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Many inches of snow have fallen since January 1 but in spite of the winter weather SAILS continues to make significant progress towards improving the patron experience and the services it provides to member libraries.

On February 11 we launched the new Overdrive Next Gen catalog and began actively encouraging staff and patrons to use Enterprise for searching and placing holds. With the new Overdrive catalog, patrons are presented with a searching experience that more closely resembles that of online bookstores. Browsing, placing holds, and viewing your account are more intuitive. As an added bonus many of our titles are now available in Overdrive Read format which means titles do not have to be downloaded to a specific device but can be viewed in a browser. Once Overdrive Read titles are checked out they can be read on multiple devices – you can read part of a book on your tablet, on your computer, and on your ereader providing it supports a standard browser. No longer do patrons using this format have to worry about Adobe Digital Editions or download problems. We expect this to be a very welcome service to senior citizens and other folks not too tech savvy. The network has received patron emails commenting on how much they like the new catalog.

Enterprise is going to be the catalog/discovery platform of the future for SAILS. We will be turning off iBistro sometime midsummer so everyone should begin using this for searching and placing holds – particularly staff. It is much easier to search, place holds on multiple titles at once, update your account, and create lists of titles. It includes features such as being able to like a title on Facebook, text a title to your Smartphone, and add a review. The new patron account features include the ability to set up a default pick-up location for all holds even if that isn't your home library, opt in to checkout history, and change your pin.

The new Directors Station has been installed and all data moved to it. SAILS staff members are using it to generate reports for libraries. Not only did the network install a new server but we migrated to the latest release of Directors Station. There are 2 user training sessions on the new features of this release scheduled the last week in February. These sessions that will be conducted by SirsiDynix for SAILS libraries that have preregistered. In addition SAILS staff will be available to provide onsite training.

Negotiations are continuing with Comprise Technologies to provide SAILS with a credit/debit card payment solution for libraries wishing to offer that to their patrons for fine and bill payment. The Lakeville and Norfolk Public Libraries will be testing Comprise SmartPay and a report will be made to the network at the March membership meeting. If all goes well we will be opening up this service to any public library after April 1, with a special incentive for those who sign up before July 1.

The SAILS Moving Advisory committee has been working with me to identify new office space for the network. We will be remaining in the Lakeville/Middleboro/Raynham area. The goal is to move to our new offices before 10/31/2013. SAILS has been in its current offices for almost 18 years. The network no longer needs the square footage it has and the configuration of our space no longer supports efficient operations. A major goal, of course, is to reduce our operating costs for space and utilities. Keep an eye on your email – later this spring SAILS will begin offering surplus equipment and furniture to its member libraries at bargain basement prices.

A new ad hoc advisory committee (CRC – committee for responsible cataloging) has been appointed by network president Deborah Wall. Chaired by Jocelyn Tavares (Dighton) the committee has been charged to review existing network policies and make recommendations on how to solve cataloging policies that create roadblocks for patrons trying to identify and request materials. The committee should be making a report of its recommendation to the membership in May.

Just as snow piled up around our offices, so did new computers. Since January 1<sup>st</sup>, libraries have ordered more than 60 new computers. If you are looking for Jorj, you will need to climb over a mountain of Dell boxes. New computers are being deployed as quickly as possible but until our backlog is reduced the network won't be accepting more orders for computers.

On a personal note I would like to add that it is with mixed emotions that I congratulate Janet Campbell (Mansfield) on her retirement. Janet is one of the best public librarians I have met. I admire her focus on providing her patrons with excellent public service. She exemplifies the ability to provide great readers advisory services. She will be missed in Mansfield although I know she will find many ways to keep busy.

## Save The Date: March 20, 2013

All libraries are invited to send representatives to the March membership meeting. The agenda items will include a report from the Moving Committee about our plans to relocate, a report from our test libraries on the use of SmartPay for Ecommerce, a demonstration of Freegal and discussion of availability of group discounts for the service, a demonstration of Zinio and IndieFlix from Recorded Books, and a web presentation from GALE about some of their new products. The meeting will begin promptly at 10 a.m. The first demonstration will begin at 10:30 a.m. The demonstrations are open to staff as well as directors. RSVP to [dconrad@sailsinc.org](mailto:dconrad@sailsinc.org) so we can be sure to have enough chairs set up.

