



ANNUAL REPORT - May 22, 2012

Dear GMLC Members,

This has been the year of the eBooks! The publishers have certainly made our ListenUp! Vermont project interesting for everyone involved. With so many different kinds of licensing agreements to deal with along with huge price increases by other publishers we are always readjusting how and what we buy.

Because of the demand for eBooks, we will be making a Mid-Year Appeal. Many libraries are ending their fiscal year and have a little bit of money left over. Or perhaps your Library Friends Group would like to contribute? Money donated to the GMLC Mid-Year Appeal will be used exclusively for eBook purchases. We will send out an email in the beginning of June asking for donations and that will provide a link to a Google form. Once the Google form is filled out, we will generate an invoice that you can pay from.

The other piece of the eBook surge is the education component. Beyond teaching patrons how to download and use their devices, we need to educate patrons about how the library lending model works for eContent. Many patrons think that every print book is available as a library eBook. Oh, how I wish that were true! Judy Russell, our new ListenUp! Vermont coordinator is doing a great job. Be sure to follow the ListenUp! Vermont blog for lots of good information on industry news and tech issues.

We are continuing to look at the 3M Cloud product as an additional vendor for eBooks. Right now one of the biggest drawbacks is that it is not Kindle compatible. We plan on sending a survey out soon to get your feedback. Please help us with your thoughtful responses.

We often get questions on how patrons can donate money to GMLC for eContent. We are working on materials to facilitate donations. As you know, eContent cannot be purchased by a patron and then donated - they are different types of licenses. Until we get our direct donation plan together, folks can always send a check to the Green Mountain Library Consortium.

Board member, Wendy Hysko, has been working hard on getting GMLC into SCOOP - the Maine Regional Library System Purchasing Cooperative. Starting in July, GMLC members will have access to great discounts on supplies and tech equipment. In some cases even free shipping! Access to SCOOP info will be password protected so we ask that only one person in your library has access to the login information. Information and the sign up process will be emailed at the beginning of June.

Our VOKAL project continues to move along steadily. VOKAL has been held up as a model for consortial libraries and rural libraries that are moving to Koha. Our support vendor, ByWater, has also featured VOKAL in several press releases. It is awesome that there are over 620,000 items in the catalog! What is even more awesome is the incredible amount of volunteering that takes place to keep the project going. The Implementation Team works hard & happily to keep things going smoothly and our member libraries continue to help in a myriad of ways by participating on committees, assisting with trainings and being a mentor library to new members.

Mango Online Language Learning continues to grow. We've found that once we get a patron turned on to this great project, they are hooked. Other vendors who sell online products often contact GMLC about a contract. We try to work with those who seem to be a good fit for our state. Sometimes these vendors do not understand the challenges of the libraries in our state but we try and elucidate them. Stay tuned for updates on Chilton Library and more!

Please read the rest of this report that has more specific information about our projects: ListenUp! Vermont, VOKAL (Vermont Organization of Koha Automated Libraries) and Mango Services. Great big thank yous go out to Judy Russell, Wendy Hysko and MaryPat Larraby for their liaison & coordinator work with these projects! Also, thank you to all of you (which are many!) who put in the time here and there when you can for any GMLC project. We would not be the vibrant organization we are without the help from everyone. As our motto states: Vermont libraries, working together.

I would like to this opportunity to thank the GMLC board members for all their hard work: Wendy Hysko, Chris Kirby, Deborah Tinkham, and Lucinda Walker. Whether meeting online or in person, everyone is thoughtful about the work we need to do and how we need to strategize. I'm happy to report that we have been finally able to realize our expansion of the board to 7 members with the acceptance of Owen McDermott and Judy Russell to the board. Please welcome them and as always, feel free to give any of the board members your thoughts.

It is challenging to predict where libraries will be in the next few years but I'm certain with your help GMLC will be ready for it!

Best,

Mary Danko – GMLC, Board President

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LISTENUP! VERMONT

Listen Up! Vermont has enjoyed another year of astonishing growth. From June 1, 2011, to May 21, 2012, borrowers completed 61,308 checkouts of owned content, consisting of 26,603 eBooks (of those, 1,031 were Adobe PDF eBooks, 12,173 were Kindle Books, and 13,399 were Adobe ePUB eBooks) and 34,705 audiobooks (9,547 OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks plus 25,158 OverDrive WMA Audiobooks). In addition, there were 4,161 Gutenberg downloads of free content during the '11-'12 period.

Compared to the same period last year, this represents an staggering upswing: from 5205 total eBooks lent to 26,603 (aided, of course, by the arrival of Kindle to the library world), and from 27,602 audiobooks to 34,705!

