SAILS Network News
Library Network

Unicorn 2003.1.4—Upgrade Date Set

Providing there are no last minute changes on the part of Sirsi, we will be installing Unicorn 2003.1.4 on February 6-7 which is a Sunday and Monday. We do not know if the system will be available that Monday. We will be distributing training CD's to all libraries the week of January 18th. These CD's will include step by step upgrade instructions and the following on-line tutorials:

- Setting Essential Circulation Properties
- Using the New User Search and User Browse Helper
- Patron registration with duplicate checking
- Suspend holds
- Holds display in Item list
- Update Favorites in iBistro

All staff members should review these CD's prior to the upgrade. They will also be available for download on the SAILS' website. Because of the limited capability of the test server we are not going to be able to allow libraries to log into it to train staff.
Written instructions will also be posted on the website that week.

A review of the release features affecting Cataloging will be reviewed at the January Technical Services meeting. A review of the circulation changes will be conducted at the February 1st Circulation meeting. The Systems Department will be contacting libraries with PC Support to arrange for remote upgrades to Workflows.

Please note that this will be the only major software upgrade in 2005. Our next release will be scheduled in early 2006. Your staff workstations do not need to be upgraded for this Release.
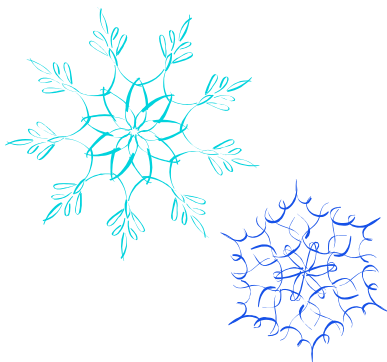
Library Leaders Selected for Institute

Forty-eight applicants have been selected to participate in the Library Leadership Massachusetts Institute, sponsored by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the six Massachusetts Regional Library Systems.

The 3.5-day Institute drew applications from a highly-qualified pool of candidates from across the state and included professional staff, paralibrarians, and Friends. Congratulations to the successful candidates from the SAILS network:

Melissa Campbell, Plainville
Christine Dargelis, Middleborough
Laurie Lessner, SAILS

SAILS Responds

Each month SAILS will post responses to ideas and suggestions sent from the "Idea Box" form.

Q: When looking at search results in iBistro, after you click on "full details" and then click "back a step" it brings you back to the top of the page. Would it be possible to return to the original spot instead of having to scroll back to where you left off?

A: The "Back a Step" link gets its information from the function you were performing, prior to viewing your current page. When you are on the "hit list" page, the "hit list" page passes along a bit of code, allowing you to go back to the hit list page. It does not make note of the position of the browser's scroll bar. This would involve very complicated programming and processing, since it would have to take into account multiple browsers, and whether or not the browser window has been resized.

We don't recommend using the browser's "Back" button, since this may produce errors when trying to use many of iBistro's functions.

FreezeX

Tired of all that SPYWARE popping up on your Staff workstations?

The PC Support department has been testing a product called Freeze X.
Unlike Deep Freeze your PC does not have to be restarted to disable this product. This makes it easier and faster for you to install new programs to your computer.

FreezeX is a revolutionary method to address blended threats. Unlike existing solutions, FreezeX utilizes a unique whitelist technology to provide proactive protection against spyware, keyloggers, Trojans, viruses, or any other malware On install, FreezeX performs a deep scan of the computer and authorizes everything on it. From that point on, any other executable is deemed unauthorized and will not run or install.

Protect your computers today against the unknown threats of tomorrow. We will be demonstrating this product at the January Board Meeting. PC Support libraries may contact us at pcsupport@sailsinc.org to find out the per PC cost for purchasing this product.

eAudio Books

When I go on vacation, I usually bring a paperback novel with me, probably purchased at a library book sale. It works fine. I don't have to worry about losing it, or dropping it in the ocean. It weighs about 6 oz., and fits fairly well in my carry-on bag. So that leaves me with one book to read. Anyone who knows me can tell you that I'm probably the worlds slowest reader, but the thought of only having one book over vacation doesn't thrill me. What ends up happening is we take a trip or two to the local bookstores.

Wouldn't it be nice if I could give my business to my local library? Wouldn't it be nice if I didn't have to carry back home 2 or 3 more books? Wouldn't it be nice if I could lay on the beach, have my eyes closed and not really have to read at all? But that would mean risking more than a paperback in the water.

