

CSD Minutes—November 3, 2008
Boonsboro Library—Washington County

Attendance

Naomi Butler, Carol Dean, Julie Dietzel-Glair, Catherine Hall, Karen Hoffman, Kathy Kirchoefer, Eileen Kuhl, Robyn Lukow, Krista McKenzie, Susan Modak, Irva Nachlas-Gabin, Julie Ranelli (and Elianna :)

Meeting was called to order at 10:10.

After introductions, the minutes were approved—moved by Irva, seconded by Carol.

Executive Board Meeting

Irva reported that MLA is expecting tight financial times; some institutions and counties have already begun freezing positions and salaries. MLA will work to protect per-capita and capital funding, focus on workforce development, and try to keep the Library Capital Funding granted two years ago. They've raised mileage reimbursement to \$.50 a mile.

Blue Crab '08

The committee presented this year's winners at Kids Are Customers, including a delightful and dramatic rendition of *My Friend Is Sad* by Mo Willems. After giving each conference participant a copy of this year's Blue Crab brochure, they hope to find the rest of the 300 brochures that were printed. Susan is working on a Blue Crab committee timeline to pass on.

Barnes & Noble will be partnering to sell books at the MLA convention in May.

At the end of May, the CSD president (Julie) will write a thank you letter to this year's Blue Crab chair (Susan). Then Susan will write thank you letters to the members of her committee, and commendation/CEU letters to their supervisors.

It's more and more important that we find a sponsor(s) for our Blue Crab award!

Blue Crab '09

Janis' committee is making progress. Their next meeting is November 10.

Blue Crab '10

Possible facilitator—Kit Bloom, Betsy Diamant-Cohen, Sophia VanSchaick, or Susan Kusel—Julie Ranelli will ask. Catherine Hall and Eileen Kuhl would like to serve on the committee.

Kids Are Customers—Thursday, October 16, 2008—Turf Valley Resort

This year's KAC was very successful! A record 156 participants brought in \$15,000 (more than our MLA budgeted \$13,000) and gave the conference an overall rating of 4.5 out of 5.0. Most participants called it "the best Kids Are Customers yet." Presenters Gloria Bartas, Jennifer Holm, Betsy Diamant-Cohen, Selma Levi, Jill Hutchinson, and Jeannine Finton received excellent ratings.

Participants loved the Turf Valley venue. But MASL will be hosting their '09 conference at the Frederick Holiday Inn, which does not have enough room for a side-by-side CSD conference. Since Turf Valley is too expensive for us alone, we're exploring new venues—Goucher, U. of MD College Park, McDaniel College, or perhaps our own conference at the Frederick Holiday Inn. Please bring any leads you have to next month's meeting.

Robyn suggested a bus trip to The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts (or a New York museum with early children's books) as an innovative venue for KAC, but we decided to keep the conference in Maryland and then look into bus trips as an extra money-making idea. (Booktenders Secret

Garden in Philadelphia, National Gallery of Art, and Library of Congress in DC were also suggested.) Irva and Robyn will investigate.

Eastern Shore Conference—Denton, MD--January 26, 2009

Western Conference—Frederick, MD—April 20, 2009

Joe Stover from Charles County will present 50 favorite books for storytime, a “greatest hits” of fingerplays, and songs to get kids up and moving. Elizabeth Rafferty, Youth Specialist for Baltimore County Library, will explain how tweens’ needs are unique and share homemade kits for library programming, along with demonstrations of successful programs that bring tweens into your library.

Schedule:

10:00-12:00—CSD meeting

1:00-1:45—Joe Stover

1:45-2:00—break

2:00-4:00—Elizabeth Rafferty

4:00-4:15—evaluations and closing

Sharyn made a flyer to advertise these conferences; one was put in each of the Kids Are Customers folders. We’re expecting about 20 people at the Eastern Shore Conference; 30 at the Western Conference.

CSD members please bring a vegetable, fruit, or dessert dish to share. Susan Modak will bring water, diet soda, and juice. Karen will ask Nancy if she still has paper goods. Julie will ask if there is an extra coffee maker at Denton; Robyn will provide coffee at Frederick.

Robyn will introduce Joe Stover; Julie Ranelli will introduce Elizabeth Rafferty.

For the Denton conference, Julie Ranelli will pick up the registration materials for Irva and Susan at the registration table. Julie Dietzel-Glair will pick up the registration materials for Kathy and Karen at the Frederick conference.

Julie Ranelli will ask the presenters if they have any handouts or AV requirements. Irva and Robyn have folders leftover from KAC that we can fill with handouts and a list of CSD meetings, after our morning meeting at each venue.

MLA Conference—May 13-15, 2009

This year’s keynote speaker will be Paul Holden Graber from New York Public Library, who revolutionized their events calendar and brought people into the library.

Conference program forms are due at the end of November. We are planning a pre-conference on Wednesday, two sessions on Thursday, and one session on Friday.

At our August meeting we brainstormed the following plans:

Pre-conference—

Michael Sullivan (Vermont)—Connecting Boys with Books www.talestoldtall.com

Amy Brown and Molly Meyers (Ohio)—Bringing in the Boys: Using Multiple Intelligences to Plan Programs that Appeal to Boys.

Conference—

Blue Crab presentation

Kathy Macmillan—Box Full of Stories

Katie George—puppetry

Alternative baby programs, e.g. baby signs, baby yoga (Kate Rossini)

Panel—children’s librarians’ innovative programs from different counties, e.g. Bookopoly

Janet Lloyd—programs for boys (Harford County)

John Sullivan—science, e.g. How does your food digest?

