

From: carolmarie stock <carolmariestock@yahoo.com>
Date: June 12, 2010 6:50:20 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Anne,

Thank you for a chance to comment on the future of SWON library services specifically the email job announcement notices. I have been out of the library system for some ten years now and I have discovered that it is very difficult to open the library employment door once several years have gone by since you last passed through it. However, I still hold out hopes that someday there will be an opportunity for me to return to library service. The emails from SWON library keep me abreast of what is happening in libraries in the area and give me hope that one day I will open an email with a job description that will match my past library knowledge and experience with the great amount of information, experience and talents I have amassed in the past ten years. SWON library emails are my lifeline to the library world. Thank you for the great service you provide to many past and future librarians.

Sincerely,
Carolmarie Stock

From: Carol Schweinberg <carol7silver@yahoo.com>

Date: June 12, 2010 6:51:23 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Hi Anne,

I'm not sure if this will help, but I use SWON primarily for job postings. Although I'm currently employed by the Middletown Public Library as a part time reference librarian, I am always on the lookout for new and exciting opportunities. I have attended a get together for professionals at the SWON office and also attended a couple of classes.

I appreciate the fact that Greater Cincinnati has such an organization.

sincerely,

Carol Schweinberg

From: Kelly <duckshroom@gmail.com>

Date: June 12, 2010 7:30:55 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Hi,

I'd been reading the comments going around on the directors' mail list and didn't see that it really affected the library I'm currently with - ITT Tech. We don't have ILL requests, so the delivery wasn't an issue. I think we're mostly a member for the continuing education opportunities and to be able to claim an affiliation for company reports.

Personally, I think SWON's most important functions are the workshops, classes, and such and the Jobs List. I love having the jobs sent to my email because I'm still looking for that perfect job opportunity. One of my co-workers found her part-time job with the LRC at ITT Tech through SWON's job site.

So, I wish you luck calming down the hotheads and continued success at SWON.

Kelly Stevens

Librarian, ITT Technical Institute Norwood

From: "Hilda Knepp" <celtic@cinci.rr.com>
Date: June 12, 2010 8:47:06 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Dear Ms. Abate:

I don't in any way think SWON has a disconnect with its members. I wonder what services, specifically, are in question, but the job lists and workshop listings are both very important to librarians in this area. Perhaps the workshops are not currently well-attended, but that is a reflection of the financial downturn and has nothing to do with SWON's importance. When the economy improves, I'm sure there will be a much greater demand for SWON services. I can't suggest any improvements because you already do what is needed for the library professionals of southwest Ohio.

Sincerely,

Hilda Lindner Knepp
Batavia Branch Reference Librarian
Clermont County, Ohio

From: AE Kovic <akovic@yahoo.com>

Date: June 12, 2010 9:38:20 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

I utilized your Jobline but to no avail. I will be leaving Ohio soon for a position near Albany, NY.

I wish all unemployed Ohio librarians the best of luck.

Annette Kovic
Lima, Ohio

From: cindy@ur-on-it.com
Date: June 12, 2010 10:21:07 PM EDT
To: Anne Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Swon
Reply-To: cindy@ur-on-it.com

Anne,

We've been out of touch for a while. As you know I've fallen out of the library world. Ironically, I've returned to it and was planning to tell you. I've been working as a computer teacher at St. Clement School (right up the street from Roger Bacon) and they've hired me to also fix and run their library. But enough about me. Can you tell me what has been going on?

I would be happy to write a note, but can you provide me with any background to the problems?

Thanks,

Cindy

Cindy Jasper-Parisey

From: Emily Cullen <cullen.meredith@gmail.com>

Date: June 12, 2010 10:22:37 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries

Hi Anne,

I will absolutely provide a letter of support. Does it need to be a formal letter or just a simple email? I'll get started on my note asap and I'll try to send to you tomorrow. I'm shocked to hear that this is happening and think you are a wonderful leader and mentor.

-Emily

From: Siobhan McCann <siobhan.mccann@perry.lib.oh.us>

Date: June 13, 2010 8:32:15 AM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You

Dear Anne,

I have taken a couple of online classes through SWON Libraries this year. My library is located in Northeastern Ohio and it was really wonderful to be able to partake and learn what Southwestern Ohio is doing with programming.

Thank you for making these training opportunities available online.

Siobhan McCann
Youth Services Librarian
Perry Public Library
Perry, Ohio 44081

From: "Marilyn Ruther" <Ruther@saintantoninus.org>

Date: June 13, 2010 8:35:08 AM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You

Hi Anne,

I have only been associated with SWON libraries for a year and have been a member of the CLEAR group. These informal review sessions have been invaluable to me as a first year librarian in an Archdiocesan school. The new books we review help me be up to date when purchasing books for our library at St. Antoninus. The addition of the books I review to our library, help to supplement my very limited yearly budget. I sincerely hope that SWON will continue to support our group and be able to continue so many of its valuable services.

I will be contacting our school office to ask for our continued membership in this supportive organization.

I will be out of town at the time of the meeting, so please share my thoughts, if helpful.