REPORT SCHEDULE

As we begin a new year, it seems appropriate to post a list of the schedule of standard reports we run. This list will not include reports we produce specifically for your library.

Report	Description	Frequency	Cumulative?
Assumed Lost Report	This report sets long overdue items to LOST ASSUMED and bills the patron	The 15th day of the month	No
Bills	These notices are run for lost or damaged items over $2.99	Every Tuesday	No
Clean Holds Report	Lists items on the hold shelf where the hold was canceled	Nightly	Yes, it lists these items until the item is checked in or put in transit. (*this is new*)
Email Hold Notices	These send hold notices via email to patrons with a valid email address.	Nightly	No
Email Reminder notices	These send notices to patrons 3 days before an item falls due. These are only sent to patrons with valid email addresses.	Nightly	No.
Hold Shelf Report	This lists items that have been waiting 8 days for pickup.	Every Friday	Yes
In Transit Reports	These list items going to and from your library	Every Sunday	Yes, until the item is received or marked as missing in transit
MID-DAY RHA	Lists onshelf items that are needed to fill a hold if that hold was placed after the nightly RHA	Monday-Saturday at 1:00 p.m.	No, it only lists newly placed holds
Requests	This report lists patron submitted Requests	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday	Yes, until the library replies
RHA	Lists onshelf items that need to be held to fulfill patron holds	Nightly	Yes – it lists all items available to fill a hold until the hold is filled or the item is checked out.

eAudio Books

(Continued from page 2)

That could mean damaging a $65 audio book set. Don't think I'm alone in my vacation dilemma. I'm guessing there are a lot of library users out there who think the same thing when packing for a trip. What if we could go to the Internet, while on vacation, and download an audio book, check it out, and the library would get the circ transaction? I know, you've heard this before, and found that no one really wants to read a book on a computer, or carry a special reader. You're probably right. I know I wouldn't want to do that. One hit wonders, as Alton Brown calls them. Appliances that do only one thing. That's the issue I had with MP3 players. Yes, I said "had".

Well, this Christmas I decided I really wanted an MP3 player. I thought about what I'd use it for. Obviously there's music, but that seemed like a lot of money for a "one hit wonder". Then I heard about eAudio books and I realized this was the greatest solution of all. I could go on vacation, or on the T, or to work, listen to music, or an audio book, or the newest edition of "This American Life", which would download to the player sometime during the night. The model I'm looking at is about 1/2 the weight of a paperback, and about the size of a credit card. Sounds about right for traveling! The only thing it doesn't have is wireless. How much can it hold? 2,500 songs, or,

if I did my math right, about 25 copies of the Godfather, unabridged. Not bad for $250. And that's rather expensive these days. You can get a decent one for under $100.

Answering this growing opportunity for listeners are companies like Overdrive, Inc. They will be coming to SAILS to demo their eAudio book system on January 19th, at 9:30 a.m. They have a product which works with our circulation system, called Digital Library Reserve. Their web site is at: http://www.dlrinc.com/. If you take a look on their web site, it's obvious that they are entering into an up and coming market. Publishers are partnering with them to deliver content to a growing list of libraries, including The New York Public Library, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, and the White Plains Public Library (Sirsi site), among others. Overdrive, Inc. will also be at ALA's Mid-winter conference.

According to a DCD Business Report article (Sept 29, 2004 v10 i20 p0), over 50 million MP3 players are expected to sell in 2008. Rather shortly, a major portion of your clientele will be used to downloading audio books and music. You could provide these services to them. They'll be able to get it at 2 a.m. or maybe there's a snowstorm and they don't want to drive. Or, they're on vacation and just want another book to listen to.

Books & Videos

There are many books and videos on how to ski (downhill and cross country) and snowboard for those who are beginners and then more videos for those who are more experienced and into extreme snowboarding or marathon skiing.

Skiing USA : the top 31 U.S. resorts for skiers and snowboarders, a Fodor's guide from 2003 offers information about 31 resorts around the country that cater to both beginners and expert skiers and snowboarders.

Skiing and snowboarding in North America, a Rough Guide, provides information on over 100 ski and snowboarding areas in the US and Canada. The information covers those areas best for beginners or experts and also lodgings from the sparse to the palatial.

The winter wilderness companion : traditional native American skills for the undiscovered season by Garrett Conover, is a revised edition of the 1995 The snow walker's companion. The books discuss techniques and equipment used in winter activities and camping. Information is included on snowshoes, tents, and toboggans.