## Web Hosting Services from SAILS

Another change that will be made when SAILS moves its office, will be ending our web hosting services. Our goal is to have everyone off our web hosting service by June. Our web server is rather old and we actually pay quite a lot each month to Verizon for IP addresses for all the sites. It will be a big cost savings to us as well as one less server to maintain in the new space.

Here are some options that are available to those we are currently hosting.

SAILS will be moving our site to GoDaddy. When this happens, we will work with libraries who currently have their website within (under) the SAILS site and get them moved onto their own. Enterprise may be a good solution for some of these libraries and we've actually been speaking with the directors and have some plans for moving sites onto Enterprise.

The cost at GoDaddy is currently \$2.99/month for their basic plan which probably is enough for most of us. They have tools in place to easily use Wordpress and other content management sites and have other perks as well. Details on their service is available at:

<http://support.godaddy.com/help/category/58/web-hosting?ci=78517>

Another hosting place we just learned about is Dreamhost. They offer free hosting to nonprofits. Old Colony Library Network uses them and we will be looking at their services.

Within Google Apps, libraries (and staff) can create a Google Site. This is done using their online tool. You can read about it here:

<http://www.google.com/sites/help/intl/en/overview.html>

Another website creation service is Weebly - <http://www.weebly.com/>. Somerset has a Weebly site and there may be others out there too.

Anyone we know of who maintains their library's web site should be in a Google group called Webmasters. If you open Google Groups (within the black "ribbon" at the top of the browser when you're in your Google email), click on "my groups". If you're a member, it will be listed here. In groups, we can have a discussion about various options available and help each other with this move.

Whatever you decide to do, or even if you don't know how to decide, SAILS will help as best we can with the transition. This shouldn't be painful for any of us.

## Enhanced Library Elf Subscription Ending March 2013

SAILS will be discontinuing its subscription for enhanced Library Elf service this month. The network now offers Email, Text, and Automated Phone messaging for hold and overdue notices so we no longer need to pay for an additional service. One week before our renewal date (3/17/13) Library Elf will email subscribing patrons and will switch them to the free basic service. Your patrons can subscribe individually if they want to keep their premium multiple card service going.

## Library Legislative Day: March 26, 2013

State legislators constantly tell groups of librarians that they must stop being quiet and must actively advocate for support. The Massachusetts Library Association and Massachusetts School Library Association will be holding its annual Library Legislative Day on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Massachusetts State House. This is the library community's best opportunity to meet with legislators and lobby for increased funding for library programs. If you have contacted your legislator following the Southeastern Massachusetts Legislative Breakfast this will be the perfect time to follow up and meet with your reps to urge them to increase library funding. SAILS will be coordinating carpools to the State House leaving from the SAILS office at 8 a.m. on March 26. Please email [dconrad@sailsinc.org](mailto:dconrad@sailsinc.org) if you, your trustees, your friends, or your staff are interested in sharing rides to Boston.

Schedule for the Day:

- 9 am MSLA sponsored breakfast and registration
- 9:30-11 MSLA bookmark contest or visiting legislators
- 11 Legislative Briefing by MBLC staff—Cindy, Diane, Commissioners
- Noon-1 MLA sponsored lunch and program

Program:

- Welcome MLA Pres. Dinah O'Brien and MSLA Pres. Valerie Diggs
- Introduction of speakers—Dinah as emcee
- Kate Hogan recognizes legislators and Library Caucus members
- Byron Rushing speaks
- Advocacy Award
- Recognition of other legislators by Dinah
- Visits/appointments with legislators

## Director's Station 4.9.1 is up and running!

The replacement version we have installed for Director's Station is finally up and running. It has been a long journey since our problems began in September. Thank you everyone for your patience.

If you are a Director's Station user, your login information should be exactly the same as it was before. As of this moment use this IP address to get to the program:

<http://96.252.75.208/directorsstation/>

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Once we no longer need the old director's station server, you will automatically be brought to the new one using the <http://dstation.sailsinc.org> address. We will send out an email when that is working again.

Many have also asked about the browser issues we have experienced with Director's Station and whether any have been fixed in this newer version. These browser problems have not been fixed. But, it does work a lot better with Internet Explorer now. If you have access to Internet Explorer 9 it is your best option. So the browser choices are Firefox 3.6 like before or Internet Explorer. I have tested both versions 8 and 9. You will need to turn the popup blocker off. I have not needed compatibility mode, but you may want to try using it if you run into problems in Internet Explorer.