Marilyn Ruther

From: "Linda Bruno" <lfbruno@cfl.rr.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 12:49:47 PM EDT
To: "Anne Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: SWON's value to its members

Hi Anne,

Thanks for keeping me in the loop regarding your board meeting Monday.

I was thinking about our relationship over the past several years and one of the first things that came to mind is that of all the regional library systems I work with in several states, SWON frequently requests that I develop specific workshops to address their members' needs.

When you get requests from your members about a training need, you have never hesitated to ask me if I can develop a program that will address those needs in a meaningful way. You have asked me to develop programs on everything from emotional intelligence, to how to help communities deal with layoffs, to interviewing techniques to ensure libraries hire the right staff, to our current major leadership retreat project. I'm sure I'm not the only trainer you work with in this manner. I have got to believe that the members of SWON are getting personal attention to their needs that members of many other regionals simply don't get.

What people may not realize is that you not only ask for these programs in response to particular needs in the *libraries*, but also to address needs in the library *communities*, so that the libraries themselves remain viable entities in those communities. Considering the current budget environments most libraries are experiencing, that has to be a significant plus when it comes time for them to garner support for funding.

Your leadership is obvious in the way you are constantly thinking outside the box in order to serve your members better. When library travel budgets got tight, you immediately took steps to go online for many workshops so that training needs were not sacrificed. You also realize the value of face-to-face training and are always looking for ways to accommodate training needs in that venue as well.

I am in a rather unique position of observing many different regional systems in my travels. Without hesitation I can say that SWON stands out as exemplary. Every library should be so fortunate as to have a regional that is as proactive as SWON in constantly providing new and valuable services and resources for its members.

Regards,

Linda Bruno

Linda Bruno

www.LindasWorkshops.com

Subject: We need SWON and Anne!
Date: Sun, 13 Jun 2010 15:34:12 -0400
From: Lise Tewes <Lise.Tewes@kentonlibrary.org>
To: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Good Afternoon,

I would like to voice my support for the continued existence of SWON Libraries, under the direction of Anne Abate. SWON Libraries provides vital services to the staff of the Kenton County Public Library. SWON Libraries is an organization that has been responsive to our needs and proactive in anticipating trends that will impact public, academic, special, and school libraries. The continuing education opportunities provided by SWON are a cost-effective way to enable our staff to receive the latest training in a wide variety of areas related to library work.

The staff at SWON Libraries is excellent. They are true professionals, driven to provide excellent service to their members. They have been creative and responsive to the needs of their members despite the difficult budget challenges that they have encountered in recent years. I have never known it to be the case that anyone requested a service from the staff at SWON and was refused!

Anne Abate has been a wonderful leader for SWON Libraries, and her leadership was never more important than it is now. Her years of experience with the organization, and her knowledge of the history of the organization, make her the ideal person to lead SWON into the future. Anne is a consummate professional who constantly challenges herself to grow and change with her profession. Never one to be satisfied with the status quo, she is always looking for new and better ways to serve her member libraries. I cannot imagine anyone more suited to lead SWON Libraries into the next decade.

As someone who has experienced SWON Libraries on several levels - as a support staff member, as a library school student doing an internship with SWON, and as a professional librarian - I have always found SWON to be a wonderful resource for libraries and the people who staff them. I have always found Anne Abate to be a wonderful example of professionalism and librarianship. I think it would be a real loss to the library community in Greater Cincinnati if we no longer had the resources of SWON Libraries and the leadership of Anne Abate available to us.

Sincerely,

Lise Tewes

Subject: SWON

Date: Sun, 13 Jun 2010 16:01:04 -0400

From: Kim Thompson <Kim.Thompson@kentonlibrary.org>

To: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hello, Anne. I am writing this email to thank you, Vicky, Rhea, Pat and Glen for all you do to help me with professional development opportunities and networking with my peers. I grow continually in my knowledge of current literature and my relationships with other librarians by participating in CELS, CLEAR, ROYAL and CARGYS. I have also thoroughly enjoyed participating in the SWON trainings like Ukulele, Graphic Novels, Web 2.0 and the annual Picture Book Read In. I get ideas for programming from the workshop instructors and from the librarians participating in the workshops. Amazingly enough, though I am a Librarian, I find that I do not have as much time to peruse the new literature and learn about new technology on my own. Thanks to the SWON committees and trainings, I am able to take the necessary time and focus myself on staying current on topics pertaining to librarianship.

I know it takes quite a bit of time and energy to arrange all of the trainings and prepare for our groups, and I would like to say "Thank you!" Through SWON I have made connections with other library professionals and I feel comfortable seeking them out when answering reference questions and suggesting programming to patrons that is taking place in other library systems. Through SWON whether we work for Kenton County Public Libraries, Campbell County Public Libraries, Boone County Public Libraries or The Public Libraries of Cincinnati and Hamilton County we are connected. Thank you!

