



Mid-America Library Alliance ILL/Courier Announcement

March 7, 2019

New MALA Courier Service - IMPORTANT!

Dear MALA Members,

As we announced in our newsletter earlier this week, we are transitioning couriers from 1st Choice to Henry Industries through the month of March. We are all looking forward to reliable and consistent service with Henry.

MALA, 1st Choice and Henry Industries have planned this transition to cause as little disruption as possible, but we do ask that you follow the guidelines below to make everything run as smoothly as possible.

Mickey

Please stop sending and filling ILL requests on Friday, March 15. This will reduce the amount of traffic in our delivery system.

1st Choice will continue to service libraries through the end of March. Library delivery schedules will be unchanged through Friday, March 22. As of Monday, March 25, 1st Choice will no longer pick up outgoing materials from the libraries. From Monday, March 25 to Friday, March 29, 1st Choice will ONLY deliver materials incoming to the route drivers from warehouses and sorting hubs, to begin purging the system of our items.

Clear your library of any outgoing materials between now and March 15. Send out everything you have on courier, using the 1st Choice labels as you have always done. By March 18, there will be no more outgoing ILL from your library. 1st Choice drivers will be instructed to deliver ONLY what they have from the warehouses to your library.

Aside from the deliveries (if any) that you receive from 1st Choice drivers between March 25-29, this will be a "quiet period" for ILL. Our two vendors will be working with each other during this period, and materials will be transferred into the Henry Industries distribution network behind the scenes, so to speak. The goal is to purge the 1st Choice distribution network of as many of our ILL materials as possible.

Delivery service will end with 1st Choice on Friday, March 29, and begin with Henry Industries on Monday, April 1. Use ONLY Henry delivery labels for GET CONNECTED service as of April 1. These labels can be found on our new MALA website under Courier Service. Print the labels locally as needed. If you use our extended delivery service, updated lists of COKAMO, MOBIUS and AMIGOS participating institutions, and working label makers, will be available on our website by April 1.

We expect that materials may continue to turn up in 1st Choice warehouses and sorting areas after their service to us ends. MALA will be monitoring materials flow on a daily basis through early April, and we will be notified of any materials remaining in 1st Choice's possession. **MALA will ensure that any remaining materials discovered later by 1st Choice will be returned to us.**

Thank you,
Mickey

February Stats are due by Friday, March 8

Please submit February's statistics for your library on our new website. You'll see the big red square on the left side of the Home Page. Our new form is even easier than the previous, simply enter one total number of items.

1. Go to <http://www.malalibraries.org/courier-service/submit-courier-statistics/>
2. Enter the month you are reporting on, ex: February 2019.

3. Pick your library from the drop-down list.
4. Enter the total number of items sent/received.
5. Click submit.

Beginning next month, please use the website exclusively to report your stats; no need to email the MALA offices with your numbers. Thank you!

Next MALA ILL/Courier Meeting - Wednesday, March 20 at 10 a.m.

To participate in the next MALA ILL Courier Meeting, you must first register to receive your unique login to participate.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5115244045818183171> (*updated link*)

There is a pull-down list of meeting dates for the fiscal year. You can click the link in this message multiple times to register for as many sessions as you like; you simply need to register one at a time. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Meeting dates at a glance:

March 20, 2019

April 24, 2019 *** **New Date!**

May 15, 2019

June 19, 2019

[Information for Attendees to Join](#)
[Troubleshooting Tips/FAQ for GoToWebinar](#)
[Information for Mobile attendees](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Mickey](#).



Missouri Secretary of State
State Library



This service is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Thank you for your participation with MALA!

Regards,

Mickey Coalwell
Executive Director
Mid-America Library Alliance