MALA Update

Holidays, holidays, holidays
Monday, September 7 is Labor Day. There is no courier service on that day, for anyone. Next month, we have Columbus Day, October 12, which is not a courier holiday, but some of you observe it as a library holiday and are closed; ditto for Veteran’s Day, on November 11. If you are not open, and cannot receive courier deliveries on either of these days, you must notify MALA via our online web form. An email is good, but we do encourage you to use the online web form to report additional closures for your library. You do not need to report closures on the eleven regular courier holidays in the year. Nobody gets service on those days.

Courier Statistics
Linda says that a majority of libraries have already reported August stats. Thank you. If you haven’t done so, please do it now! Remember that you are reporting ONLY items you send out, and you count the individual items, not bags or boxes. Please report your stats before the 5th of the following month.

July 2019 compared to July 2020
Our first full month of post-COVID statistics show a huge rebound in courier activity as our libraries came roaring back. St. Louis-area libraries came back the strongest, with Kirkwood, University City and Webster Groves showing courier numbers as strong, or stronger, than last July. Among Evergreen libraries, Scenic Regional, Jefferson County and Cass County had July courier stats that were 80-90% of last year’s numbers. Overall July numbers were down from last year, but the rebound is still impressive. Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to restore services to your communities after the shutdown. You are doing a fantastic job!

Quarterly Courier Meeting this month - please attend
Join us for the quarterly online Courier meeting Friday, September 18, at 10:00 am. The meeting is held on the Zoom platform. Anyone on staff who deals with interlibrary loan and/or the courier network is invited and welcome. The Zoom invite is below. Webcams are encouraged. We love to see your faces when we talk to each other.

Topic: MALA Statewide Courier Meeting
Time: Sep 18, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
Upcoming MALA Webinar:
"How to Stop Micromanaging and Start Leading" with Pat Wagner
Wednesday, September 16, 2020 ~ 10:00 to 11:00 AM

Micromanagers try to control every aspect of how things are done, and it’s a trap even the best managers and supervisors have a hard time avoiding.

Pat Wagner will explain how micromanaging employees wastes valuable time and limits the potential of your most creative employees. This management and supervisory skills webinar will provide you with the tools needed to spot micromanaging behaviors, let go of the right things, and learn how to include others' ideas and perceptions constructively.

Register here

PRINCH Library Printing Solution
MALA is sponsoring another free informational webinar on the PRINCH Library Printing Solution on Thursday, September 11 at 10:00 am. Princh is a versatile and intuitive printing solution for libraries of all sizes. Princh allows users to easily pay from any device or PC—just like online shopping—and there’s no need to set-up payment agreements or provide hardware to accept transactions via cash, credit/debit card, or even PayPal. Princh is offering FREE service for your library until December 31. If you want expanded, user-friendly patron print options at your library, consider learning more by registering for this informational webinar.

Sign up for the webinar here.

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