We are available to anyone who needs help getting used to the new system, or if you wanted to take this opportunity to become a Director's Station user, don't hesitate to email [eservices@sailsinc.org](mailto:eservices@sailsinc.org) with either your question or request for onsite training.

We are currently in the process of recreating all of the settings from the old system. While many settings are the same, there are new settings we are still figuring out and others that Sirsi is using different terminology for. If you notice anything at all that seems out of place, please let us know so we can look into the issue and correct it. Just as you will be getting used to running reports with a slightly different interface, we will be getting used to the Admin interface too.

One final reminder, our license only allows three users at a time. If you get bumped out, this is probably why.

Thank you for bearing with us, and hopefully we will all enjoy using this new version!

## Workflows Issue With Windows 7

We have discovered a known issue with Windows 7 and Workflows that may or may not be affecting any reports you are trying to save by Viewing a report in your Finished Reports.

**If you do not have a Windows 7 computer, or if you never save a finished report, then you don't need to worry about this issue.**

If using Wordpad to view your finished reports, you will not be able to use any of the functions, like save or save as, under the file menu. This only happens when Workflows opens the report. It isn't an issue with Wordpad itself.

Sirsi has informed us that this is a known issue and there currently isn't a solution. The work around is to use a different program to open and save a finished report.

### **Notepad:**

In Workflows, go to the Report sessions wizard. Use the gadget next to "application to view reports" and navigate to the notepad.exe file and click ok. The location should be:

C: > Windows > System32 > notepad.exe

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**Word:**

Requires an extra step

- Go to the C: local drive,
- then Program Files,
- then Sirsi,
- then JWF,
- then JRE,
- then bin.
- Once inside the bin folder right-click the javaw file and go into the properties. Click the compatibility tab. Here check run in compatibility mode and select Windows XP service pack 3. Then check Run as Administrator. Click ok.
- Restart Workflows
- In Workflows, go to the Report sessions wizard. Use the gadget next to “application to view reports” and navigate to the winword.exe file and click ok. The location should be:
- C: Program Files > Microsoft Office > Office14 > Winword.exe

If you have any question please contact [eservices@sailsinc.org](mailto:eservices@sailsinc.org).

## Easton Press Release -February 13, 2013

### Easton Library Wins a Massachusetts Community Innovation Challenge Grant

The Ames Free Library in Easton is among 27 recipients of a Massachusetts Community Innovation Challenge (CIC) grant for programs designed to support regionalization and cost saving initiatives. The Library won a \$40,000 award for its innovative plan to expand traditional services by creating a multiple-use learning hub at Queset House, a 19<sup>th</sup> century mansion owned by the library and adjacent to its main building.

With its classic exterior and savvy interior, the Queset House will integrate technology, information, and collaborative expertise to support lifelong learning, intellectual, and creative pursuits. Its rooms are ideally suited as meeting and study spaces, a digital media lab, film presentation and multimedia conference rooms. Guided by the spirit of a 'creative commons,' the CIC grant will help equip these spaces so that several community agencies can collaborate for the benefit of their mutual constituencies. Organizations that helped develop the plans for the grant are: Town of Easton, Oliver Ames High School, and Easton's Council on Aging, Easton Community Access Cable Television, and Stonehill College.

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Colleen Corona, Chair, Easton's Board of Selectmen, enthusiastically endorsed the plan to create this new environment for the benefit of Easton residents: "Queset House is a town treasure and we are extremely grateful to the library for opening it to the public. The plan to outfit its gracious rooms with the technology tools needed to further digital education and collaboration is truly innovative. Those of us who work in town government are always looking for practical ways to apply Easton's rich heritage -- with includes five H. H. Richardson buildings and hundreds of acres of conservation land -- to the needs of our citizens."

The Ames Free Library, true to its motto, *Where the Community Connects*, was awarded the Library Journal and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant as a Best Small Library in America in 2011. Recognized for innovative programs and community service, the library now is planning to follow the lead of such libraries as Darien and Westport CT, and Skokie, IL, among others, which have pioneered digital media laboratories for their users. These labs incorporate the philosophy of the 'makerspace' or 'hackerspace' movement, providing a venue for people with common interests to meet, socialize, and create. Queset House will incorporate these activities along with offering space for a wide variety of other programs.