I will continue to seek out connections with my peers and professional development opportunities through SWON. The cost is minimal for me and the outcomes are such a help with my programming and knowledge of literature and trends specifically related to my job. I appreciate each of you, Anne, Vicky, Rhea, Glen and Pat for leading Librarians and Support staff in ongoing professional growth. Personally, I appreciate each of you for the individual help and support you offer me as a growing professional. Thank you so much for your time, prompt responses to my queries and the thoughtfulness and energy you put into our trainings and groups.

Let me know where I may be of assistance to you. Kim

Kimberly Thompson, MEd, MLIS

Children's Librarian

Mary Ann Mongan Library

859-962-4077

"If education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man's future." Maria Montessori

From: *****

Date: June 13, 2010 5:50:25 PM EDT

To: anne@swonlibraries.org

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Anne,

Thanks for your message. I would hate to see the demise of SWON Libraries. It is an invaluable service to librarians and to all those who work in libraries.

There is really no other service which provides access to all library job postings in the region. This is so important, especially in these difficult economic times. The Jobs List serves professional librarians, as well as non-professional library staff - people who have definitely been impacted by downsizing and layoffs.

Please maintain SWON Libraries and this invaluable service.

Please keep my name and e-mail anonymous.

From: "Sylvia V. Metzinger" <svmetz@onebox.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 10:04:31 PM EDT
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You

Anne:

Thank you for your memo. Due to my relocation I have been removed from the RBIG mailing list; but I see, not the general attendees list. Though I am no longer in the area, perhaps I can comment on the value of SWON to me during my professional career in Cincinnati, and even through my retirement prior to my move.

I spent the first twenty-eight years of my career in an academic research library in Louisiana; we had no such organization as SWON. To me the great advantage of GCLC and now SWON is that this organization provides the opportunity to meet in interest groups as well as to attend a wide variety of training programs on a local/regional basis. Many are not able to attend ALA or even state library organization meetings. Having a consortium such as SWON allows professionals and paraprofessionals an opportunity to meet locally with others working in the same field of library service as themselves, to exchange ideas and plan cooperative programming which might not otherwise come to fruition.

Having been a member of the Rare Books Interest Group from its inception, and then co-convener and convener of the group for several years, I always looked forward to meeting with my colleagues in the field from across town and even outside the city. While many of us were definitely too busy to go visiting other like collections around the area to compare facilities and seek new ideas, the meetings gave us each an opportunity to pause for one afternoon or morning a quarter to learn what other rare books colleagues were doing and how they solved certain problems unique to our field. This is the case for each interest group I am sure.

As for patrons, the opportunity that the consortium allows for the public to access materials at any of the member libraries in the greater Cincinnati area as well as Southwest Ohio, is a of great benefit to library users.

Best of luck with your agenda. I believe that SWON is a great model and should be copied in other parts of the country.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Metzinger

Sylvia Verdun Metzinger

permanent address: sylvia.v.metzinger@alumni.utexas.net

current server address: svmetz@onebox.com

From: "Beth Smith" <bethellen@cinci.rr.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 2:42:05 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

RE: The Future of SWON Libraries Services

I feel that SWON Libraries has NOT lost its connection with the needs of its members. It provides access to many good training opportunities for professional growth and a chance to get acquainted or reacquainted with colleagues in the area. Although I haven't been to a course in awhile, there are many that look interesting and that I feel would be beneficial to attend. As a member of SLA, I have attended joint meetings and feel that I have benefitted from them and reconnected to other librarians in the field.

As to SWON Libraries importance to me, I subscribe to the Jobs List and find it invaluable in getting current information on open positions in the library field in a timely manner. I have applied for jobs that have been posted and had some interviews with libraries I would not have known were hiring if not for SWON's email. I would be really disappointed if this service was terminated and I feel that it would be difficult to find this information anywhere else. Many times the jobs posted there are not available on CareerBuilder.com. Losing this service would have a great impact on me personally.

Also, I frequently look at the site to see what's going on in the field even if it's just looking at the topics of trainings that will be held. I hope that these services will not be discontinued.

Unfortunately, I cannot make it to the meeting on Monday. However, I feel strongly that SWON Libraries does play a big part in professional development and keeping librarians current on topics in the field.

Sincerely,
Beth Smith, MLS
Librarian
Southwestern College - Tri County

From: "Nancy Weinberg" <dessertflower@fuse.net>

Date: June 13, 2010 1:49:38 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

I'm a firm believer in networking, and SWON Libraries has given me valuable opportunities to network with local librarians. When it was still GCLC and I was a cataloger, the Technical Services Interest Group was a great place to hear about the trials and tribulations of others dealing with these issues. The PLAPPN group has provided much useful information and some wonderful leads for potential programs in the area. The ability to meet librarians with similar professional interests, along with the opportunity to bitch & moan with impunity, has been invaluable. As for Jobline, even though the only job I'm presently searching for is Retiree, the postings are interesting, and I've passed them along to others. With the budget crises of libraries continuing, losing that service would be a disaster to library workers who are downsized. Please continue to do what you do and help us in the library profession to do what we do even better.

