

Winnefox Reference Users Group Meeting Nov. 15, 2007

Attendees: Gretchen Raab (Neenah), Janice Dibble (Oshkosh), Desiree Bongers (Ripon), Diane Disterhaft (Berlin), Julie Stobbe (Omro), Mark Arend (Winnefox), Susan Ringer (FDL), Marjorie Brashier (FDL), Lori Burgess (FDL)

Overdrive Downloadable

There was a discussion of downloadable video, audio, and music. It was noted that the service is less valuable when you can't burn to a CD. You can't download to an iPod, but people have been getting around that by downloading to CD, then ripping to their iPod. There are not statistics for individual library use. The statistics are for all of Winnefox, but there is a possibility of doing statistics for individual libraries. See the extranet for current statistics.

Statistics for the System show that use went up—possibly because the titles now show up in the catalog.

Who is monitoring the number of circulations and number of people on the waiting list for each title? Mark said that various people from around the state are on the WPLC Selection committee and monitor the waiting lists and make purchasing decisions. There still is the problem of no early returns. This is set by the publisher. We wondered if the publisher wants us to buy more copies of titles. That is, now a title could go out for 7 days and therefore only have 52 circulations per year. If patrons could return titles early, each title could go out for more than 52 circulations per year.

Let Mark know if you want to be on the WPLC selection committee.

We would like brochures and promotional material on Overdrive (possibly combining it with information on online databases). Mark will talk to Renee about providing this for us.

Fond du Lac is considering MyLibraryDVD downloadable video. It mainly has classic movies and series such as Antiques Roadshow and America's Test Kitchen.

Cooperative Collection Development of Television Series on DVD

Neenah, FDL and Oshkosh expressed interest in cooperatively purchasing older television series on DVD (i.e. Andy Griffith, MASH, etc.). Individual libraries will still want to purchase the current, popular series (i.e. House, Desperate Housewives, etc.). We would need to know what is available and probably set up a wiki on the extranet to coordinate the selection. They'll start with adult tv series.

There was a discussion at an all-WALS already on how to label the individual parts of DVD's, but there was only agreement to be more specific in the call number area.

Large Print

Desiree brought up that Ripon is often the only one ordering popular large print. We should all look into this to make sure we also order large print as necessary—especially for the popular titles when they come out. Thorndike has an email notification service for bestsellers.

Suspending patron holds

Suspending holds for a patron means that if a patron was going on vacation they could request that a hold not be sent during a specific time. That is, their hold would not be fulfilled until they return. We questioned if this would require staff intervention much like item specific holds. Mark called Karla and was told this would work through Webcat. We recommend that the WALC executive committee approve this feature.

Hold Lists

Ripon figured out how to run a holds report for Ripon patrons that have holds on titles not owned at Ripon. Contact Desiree for more information.

Readers' Advisory

There is interest in readers' advisory as a topic at these meetings. Bring samples of brochures, etc. Oshkosh has "Next Reads" a paid service that emails notification to patrons. "First in Line" which notifies patrons when a popular author has a book coming out was also mentioned. We could see a demonstration next meeting.

Pharos

Menasha has public computers that automatically give the person 2 hours if there are no reservations. If a reservation is made, the patron is given two minutes to logoff. Are others interested?

Office 2007 and Windows Vista

Some have upgraded. Any thoughts on that? Fond du Lac had "Best Buy" Bob demonstrate Vista to patrons in a computer class series and to interested staff.

Computer classes

Fond du Lac still gives computer classes which are very popular. Neenah and Oshkosh have discontinued formal classes, but still help people on an individual basis.

Successful Programs

- Movie nights. Libraries which have license agreements.
- Oshkosh is having author Jennifer Chiaverini Nov. 29
- Craft programs at FDL. Also a Hobby Day where area groups were invited into the library in celebration of National Library Week.

Next Meeting

Will be in January 2008.