We will ask Janet Lloyd to present a preconference session about programs for boys. (We've had no response from Michael Sullivan or Amy Brown and Molly Meyers.) If she cannot come, Robyn will investigate asking someone from the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art to talk about children's book illustration (cost--\$280, mileage, and one night's stay)

On Thursday, Blue Crab will introduce this year's Blue Crab Award winners and present author Wong Herbert Yee. Kate Rossini (Baby Yoga) has agreed to do a presentation; we would like to pair her with Tiny Fingers—a group that teaches baby sign classes.

On Friday, Kathy MacMillan will present her Box Full of Stories.

11:30 Break

Old Business—Blue Crab

Blue Crab by-laws

Elizabeth Pratt has explained to us that there are currently two documents purporting to be Blue Crab by-laws. The official document is “Maryland Library Association Children’s Services Division Bylaws, Article V—Committees, Section 2 Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award Committee.” The other document could actually change its title to “Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award”—Approved Operating Procedures” reflecting that it is actually just an operational document, not needing approval from the Executive Board for any changes.

Elizabeth suggests that we amend Article V, Section 2 of CSD Bylaws to avoid all operational detail and stick only to matters of governance. (Thus minor procedural changes would not need a lengthy bylaws agreement; the committee would have more freedom.) It would then read simply--

“Section 2 MARYLAND BLUE CRAB YOUNG READER AWARD COMMITTEE. The Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award committee is established each year to identify and promote the best fiction and non-fiction books published at the K-2nd grade reading level and the 2nd-4th grade reading level. The chair of the committee is elected by the CSD Steering Committee. The chair shall appoint an additional 8 members to serve on the committee. Committee member names will be submitted to the MLA President for approval.”

We voted to adopt these changes. Elizabeth will submit it for approval by the Executive Board. The CSD members will vote on this change at the MLA breakfast at the 2009 conference. (We will announce the changes at our Eastern and Western Conferences and by email to all the members on our CSD email list.)

Robyn will remind the MLA Conference committee to put it in the conference bulletin.

Blue Crab sponsors—(2007 expenses-\$1500, 2008 expenses-\$2000)

PNC, Lockheed Martin, BWI have said no. Catherine will research other groups to ask.

Be thinking of groups to ask! We can split the donations into levels. MLA is waiting for us to get sponsors before we can buy more plaques. (Susan only has 2 of the 4 plaques she needs for this year.)

Blue Crab logo—Irva, Susan and Robyn presented a timeline for the logo contest. The contest would debut at Kids Are Customers 2009, and run till January 31, 2010, promoted in public and school libraries. School media specialists would choose the winners at their schools; CSD would choose the final winner and announce it at MLA. The logo would appear on the 2010 Blue Crab Award brochure.

Discussion of starting it as a pilot project in Frederick, Montgomery and Howard Counties.

Discussion of how to raise Blue Crab awareness—send brochures as pdf files to school offices, put on CSD website, go through Stephanie Shauck, put on BWI award list, Children’s Literature Comprehensive, Bro-Dart.

New Business

Milkshake sent us a DVD of themselves reading and offered to add to it any text we would like. Robyn will tell them about the purpose of the Blue Crab Award and perhaps make a script.

We need to make a slate of officers to send to MLA!

Possible nominees for Vice President Elect—Catherine Hall, Sophia VanSchaick, Angelique Simmons, Deborah Margolis.

Possible nominees for Secretary—Karen Hoffman , Irva Gabin.

Go Round

Carol Dean—Anne Arundel County—Halloween storytimes; holiday storytimes coming up in most branches. Very successful manga swap at West County Library for tweens and teens.

Catherine Hall—Washington County—doing all YA collections and programming. Cultural Outreach Coordinator is doing bi-lingual school storytimes, translating, branch storytimes, Hispanic Heritage Festival

Eileen Kuhl—Baltimore County—Library Director used a podcast to reassure staff that budget was stable for next year. Eileen has just begun working in a branch doing storytime and other programs after a long time in Collection Development.

Irva Nachlas-Gabin—East Columbia/Howard—finally has a new branch manager, Sukey Lee, coming from marketing department at Borders, starting November 10.

Julie Dietzel-Glair—Enoch Pratt Children's Office—attending YALSA conference in Nashville this weekend. On ALSC Scholarships Committee and Co-Chair of ALSC Organization and Bylaws Committee—going to ALA Midwinter in Denver. Pratt's children's book celebration starts Saturday, November 15.

Julie Ranelli—Queen Anne's County—going back to work in December.

Karen Hoffman—Pikesville/Baltimore County—demonstrated Versa-Tool from Hang-Ups Unlimited www.hang-ups.com for easily hanging decorations, etc. from suspended ceiling tile framework

Kathy Kirchoefer—Prince George's County—on ALA Notable Children's Books Committee—despite hiring freeze, three-day furloughs, hopes to go to ALA Midwinter in Denver

Krista McKenzie—Ruth Enlow Library/Garrett County—doing new teen programs (first since 2001). Teen reading group with 17 active members; a Creative Writing/Arts Club with work sessions as well as guest artists and writers.

Naomi Butler—Western Maryland Regional Library—new picture books presented in Allegany County by Melanie from SLRC; in Washington and Garrett Counties by McDaniel College presenter

Robyn Lukow—C. Burr Artz/Frederick—planning a partnership with Infants and Toddlers to run a series of storytimes for children with special needs and family patrons. Library hiring freeze.

Susan Modak—Noyes/Montgomery—year project--Cultural and Linguistic Competency Workshop. Also Literacy Rich Environments Workshop with Saroj Ghoting.

Topic of month—no time left to discuss .

Meeting adjourned at 12:29.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hoffman

Next meeting— December 8, 2008—Orleans Branch/Pratt Library—members' storytelling