Thanks you,

Nancy Weinberg

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

From: Amy Schardein <Amy.Schardein@kentonlibrary.org>

Date: June 13, 2010 1:29:38 PM EDT

To: Anne Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: RE: How SWON has helped me.

I hadn't realized delivery was cancelled! Boo!!! You can quote me on that, too, but I don't want anyone fired. How could SWON do nearly as much with all of you. Would you like me to edit and resend?

Personally, I'd love to have you closer, but the parking would be a real issue. In addition, some folks hesitate to go downtown at all. And that's a real haul from Wilmington and the far flung areas of the serice area. It would be one thing if it was rent free. There are lots of details there: meeting space? And your priority in getting it? Parking for staff? Percieved inequities from other library systems?

Amy

From: Amy Schardein <Amy.Schardein@kentonlibrary.org>

Date: June 13, 2010 12:52:48 PM EDT

To: "anne@swonlibraries.org" <anne@swonlibraries.org>, "vicky@swonlibraries.org" <vicky@swonlibraries.org>

Cc: Dave Schroeder <Dave.Schroeder@kentonlibrary.org>

Subject: How SWON has helped me.

Dear Anne,

I wanted to let you know how SWON has helped me as a library professional.

SWON connects me to other professionals in the region in practical ways. I share ideas and insights with them on interest groups such as YCIG and CLEAR regularly - these groups give me fresh ideas and insights into my own work. I leave with practical tips and new theory to apply every time. It is an honor to moderate them for SWON - I have been able to develop leadership skills independent of the work I do in my own library. These are roles that I am proud to have on my resume.

SWON provides reasonably priced, locally accessible training that meets my needs. I've been to leadership/management training and ukulele lessons and everything in between. I have a job that requires me to synthesize research into everyday activities for parents to provide entertaining, engaging early literacy experiences for their children while attending to grants, regional committees, policy writing, supervising staff and other professional tasks. The range of SWON trainings meets those varied needs. You have also provided me with the opportunity to train in my areas of expertise. It is always valuable to realize just how much I have to share.

SWON connects my library to regional resources. The delivery service is fantastic and allows me to accept items from patrons while assuring them they will get back to the proper library.

What I believe to be SWON's most important function is harder to articulate. Librarians, when left alone in libraries, can become myopic. We see only our own challenges, accept our own views on materials as fact and forget there is a wider library world available even to the smallest of branches and schools. It is when we connect with other professionals that we remember we are part of a profession with standards and ethics that should guide our work. I cannot let the quality of my programming slip when I know what the other in the region are doing! I find new titles to add and see my own library and collection with fresh eyes when I connect outside our doors.

Thank you for making it easy to make these connections. I am so grateful for all that SWON and you in particular, Anne and Vicky, have done for me and my professional development.

Sincerely,
Amy Schardein

From: abigail bacon <abigailkatz@gmail.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 12:45:04 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Hi Anne,

I graduated from school in Jan'09. I got my MLIS through Rutger's Unniversity, and I did their online program (I was in the second cohort of this new program) because I knew we'd be moving around. We've been in Cincinnati for the last few years now, and have committed to staying here. When I graduated, I had no job leads- the economy was terrible, and there weren't many openings at all, and none that fit my needs and level of job experience. Because I had done my degree online, with the exception of my student internship, I had no librarian friends or networks. After many months of checking my email for the SWON job list entries, this past January, a job that sounded perfect for me magically appeared in my inbox... I am happy to say I am currently working at Brown Mackie College in Cincinnati. I have a truly wonderful supervising librarian, excellent co-workers, a great working environment, and a ten minute commute! Subscribing to the job list is still useful to me, so that I can see what other kinds of library jobs are out there for when I eventually transition into working full-time. This resource has been invaluable to me. Thank you for all your hard work!

abigail

From: judy campbell <lucilleda@yahoo.com>

Date: June 13, 2010 12:34:16 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Hello,

I have subscribed to SWON Libraries for the past 8 years. I applied for jobs through this service. I am currently not employed by a library, but plan to attend the Kent 12/12/12, MLIS program in Dayton this Fall.

I hope I don't lose this connection. I think it's a great service!

Thanks so much!

Judy Campbell White

From: Joan Welsh <joanwwelsh@gmail.com>

Date: June 13, 2010 12:20:42 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

As a very recent retiree, I am hoping and anticipate the SWON's jobline will provide me with an awareness for future job prospects that I may not normally be able to easily access. This is an important service.

Joan Welsh

From: kaye arnold <kaye_arnold@hotmail.com>

Date: June 13, 2010 11:15:59 AM EDT

To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: RE: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

To whom it may concern,

I hope the Jobs List is not cut back by the Executive Board of SWON Libraries. Actually, I would love to see it expand to cover a greater geographic area. I'm currently seeking a position, preferably in central Kentucky. I love receiving your emails about jobs because in our current national economy, it's so reassuring to see actual jobs for people with MLS degrees. It's good to know that some excellent jobs are available in our region, just in case I have to relocate. Thank you very much for this service.

