

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT April, May 2000

## MLA Conference

I haven't attended an association conference in a while - they tend to be tedious and vary greatly in quality - but did go down the Cape April 26th and 27th for the Massachusetts Library Associations' Spring Conference. I attended five workshops in two days. I consider a conference a success if I can bring back even one idea that might be workable within our existing staff and budget situation. Happily, I did find two ideas that may be a "go" here.

Ellen came with me and attended children's workshops on Thursday. Please see her report on the back of this sheet.

## Assistant Director/Reference Librarian Position

David and I interviewed a very promising candidate early in April who did not work out. I have 3 interviews scheduled for the dates and times listed below and would be pleased to have Trustee participation ( I am determined to hire one of them!) -

May 18th 4:00 PM  
May 24th 11:30 AM  
Week of May 24th - tba

## FY2001 Budget

Just before I went to MLA, one of our Advisory Board liaisons came into my office and explained that Chairman Bob Wynne was not at the Library's formal budget hearing and needed written reassurance that we would meet State Aid requirements. I was also asked if it wouldn't be fiscally advisable to "give up the Assistant Director's position" in order to continue meeting the criteria. I said no, of course, and said that if that happened we couldn't get the grants we had spoken of previously. ( A total lack of professional reference service <sup>1</sup> to the town wouldn't bother them, but the inability to get a grant would.) A copy of this letter is attached for your information.

## Capital Improvements Committee

Trustees Redgrave and Hazlett joined me in meeting with the Capital Improvements Committee concerning our request for funds to hire an engineering study of the basement wall.

## Building & Grounds

Leonard Greenlaw, the new night custodian, has done an amazing job waxing the linoleum floors and has even replaced some of the side moldings. He also obtained a lighter weight (easier to use) buffer worth \$2,000.00 for \$0.00!

---

<sup>1</sup> Which is ONLY obtainable via someone with an M.L.S. - and even then, it has to be someone who has gone beyond - way beyond - print reference and can keep up with all the online databases.

The **Children's Librarian** went to the MLA conference April 27. I attended a workshop hosted by several librarians and book store managers who discussed the challenges of keeping up with popular crazes like Harry Potter and Pokemon and what might be coming next - Dragonball Z? Cape Cod authors and illustrators hosted a great workshop. The library has books by these authors/illustrators. Salley Mavor showed slides of how she creates her illustrations out of bits and pieces of cloth, felt, wood, etc.