The Library's Board of Directors purchased Queset House several years ago to provide expansion space for its main library, a national historic landmark building designed by H.H. Richardson. The house is part of the campus that includes Queset Garden. The romantic history of Queset House, an English Gothic style cottage, centers around the years Winthrop Ames, notable Broadway producer, lived there from 1899 to 1937 and hosted his New York theater friends. Visitors included such luminaries as Katherine Cornell, George Arliss, and Leslie Howard, the latter who is most remembered as Ashley Wilkes in the movie *Gone with the Wind*.

For further information, contact Uma Hiremath, Executive Director, Ames Free Library, 53 Main Street, North Easton 02356; 508-238-2000, opt. 7; [uhiremath@easton.ma.us](mailto:uhiremath@easton.ma.us).

## Hot Topic at Midwinter: Library Maker Spaces, Ideas for Cheap, Hands-On Fun

The Digital Shift posted an interesting article by Kathy Ishizuka on January 29, 2013. In the article she discusses what she observed as a red hot topic from the unconference group at the ALA Midwinter meeting: Maker Spaces.

"It's the one thing we can all agree on," an attendee was quoted as saying.

Another attendee observed that this concept is the same thing they've been doing with children's programming for years.

Maker Spaces is a new buzz word for the concept of hands-on programming at the library. This could be school, academic, public, or otherwise. One benefit of a Maker Space is that the appeal reaches beyond just your library readers to a broader spectrum of information needs and users.

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From the article:

“Put to a vote among unconference participants, ‘Creative Spaces’ won out as the topic of choice (beating by a wide margin digital relevancy, advocacy, and budgeting).

Attendees shared ideas, with an emphasis on low-cost, practical ways to implement ‘Maker’ activities in the library. Much of the conversation urged partnering with other organizations, including:

Reddit subcommunities. Local groups have formed around social news site Reddit. Consider hosting an event at your library. Or how about Ikea Hackers?

Your local college or university. Don’t have native expertise among your library staff? Consider reaching out to a technical college or student organization to help lead programming.

Area crafters. The Greenpoint branch of the Brooklyn Public Library enlisted the local Etsy community to help launch projects, from making zines to bicycle tire art.

Hacker spaces. From robotics and electronics to wood and metal working, these groups are springing up worldwide.

Then there are Maker Kits. MAKE magazine is starting with a beta group of libraries, retrofitting their commercially available MAKE kits for checkout by patrons, from grade school kids to adults. The kits include ‘Getting Started with Arduino,’ ‘Squishy Circuits,’ and ‘Spinbots.’

For teens, there’s Maker Camp, a six-week online summer experience with how-to instruction for completing 30 projects in 30 days. This year, Maker Camp runs from July 8 to August 16. To register and see the projects from the 2012 Camp, visit the page ‘Maker Camp on Google +’”

Visit <http://www.thedigitalshift.com/2013/01/k-12/libraries-share-ideas-on-maker-spaces/> to read the full article and for information about MAKE’s library initiative, email [library@makermedia.com](mailto:library@makermedia.com)



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	Jan '13	Jan '12	Total FY'13
Total Intranetwork Loans	<b>61,125</b>	59,751	<b>347,967</b>
Total Items Circulated	<b>362,596</b>	365,322	<b>2,198,102</b>
Gutenberg	<b>589</b>	475	<b>1,426</b>
OverDrive Circulation	<b>11,268</b>	9,130	<b>52,905</b>
All Formats Circulated	<b>374,453</b>	<b>399,106</b>	<b>2,252,433</b>
VirtCat Items Borrowed	<b>5,723</b>	1,019	<b>4,241</b>
VirtCat Items Loaned	<b>3,956</b>	621	<b>2,965</b>
Cataloging Requests	<b>4,549</b>	2,947	<b>20,862</b>
MARC Records Added	<b>3,941</b>	4,898	<b>29,784</b>
Patrons Added	<b>3,345</b>	3,874	<b>25,431</b>
Patron placed holds	<b>64,772</b>	53,575	<b>343,124</b>
Total MARC	<b>1,157,559</b>	1,132,499	
Total Holdings	<b>3,786,951</b>	3,739,800	
Total Patron	<b>476,737</b>	467,256	
Total Uptime	<b>99.88</b>	99.99	

**Upcoming Events**[View the full event calendar](#)

- **3/20—Membership Meeting**  
10 AM—12 PM, SAILS Meeting Room
- **3/28—Circulation Roundtable**  
10 AM—12 PM, Norton Public Library