Sincerely,

J. Kaye Arnold

From: "Helen Hurley" <hurley_h@fuse.net>

Date: June 13, 2010 10:39:15 AM EDT

To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Support

Dear Anne,

I am a retired school librarian, but I still work part-time as a librarian for a global design company in Cincinnati. While I don't use other services at present, the jobline has directed me to three of the positions I've held. It has been a godsend for me! Thank you so much.

Helen Hurley

Research Librarian

LPK

From: Ron Frommeyer <lrf@palas.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 6:31:11 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Future of SWON Libraries

Dear Anne:

I am deeply concerned about what I am hearing concerning the move to possibly change the direction of SWON Libraries and the services it now provides so well to its membership and the library community.

I have been associated with the Consortium (originally GCLC--The Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium) almost from the beginning. The first offices of GCLC were located in the Serials Section of the Acquisitions Department area of the University of Cincinnati Libraries when I was Head of Acquisitions.

So I have seen GCLC/SWON Libraries continue to grow, develop and expand as it works hard to meet the needs of its membership these 30 some years. I know this personally having been on many Consortium committees, and having worked for GCLC for several years after I retired from the University of Cincinnati Libraries.

Under the excellent professional leadership of Anne Abate SWON Libraries is working hard to provide the services and meet the continuing education needs of the libraries it serves. This includes convening various Interest Groups, presenting specialized programs with excellent presenters, having regular and continuous updates on the latest developments in technology. In addition SWON Libraries is getting library directors, librarians and library staff to think 'out of the box' with workshops that cover key and important library issues and developments of the profession.

The staff at SWON Libraries is excellent--Anne brings many years of educational, administrative, library and CE experience. She is a great, enthusiastic leader and really thinks outside of the box in terms of programs, while always keeping up on the latest developments in libraries, library consortia, library organization, library administration, etc.

Glen Horton is one of the best, most experienced IT professionals I have ever met. He explains new developments in technology thoroughly and clearly and is always available for consultation. I am impressed with how Glen stays on top of developments in IT, especially as it applies to libraries. In the early days of the Consortium it was decided that one of the goals of GCLC/SWON Libraries was to have on the staff a really experienced, extremely knowledgeable IT person. Glen is that person, and he has been the major contributor to the technology/information knowledge goal of SWON Libraries these many years.

As a volunteer at SWON Libraries I work closely with Vicky Sweeny since one of my duties is to update on a monthly basis the CE White Board which lists

the CE activities/programs offered by SWON Libraries.

Vicky works hard to develop, set up and have presented in depth, first rate CE offerings that cover a wide variety of subjects that meet the CE needs of the membership and other Libraries in Ohio and Kentucky.

I see how Vicky interacts and communicates so very well as she tirelessly works to develop and present quality CE Programming for SWON Libraries.

I also must say that what the staff at SWON Libraries has excelled at under Anne's leadership is the successful effort to keep all types of libraries involved and talking and working with each other. Anne has also greatly improved the relationships with the State Library of Ohio and the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives since becoming Director of SWON Libraries.

SWON Libraries is on the right track, is very successful and is meeting the needs of its member libraries and staff. I have proudly seen how it has grown and developed since the early days of the Consortium in the 1970s.

Ron Frommeyer
Assistant to the Dean and University Librarian Emeritus
University of Cincinnati Libraries

From: "Silbersack, Barbara" <Barbara.Silbersack@thompsonhine.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 8:10:56 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: We need SWON Libraries

To whom it may concern:

I am sending a letter of support for SWON Libraries. My law firm library is not a member of this consortium because we operate in a different sphere, but I have often taken advantage of the programming made available to the local community and have found it very useful, worthwhile and well done. This organization supports all local libraries, whether members or not, with its excellent job board, connecting countless librarians with employers in the region. It also excels in providing programming which is relevant to many of us in the library community. The staff is top notch and the facilities are easily accessible for all. It is one of the best venues for continuing education in the area.

I heartily support SWON and its director, Anne Abate, and the staff in what they do for the library community in southwest Ohio.

Sincerely,

Barbara Silbersack
Associate Director of Library Operations
Thompson Hine LLP
312 Walnut Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

From: jmabock@comcast.net

Date: June 13, 2010 8:23:29 PM EDT

To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

Dear Ms. Abate,

I owe my present happy employment situation to SWON.

Sometime around 2004, I decided to change career fields and go back to my first love, libraries. I found out about SWON through the Lawrenceburg, IN library, where I volunteered. I applied for several jobs featured on the SWON jobline, but never got anywhere.

In Spring, 2007, I went to a resume workshop that SWON held at Northern Kentucky University. I went over my resume with three professional librarians. They all gave me frank, constructive criticism of my resume and cover letter. One of the librarians was someone to whom I had sent my resume. She said the way I presented myself in person was so different than the way I came across in my cover letter. She in particular gave me a lot of good advice. I really took their comments to heart.

That summer, I began working part-time at the Lawrenceburg Library, while maintaining my fulltime day job. That fall, I got my big break. From the SWON job line, I learned about positions that would be coming available at the Boone County Public Library. Based on the comments received at the SWON workshop, I had worked on revising my cover letter and resume on and off, but now got down to it on a serious basis. After receiving my resume, BCPL called me for an interview. I began work there as a Reader Service Associate in November, 2007. I was promoted to Public Service Associate two years later. I will always be grateful to SWON for the help provided in my job search!

