

**Chelsea District Library**  
**Director's Report**  
**May 2009**

**Finance**

- Spending is continuing at acceptable levels. The May bond payment was made on time.
- The management staff has had their first budget meeting; two more will have taken place by the time you read this. We have received the tax figures from the county and they only reflect a 4% decrease from last year.
- Linda Sayers, our bookkeeper, and our auditor, Dave Fisher, have resolved the discrepancy in the construction budget due to a 2007 adjustment that was entered incorrectly. The Construction Project Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual spreadsheet (blue) in this packet reflects the corrected figures.
- In reviewing our insurance coverage during the 2010 budgeting process, it came to my attention that we seem to be under insured on the building and its contents, based on the values provided by our recent audit. Terri and I met with our insurance agent, Dave McPike from Kleinschmidt Agency, to discuss our policy. We are working with him to determine the proper level of coverage.

**Building Updates**

- The light in the volunteer area has been fixed. We do have a few cold cathode bulbs going out in the lobby and are working with Michigan Sign to get pricing on replacements.
- I met with Scott McElrath of Dangerous Architects to investigate the vestibule and how it may affect our cold lobby issue. Details will follow in the Building Committee report.
- Fuller Heating- there is only one remaining issue having to do with the staff area/bathroom not getting enough heat on very cold days. We won't be able to adequately address this until the weather is cold again (gasp) but I am confident after talking to Bruce that he is committed to solving this problem.
- Gary and I met with city officials to review the drain issue involved in the on-going Merkel issue. Details will be covered in the Building committee report.

## Library Operations

- The Friends book sale in April brought in \$1124 – another amazing result! At their May meeting, the Friends approved our last wish list item- an event tent. We hope to have it on site by May 28<sup>th</sup> for the first Comedy Showcase performance. Not only did they sponsor the National Library Week Open House, they provided a wonderful variety of treats for the Prom Dress Exchange. They're the best!
- I attended the Friend's National Library Week Open House where awards were presented for the Friend and Volunteer(s) of the Year. It was well attended and Ron, Edith, and Peg did a great job surprising Ray Sleep with his Volunteer award. We also presented a second award (the first time we have given out two!) to George Sparrow, but he could not attend to receive his award. Not wanting to let him go unrecognized, we presented the award to him in the back room with several staff in attendance the next time he came into the library. The Friends recognized Louise Jernigan for all her contributions to their organization.
- The same day as the open house, Karen and I attended the burial of Mr. Ray Zor, an event to kick off the "Brothers of the Brush" beard contest for the Chelsea 175<sup>th</sup> celebration. He was "buried" in a mock funeral on our lawn conducted by John Mitchell, Jr. of Mitchell Funeral Home. Mr. Mitchell is quite the comedian and it was a challenge keeping our solemn composure during the event!

## TLN and State News

I attended the TLN SASUG and Membership meetings this month, where the main topic of conversation was what will happen to TLN should it lose a large amount of state funding, or all of it. There is a plan being drawn up by their attorney to be used to separate off the shared automation system (SAS) in case of TLN's demise due to lack of state funding. It would exist to keep the SAS going and the daily delivery in place. The other services, like acquisitions, would cease to exist and the libraries using those services would be on their own to find replacements.

We got word from the State Librarian that Governor Granholm's executive budget order called for a 4% cut to public library state aid and \$344,500 in cuts for the Library of Michigan, for the *current* FY. We do not know how this will impact us yet but I think we can assume we may not get our second state aid payment. The 2010 state budget has not been hammered out yet but I will keep you posted as we get further updates.

*Linda*

Linda Ballard  
Interim Director