda Packard** – Guilford Memorial Library, **Sonja Plummer-Morgan** – Mark and Emily Turner Memorial Library
Valerie Osborne – Ex, Officio, **Marianne Thibodeau** – Ex-Officio

Public Relations

Diane DuBois – Caribou Public Library, **Candy Emlen** – Southwest Harbor Public Library, **Laura England** – SeDeMoCha Middle School, **Mary Hinse** – Mattanawcook

Academy, **Linda Packard** – Guilford Memorial Library, **Valerie Osborne** – Ex- Officio, **Marianne Thibodeau** – Ex-Officio

SCOOP Committee

Debbie Lozito, Edythe Dyer Community Library, Hampden; **Ann Rea**, Beal College; **Valerie Osborne**, Ex-Officio

MAINE REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM PROJECTS

The three library Districts in the Maine Regional Library System –Central, Northeastern and Southern—worked together on the following projects and programs:

PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORS’ INSTITUTE AND ORIENTATION

The **Special Orientation for New Library Directors** was held **May 6th** at the Maine State Library and consisted of a library tour, lunch and presentations by staff of the Maine State Library.

19 new library directors attended the Orientation.

The **13th Annual Public Library Directors’ Institute** was held **June 9, 2009** at Auburn Public Library. Keynote speaker was Elizabeth Doucett, Director at Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. Liz’s program focused on how branding can help you develop a clear, concise and compelling message about the role your library plays in your community and why your library matters to the life of your town.

40 librarians attended the Public Library Directors’ Institute.

READING ROUND-UP OF CHILDREN’S & YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

The 20th Annual Reading Round-Up of Children’s and Young Adult Literature sponsored by the Maine Regional Library System and the Maine Library Association’s Youth Services Section was held Thursday, **April 16, 2009** at the Augusta Civic Center. Staff that work with children in public or school libraries attended.

Keynote Speaker was internationally famous author **Lois Lowry** who presented a pictorial view of her life and works.

The day consisted of the following events:

- **Graphic Novels with Casablanca Comics** -- **Rick Lowell**, Casablanca Comics, Portland
- **Top 20 Kids Magazines** (grades K-12) -- **Criss Linn**, Magazine Subscription Service, Inc., Worcester, MA
- **Maine Student Book Awards** -- **Kathy Foss**, Camden-Rockport Middle School
- **Stories for Troubling Times** -- **Ellen Bowman**, Belgrade Central School
- **Using the Maine Literary Map in School and Public Libraries** -- **Terry Gruener**, Adjunct Faculty, University of Maine/Augusta
- **Hannah Montana in the Library: Popular Cultural Materials and Library Collections** -- **Amy Pattee**, Simmons College, Boston, MA

- **Responding to the World Around Us: Emerging Trends in Children's Literature**-- **Audrey Maynard**, Children's Book Editor, Tilbury House Publishers; and **Reza Jalali**, author
- **Lyrical Literature for the Very Young** -- **Ellen Bowman**, Belgrade Central School
- **Closing Session: Connecting the Dots: An Illustrator's Point of View** -- **Scott Nash**, Children's book illustrator and author

The conference had **336** librarians and teachers in attendance.

SCOOP PURCHASING COOPERATIVE

The purpose of the Maine Regional Library System purchasing cooperative known as SCOOP, is to help member libraries purchase specified materials at the best possible price and in a timely manner. The SCOOP agreement covers three years and is open to vendors dealing in library books, supplies, furniture and equipment. This year open enrollment for new vendors was announced through advertisements placed in *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*.

16 companies will be included in the SCOOP catalog starting July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012.

Audio Editions, Baker & Taylor, Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc., Brodart Co., Creative Library Concepts, Inc., Davidson Titles, Inc., DEMCO Inc., Eastern Book Company, Garrett Book Company, Gaylord Bros, Inc., Highsmith, Ingram Library Services, Inc., Raco Industries/Bar Code Discount Warehouse, Taped Editions, Inc., and Tucker Library Interiors, LLC.

LIBRARY MAKEOVERS

The "Library Makeover" is offered to rural public libraries in towns with less than 7,500 populations and school libraries with fewer than 200 students.

14 rural public libraries have had successful makeovers during the past three years.

The winning libraries were chosen based on project feasibility and need. Each selected library received a \$200.00 stipend from the Maine Regional Library System. The Makeover team included Maine librarians, district consultants, and staff from Tucker Library Interiors.

Each Makeover consists of a one-day visit by the Makeover Team whose members not only make changes to the library interior during their visit but also make suggestions for the future. The purpose of the Makeover is to make the library space more attractive and functional. Possibilities may include but not be limited to paint recommendations, furniture selection, re-arrangement of furnishings and equipment, floor coverings, and signage.

Five public libraries were selected for makeovers in 2009:

Ellsworth Public Library - May 22, 2009

Southwest Harbor Public Library - May 22, 2009

Norway Memorial Library – June 12, 2009

Acton Public Library – June 24, 2009

Bingham Union Library – July 10, 2009

TRUSTEE FORUMS

The Maine Library Trustees Association (MLTA), the District Consultants of the Maine Regional Library System, and a dedicated group of library trustees organized the Forums to revitalize MLTA, and to help make library trustees a more effective force in promoting libraries and library activities in Maine.

Topics for the forums include:

- Responsibilities of trustees vs. staff
- Board Self Assessment
- Recruitment and Orientation

May 11, 2009	Gibbs Library, Washington
May 13, 2009	Ellsworth Public Library
May 18, 2009	Bangor Public Library
May 19, 2009	Cary Library, Houlton
May 26, 2009	Thompson Free Library, Dover-Foxcroft

73 trustees attended the Forums.

MENTORME: A SERVICE TO LINK LIBRARIANS

On June 25th the Maine State Library introduced the mentoring service **MentorME** to link librarians with questions to librarians who have working knowledge and experience to share in specific areas.

Mentors play a significant role in the lives of developing librarians by serving as teachers, coaches, counselors, and role models. They provide feedback and encouragement, offer advice, and help others make the connection between their present and future performance.

In the few weeks since the program was announced **17** librarians have signed up to become a mentor.

LIBRARY SPOTLIGHTS

Library Spotlights are individual libraries around the state – libraries with unusual collections, new buildings, or unique services – in public, school, academic or special libraries. Members of the three regional library district public relations committees selected libraries for the “Spotlight” section of the Maine Libraries website <http://www.maine.gov/libraries/>.

Each library receives a special banner and marketing materials for the month. The following libraries from the Northeastern Maine Library District were featured this year: **Northeast Harbor Library** (August 2008); **Bass Harbor Memorial Library** (September 2008); **Jesup Memorial Library** (October 2008); and **Somesville Library Association** (November 2008).