While at BCPL, I was able to attend the SWON Circulation workshop last Fall. I thought it was very worthwhile. I am lucky in that BCPL provides a lot of wonderful training opportunities, that are utilized by the staff as well as SWON member libraries. This is a great way to provide service to our area as a whole. I look forward to attending other SWON seminars.

Thanks for all of the good work done by SWON!

Sincerely,

Julie Bockstiegel

From: "James McKellogg" <James.McKellogg@Thomasmore.edu>
Date: June 13, 2010 8:43:22 PM EDT
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Cc: <executive@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You

Dear Anne and Executive Board members,

My schedule doesn't permit me to attend the Executive Board meeting on Monday, but I want to go on the record in support of SWON and all that it is doing for us. SWON is a major contributor to the mission and operations of the Thomas More College Library. Our students and faculty benefit greatly from the privilege of reciprocal borrowing and interlibrary loan, as do the other academic and public library patrons whose information needs we are able to meet with our resources.

I do not share the frustration and discontent expressed by some of my counterparts, with either SWON or its leadership. No organization is perfect, but I think that this one continues to serve its membership faithfully and well. On behalf of the Thomas More College community, thank you for everything and keep up the good work.

Jim

Jim McKellogg, Library Director
Thomas More College Library
333 Thomas More Pkwy.
Crestview Hills, KY 41017
(859) 344-3300
(859) 344-3342-FAX
jim.mckellogg@thomasmore.edu

From: *****

Date: June 13, 2010 8:50:16 PM EDT

To: anne@swonlibraries.org

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services

SWON has played a significant role in my professional development since entering the profession as a part-time Reference Librarian in 2005. Initially the organization provided an excellent platform to discuss a variety of issues relating to reference services through an interest group organized by SWON for this purpose. Since becoming a full-time Adult Services Librarian, I continue to benefit from SWON services through my participation in PLAPPN, a network of librarians charged with creating adult programming for their libraries. The group provides a system of support for what can be a very challenging task. We share programming ideas, as well as the successes and failures we have experienced. In addition to the primary services such as PLAPPN, provided on a regular basis, I've also taken advantage of online classes and mini conferences provided by SWON. Each has proved to be of great benefit, enhancing my skills and boosting enthusiasm for my work. While I can't speak for others, I will note that many librarians, support staff, and managers can often be heard talking about a SWON event they have attended. These services contribute to a dialogue that is vital to our libraries. I remain grateful to Anne Abate and the staff at SWON for their hard work and dedication. Please continue to support this work and the valuable services being offered.

Anonymous member

From: Allison Haden <allison1211@fuse.net>
Date: June 13, 2010 9:14:48 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
SWON Libraries Executive Board,

I am writing to express my strong support of SWON Libraries and Anne Abate's role as Executive Director. SWON Libraries has been an important part of my life since the fall of 2003, when I decided to return to school and obtain my MLS at the University of Kentucky.

While in library school, I learned about SWON and the services that it provides for member libraries around the southwest part of the state. I also started hearing Anne's name mentioned frequently as someone "in the know" about the Ohio library world. I had the pleasure of taking two courses from Anne while at UK; two of the most informative and relative courses I took while in library school, I might add. It became clear from our very first meeting that Anne is a natural leader.

I later learned the value of SWON Libraries while searching for my first library jobs right out of school. The networking services that SWON provides, not to mention all of the training courses provided to help librarians stay current in their field, are absolutely invaluable. My relationship with Anne and with SWON helped me to get a valuable internship at Xavier University's library, along with my first "real" library job at Raymond Walters College Library.

My role as the Continuing Education Coordinator at SWON Libraries from August 2007 until April 2008 was an absolutely invaluable and wonderful experience. In this role, I saw firsthand the hard work, planning, knowledge, and drive that goes into providing the services that SWON tirelessly offers. I had always taken advantage of the workshops, networking, etc., but I had never before seen the tireless efforts that the staff puts in to making it all happen. Anne's strong leadership presence as Executive Director is the backbone of SWON's functionality. Anne has an absolutely fundamental role in the SWON Libraries office and as a leader in the greater Ohio library community.

I fully support the future of SWON Libraries and Anne's role as Executive Director. SWON's services must continue to be available to the library community in southwest Ohio, and I can think of no one more qualified, dedicated, and hardworking to lead it than Anne Abate.

Thank you,
Allison Haden

From: "Donald Crews" <emperor@one.net>
Date: June 13, 2010 9:14:44 PM EDT
To: "'Anne K. Abate'" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: **Support and Concern**
Anne

I can not state sufficiently how much I have appreciated your help and good counsel in my career as a librarian. You have offered good advice, shared contacts, made referrals and served as a sounding board for ideas and wild musings. You have created an environment at SWON which brought in high quality staff like Vicky Sweeney. You have induced people like myself to create and teach classes. You have personally maintained a network of people in the library field which you have used in serving the professional and personal needs of the member organizations and their staffs.

