

Director's Report April 2007

Member Library Updates

Ossining Public Library

The Board of Trustees of the Ossining Public Library has announced Elizabeth Bermel as its new director. Prior to coming to Ossining, Ms. Bermel was the Central Library Administrator of the San Antonio Public Library.

Public Libraries Affected by Flooding

Several libraries experienced damage from the recent Nor'easter. The Larchmont Public Library suffered damage in its non-fiction room including collections. The Rye Free Reading Room suffered damage in the children's room on the lower floor and lost parts of that collection as well. Water damage/flooding also occurred at the Irvington Public Library, Town of Pelham Public Library, Mamaroneck Public Library, and Port Chester Public Library.

Sirsi Implementation Update

The new Sirsi system was up and *mostly* running on Wednesday, April 18th. One day later than we had hoped. However, the system is not without its problems. As of this writing, we are still looking to correct a number of issues related to holds, bibliographic records, etc. The database is still a bit unstable – On Friday afternoon (4/20) the system froze and was unavailable for the remainder of the day. The WLS IT team, the Cataloging Department and Sirsi continue to work on these more troublesome issues. In addition, our training department continues to make house calls to ensure that staff is using the system correctly and to provide additional on-site training.

16th Annual Book and Author Luncheon

WLS's 16th Annual Book and Author Luncheon took place on April 19th at the Trump National Golf Club. This location proved to be a lovely new venue for the event. However, as expected, we did hear from a number of attendees that they preferred the Abigail Kirsch mansion. Our authors – Louis Begley, Dorothea Benton Frank, Marilyn Johnson and Simon Schama – were absolutely wonderful and sales of their books went very well. We were pleased with the turnout (257 people were in attendance and there

were a number of no-shows), and particularly pleased with the increased support from corporate sponsorships and journal ads.

Important Dates to Remember

May 4-5, 2007 – NYSALB Trustee Institute – Queens, NY

May 31-June 3, 2007 – Book Expo America – Jacob Javits Convention Center

June 20, 2007 – Second WLS Trustee Institute – Topic: Fundraising

June 21-27, 2007 – ALA Annual Conference – Washington, D.C.

Next Board Meeting: May 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



Siobhan A. Reardon

Director