Winter adventure : a complete guide by Peter Stark, is a unique handbook that covers over two dozen cold-weather sports, from snowshoeing, snowboarding, sledding, ice-sailing, and winter camping to dog sledding, animal tracking, igloo-building, and even how to make the perfect snow angel. Special sections cover staying warm, equipment, technique, safety, and tips for maximizing fun.

AMC guide to winter camping : wilderness travel and adventure in the cold-weather months
by Stephen Gorman is the Appalachian Mountain Club's guide to snow camping and hiking in the winter.

NetLibrary

The Winter Athlete : Secrets of Wholistic Fitness for Outdoor Performance by Steve Ilg discusses fitness history, the four lifestyle principles: breath/posture, mindfulness, appropriate action and practice, as well as the five fitness disciplines: kinesthetic training, strength training, cardiovascular training, meditation and nutrition.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Skiing by Claire Walter walks you through the whole downhill skiing experience from where to ski, what type of clothing, boots and skis are required, where to buy or rent the equipment and then she gets down to the nitty gritty, skiing. She does suggest a class for those who are beginners.

Websites

Public Skating Hours
Click here for public skating hours for rinks within the Greater Boston area (formerly MDC). More information is provided to the right.

The Department's skating rinks outside of the Greater Boston area (formerly DEM) are managed by private operators or concessionaires. For information on public skating hours, ice time, instructional programs, etc. for these rinks, please click on the links provided below.

|| a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j | k | l | m | n | p | r | q | s | t | w ||
Rinks are listed alphabetically by city or town

http://www.olympic-usa.org/ - The official site of the US Olympic team which includes information on the winter events: biathlon, bobsled, curling, figure skating, ice hockey, luge, short track, skeleton, skiing, snowboarding and speedskating.

The Visit New England website, http://www.visitnewengland.com/, offers plenty of information about winter activities on their links, including skiing, outdoor activities and romantic winter getaways.

Winter Olympics for Kids, http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/olympics/winterolympics.htm, was created by a fourth grade class in Sleepy Hollow, NY for the 2002 Winter Olympics. There is a brief description of each of the sports, results of a poll (ice hockey and snowboarding almost tied), games and quizzes. Even though it was designed two years ago, it is a fun and informative site for kids.

Looking to spend time outdoors, but not necessarily an organized sport? Take a look at the Department of Conservation & Recreation's website: http://www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. Here you can find a good place to go skating, cross-country skiing, or even snowmobiling.

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Upcoming Training & Meetings

Upcoming Training

Detailed descriptions and registration information, are available on the SAILS website.

Beginning Cataloging
1/27/2005
9am to 12pm SAILS Training Room

Upcoming Meetings & Events

PubPac Committee Meeting
01/05/2005
9:30am SAILS Meeting Room

Acquisitions Meeting—Required
1/13/2005
9:00am—9:45am SAILS Meeting Room

Technical Services Meeting
1/13/2005
10am SAILS Meeting Room

Overdrive Demonstration
1/19/2005
9:30am—11am SAILS Meeting Room

SAILS Membership Meeting
1/19/2005
11am SAILS Meeting Room

SAILS Network Statistics

FY05 Overview	December	November	October	September	August	July
Total Intranetwork Loans		45,803	48,089	47,448	50,527	49,759
Total Items Circulated		364,857	356,078	343,798	382,040	411,373
VirtCat Items Borrowed		777	815	752	835	518
VirtCat Items Loaned		432	397	396	352	236
Cataloging Requests		2,607	2,552	2,713	2,975	2,631
MARC Records Added		2,982	2,798	3,425	3,176	3,249
Patrons Added		2,763	4,888	5,607	3,588	3,068
Holds		30,682	30,026	30,587	31,423	32,361
Total MARC		937,282	934,055	930,684	928,240	922,507
Total Holdings		3,335,761	3,325,130	3,311,845	3,299,129	3,289,160
Total Patron		513,580		510,834	508,854	509, 384

FY05 Overview	June	May	April	March	February	January	Total FY05
Total Intranetwork Loans							241,626
Total Items Circulated							1,858,146
VirtCat Items Borrowed							3,881
VirtCat Items Loaned							1,813
Cataloging Requests							13,478
MARC Records Added							16,349
Patrons Added							19,914
Holds							155,079
Total MARC							934,055
Total Holdings							3,325,130
Total Patron							513,580