SWON, under your leadership, provides and coordinates a large number of classes for the member libraries. It also provides forums and interest groups for almost every possible library staffer, including directors, managers, reference librarians, programmers, catalogers, etc. SWON provides the single best forum for library employment in the greater Cincinnati area.

In short, SWON serves the local library community and continues to do so in a changing world of librarianship.

You are needed and SWON is needed now more than ever.

Kind regards,
Donald I. Crews
Branch Manager - Scheben Branch
Boone County Public Library

From: "nenders@kcu.edu" <nenders@kcu.edu>
Date: June 13, 2010 10:14:22 PM EDT
To: anne@swonlibraries.org
Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You

Dear Anne,

For the past two years I have encountered SWON as I attended FoKAL summits. I have learned a great deal at this conference and I attribute it directly to the job that you and Pat do at these summits. Details such as equipment, material preparation, meals, and environment can easily distract conference attendees. At these conferences I was able to focus on my professional development, networking, current library issues, and explore my ideas and perspectives in this field because details were not something that I had to worry about. Your concern for us and our accomplishment of our goals has been heartwarming and definitely maintains the positive atmosphere throughout the summit.

I am always pleased to receive e-mails about SWON offerings. There are several that I have wanted to take advantage of but have not been able to because of the distance. Our library has gone through several staff changes in the last couple of years. I hired in during August two years ago and am now the library staff member who has been there the longest. I would love to see more offerings via the internet/online courses.

I hope that whatever changes SWON decides to make that they definitely maintain their personnel and the personal relationships that those personnel have with their organizations. That personal touch sets SWON apart. Having a consistent face to face relationship with you and Pat has certainly instilled in me a comfort level that encourages me to take advantage of more SWON offerings in the future.

Blessings,

Naulayne R. Enders
Interim Director
Young Library
Kentucky State University
100 Academic Parkway
Grayson, KY 41143
606-474-3276
nenders@kcu.edu

From: "Nancy McCarthy" <mccarthyn@goshenlocalschools.org>
Date: June 13, 2010 10:17:05 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: [Jobline] **The Future of SWON Libraries Services**

If it wasn't for ROYAL, I would not have the opportunity to build my high school collection. This group has provided so many good books to my library that otherwise I would not be able to afford. The demise of SWON would be a travesty for so many of us who depend on meeting with other librarians and sharing books we have read and current situations in our libraries.

Nancy McCarthy, MLS
High School Librarian
Goshen High School
Goshen, OH

From: "Williams, Sheree H (Jefferson)" <sheree.williams@kctcs.edu>
Date: June 13, 2010 10:17:50 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: SWON and professional development

I am sending this email in support of SWON's continued involvement in offering professional development opportunities for libraries in the region. SWON has been a terrific resource for my library, for SAALCK and for FoKAL. A number of my staff have attended staff development workshops sponsored by SWON and they have always come back energized and excited by what they've learned. I am so comfortable with the quality of the programming that last year we sent a staff member to a staff workshop far enough into Ohio that she had to spend the night. Out of state travel at our institution requires approval by the college president so this was not something I did lightly. We were not disappointed!

Similarly, the PD offerings coordinated by SWON in conjunction with SAALCK have been outstanding. I am looking forward to a leadership conference scheduled for the fall and intend to send a couple of librarians from my institution.

Anne Abate and her staff are professionals who offer high quality, relevant professional development for all levels of library employees. A move of SWON away from professional development delivery would be a loss to libraries and library employees across Ohio and in Kentucky.

Sheree Huber Williams
Professor/Director of Library Services
Jefferson Community and Technical College
Downtown, Carrollton, and Technical Campuses
109 E. Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Voice 502.213.2156; Fax 502.585.4425
sheree.williams@kctcs.edu

Transforming Lives...Transforming Kentucky

From: Kathy Poulton <kgpoulton@gmail.com>
Date: June 13, 2010 11:19:03 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries

Anne, I have to say I have been more than upset by the recent emails. Obviously I can't come to the meeting because I am in Georgia but please feel free to share this email with the Executive Board.

The emails of the last few weeks concerning SWON Libraries have been very disturbing. I have worked with Anne since she came to GCLC and she has lead GCLC and SWON through many difficult times including major budget cuts from the state, the emergence of SWON from GCLC, and a major economic crisis. She has given her salary, her benefits, her time, her knowledge and her energy for the benefit of SWON Libraries.

The decision about delivery was a necessary one. As the former librarian of a consortium that formed because of the GCLC delivery system and as a member of the committee that evaluated the delivery system costs last fall I supported the discontinuation of the service. The cost was more than SWON could rationalize or afford. Believe me I would love to have it back but it is not economically feasible for the small number of libraries that use it. Anne contributed many suggestions on how to continue the service but in a new format but like most libraries in the State of Ohio our group could not afford the alternatives.

Concerning the moving of the offices, that too costs money. ALL aspects need to be considered in an unbiased objective manor. What are the realistic alternatives within the time and monetary constraints.