We currently have over 160 institutions participating in Listen Up! Vermont--remarkable for a volunteer-managed organization. Tech support requests to the Listen Up! Coordinator have decreased somewhat as individual member libraries become more familiar with formats and devices, though the opportunity for, and necessity of, continuing education never ceases. We hope to be able to offer more support in the year ahead with visits to libraries and by conducting workshops around the state.

We have given the blog a new look and encourage those members who do not subscribe to do so. Just visit www.blogspot.vtaudiobooks.org and click on "Subscribe by Email." Blog posts cover the gamut--from tech advice and popular titles to additions to the collection and the latest news from OverDrive.

Many thanks to our collection development team--Joan LaJoie (Richmond Free), Karen O'Donnell-Leach (St. Johnsbury Athenaeum), and Kip Roberts (Pierson Library, Shelburne)--for keeping us

up-to-date and well-rounded. Title suggestions are always welcome. And a special thanks to Nancy Tusinski, who has retired from her duties as Maximum Access coordinator, to focus on her new position as Director of the Weathersfield Proctor Library. Thanks, Nancy, and congratulations! (We're always happy to welcome new volunteers.) And a extra-special thanks to my predecessor, Virgil Fuller, for his outstanding work--always conducted with patience, good humor, and just the right amount of geek! We wish the best of luck to Virgil as he pursues his library career.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Judy Russell, Listen Up! Vermont Coordinator

VOKAL

VOKAL has been growing quickly since 2009 with 30 libraries circulating in the VOKAL Koha system and 2 more libraries cataloging into the system. The VOKAL Executive Committee has decided to cap VOKAL membership at 40 libraries until 2014 to be able to focus on optimizing the system for member libraries and expect all slots will be filled by the end of 2012. VOKAL has sponsored a few developments in the past year which have been incorporated into the worldwide releases of Koha.

The VOKAL/Implementation Team/Executive Board consisting of Amy Boisvert (Jericho Town Library volunteer), Wendy Hysko (Brownell Library), Kim Peine (Dorothy Alling Library) and Richard Pritsky (Carpenter Carse Library) meets monthly to coordinate migrations, touch base on any open tickets and development requests with our support company Bywater, and address any issues that come up on a variety of fronts. The Consortium Committee, chaired by Richard Pritsky, meets prior to each new release of Koha to discuss any new system preferences that will impact member libraries and determine the best settings that reflect the interests of the range of VOKAL libraries represented by the committee which consists of small, medium and large Vermont libraries. The Cataloging Committee, chaired by Debbie Roderer from the Dorothy Alling Library, discusses any cataloging issues and sets standards based on professional best practices and also coordinates semi-annual cataloging user group meetings for training and to discuss standards. The Circulation Committee, chaired by Alison Pierce from the Brownell Library, meets to discuss best practices with patron records and other circulation issues. The Reciprocal Borrowing/ILL Committee determines a policies that cover the needs of member libraries and the continued use of the VALS system. In the past year, the Training Committee has coordinated daylong Koha trainings by both volunteer trainers from VOKAL libraries as well as the trainer from Bywater. The Training Committee has also coordinated a MySQL training (the language Koha reports are written in) which was held at CCV in Montpelier and also an OPAC search training for VOKAL staff. VOKAL has grown quickly in the past year and it has been really rewarding for member libraries to work closely together sharing ideas, discussing concerns and streamlining their use of the VOKAL system at meetings, trainings and through the VOKAL mailing lists. Recent VOKAL statistics:

- Number of biblio records: 295,145.
- Number of items: 622,968.
- Patron records: 67,493.
- Circulation May 2011-May 2012: 709,661.
- Circulation April 2012: 70,180.

Wendy Hysko, Board Member and VOKAL Implementation Team Member

MANGO

Mango is an online language learning system teaching practical conversation skills for real communication. It's the fast, easy and effective way to learn to speak a foreign language! The GMLC has offered to its members for the past 3 years. We currently have 19 public libraries subscribing. The success of Mango in your Library is the same as any database, you need to let your patrons know that

you have this resource and how easy it is for them to use. As a Mango member you have access to a number of PR tools from Mango as well as tips on how to promote this wonderful resource to you patrons. If you feel you don't know how to get this information, please contact MaryPat Larrabee at St. Albans Free Library, and she will be happy to help you.

MaryPat Larraby, Mango Coordinator

MISCELLANEOUS

Our mailing address is: Green Mountain Library Consortium PO Box 250 Hartland, VT 05048

Contacting the GMLC

- Listen Up! Vermont (for second-tier support questions, purchase suggestions, or to join):
vtaudiobooks@gmail.com
- VOKAL, Vermont Koha Project: vokal_implementation_team@googlegroups.com
- GMLC Board of Directors: gmlcvtboard@gmail.com
- Questions about GMLC billing: gmlcvt@gmail.com