

# Director's Report

## *January 2025*

### **My Activities**

We survived year end and I have been spending time preparing documents and reviewing priorities for the new year with the department coordinators.

Audit activities have begun. This will be my first full audit experience at SCLS.

I attended the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference this week. The conference is a two-day virtual event comprised of some really amazing presentations. This year, I attended sessions focused on cultural humility, leadership styles, ditching harmful management tactics, handling staff behavioral issues, effective use of instant messaging in the workplace, crucial conversations, and the art of providing great service.

On January 24, a team of nine managers will have defibrillator and CPR training as part of our new employee safety plan.

### **Our Member Libraries**

#### ***Middleton Public Library***

Middleton is proud to announce the addition of a bookmobile service! This is a full service library on wheels that supports the library's existing outreach services. The bookmobile will be deployed every month for events in the community, such as the Good Neighbor festival. It even has an ADA-accessible lift. Congratulation to Middleton Public on this amazing new service.

#### ***Dane County Library Service***

DCLS had their fair share of vehicle issues in 2024, which has only made them busier. They had to consider how they provide service, including making many on-the-fly decisions, while the bookmobile was out of commission. And, because they've had to communicate changes to their services, they have gotten a better sense of how to reach their patrons – they have started a newsletter to update the community, which a lot of their patrons have signed up to receive. The director of DCLS reports that this experience has reaffirmed that meeting patrons in their community is a service that their patrons really value and appreciate.

#### ***La Valle Public Library***

When the library director learned that there would not be additional funding to the library in the 2024 budget, she and her staff started an Amazon Wish List so that patrons could purchase staff-selected items for the library to show their support. By the end of June, the people had purchased over 110 books for the library. These donations can come from all over the country, from those who called La Valle home at one point and have now moved on to other places. La Valle Public has found several ways to creatively generate revenue through donations and grants.

**Respectfully submitted by,**

*Shannon M. Schultz*