I think what upset me the most was the questioning of Anne's leadership. If SWON fails it won't be for Anne's lack of trying or lack of leadership. She has been a wealth of ideas to bring money and benefits to the SWON member libraries. As the Executive Director she should be responsible for the day to day activities under the guidance of the Executive Board. As members of the Executive Board it is our responsibility to share our knowledge, experience and guidance with Anne and set policies for the organization.

I pray that cool heads will prevail at the Meeting and a spirit of cooperation will be present. The group needs to look to the future not relive the past. You cannot change what has happened or the financial state of SWON Libraries and you probably cannot rely on what the State will provide in the future. Concentrate on what can be done to make SWON Libraries financially secure and a support to the library community.

Kathy Poulton. former Librarian
Archbishop Moeller High School

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:11:18 -0400

From: Slavinski, Barbara <Barbara.Slavinski@healthall.com>

To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

I don't doubt your leadership. I value your support. May you weather this storm and others which blow through your life in the future.

Let me know how today goes.

Barbara

Subject: Professional development and SWON
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 14:13:12 +0000
From: Newbolt, Denise <denise.newbolt@kenton.kyschools.us>
To: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

SWON library's executive board needs to understand how important the CLEAR group has been to my corner of the Library World.

I have been a member, although inconsistent lately because of my father's illness, of the CLEAR review group that meets at the Campbell County Library in Newport. I have used this review group as a constant source for renewing my knowledge of children's literature. This group has helped me to remain currently involved and informed to take the best of the children's publishing to my students. Simply attending book review groups once a year at a conference does not even come close to the advice and opinions of my colleagues at CLEAR! The books that I review go directly into the elementary library where 650 students have access to current new materials.

When I picked up Bad Kitty Takes a Bath from the SWON review table, I wasn't thrilled about this bizarre looking scraggly beast telling his scratchy tale about taking a cat bath. When I held this story in front of a group of first graders to "test drive" this book, one of my gifted readers crawled up under my knees and exclaimed, "Oh, wow, I love Bad Kitty!" Suddenly I was worth listening to, and that was the biggest reaction that I had received from this child in months.

This episode is only one example of how this program influences book choice and student reading across a large part of Northern Kentucky and Southwestern Ohio. I am sure there are thousands of these little reading "sparklers" spread across your service area.

Thank you for providing this service to me and my students at Kenton Elementary. Although I am retiring from the public school sector, I will finish my subscription year in CLEAR and send the books back to Kenton Elementary in the fall. This group will provide a continuing foundation for me as I seek to tutor struggling students and pursue other possibilities with children's literature.

Denise Newbolt
Kenton Elementary
Independence, Ky.

Subject: RE: [sla-ccin] The Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:18:06 -0400
From: Carol Suhre <csuhre@cclla.org>

To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <LYRIS-4479-15192758-2010.06.12-15.19.35--csuhre#cclla.org@sla.lyris.net>

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN --

Due to finances, we did not become a member of SWON but we have had the opportunity to "tap" into the ways in which that organization, and especially its Director, have helped libraries throughout the region. There is a definite need for SWON as librarians and library staff -- new to the profession, long-time practitioner, even volunteers -- can utilize their programs and their expertise. When a question or concern is raised, it is always consistently answered in a timely, honest manner. There needs to be a person who is known for their outreach to others, who has experience themselves, and who had the best interest of librarians of all types, at heart. This is Anne Abate. She is selfless and works tirelessly for ALL libraries of ALL types. This is a need for a full-time person of this type and a brick and mortar location. Anne knows there is a need for all kinds of information, and she finds a way to provide it whether the library is public or special. She is civil, calm, and non-judgmental. Since being at SWON, Anne has been open to developing relationships and working side-by-side with people who use its services. It's not about knowing all about the subject, but having a sense of the general way things need to work. As the Director of the Clermont County Law Library for 27 years, I have had the occasion to hear Anne speak at a number of management conferences that have given me effective ways to become more successful. Her perspectives have increased the potential productivity for many in the profession. It is my opinion that she is very valuable to SWON.

Carol A. Suhre
Director, Clermont County Law Library
270 E. Main St.
Batavia, OH 45103

Subject: SWON
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:21:15 -0400
From: Ginny <bridgegi@oplin.org>
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Anne,

Just a note to let you know how much I appreciate SWON and the learning opportunities it offers our library staff. My staff and I particularly like to participate in the webinars offered frequently. The webinars address topics pertinent to our our daily operations and are very convenient and cost effective. We also like the opportunity to chat with colleagues from other area libraries to brainstorm, share ideas and best practices and, sometimes, just vent to someone who understands the challenges we face.

We also appreciate the opportunity to attend seminars at the SWON

facility in Sharonville/Blue Ash. The facility is very comfortable, easy to access, and functional for small-to-medium groups. The SWON staff is always very hospitable and accommodating. The location allows us to participate in conferences and presentations that we would not be able to attend if they were in Columbus, or other distant locations.

We fully support the functions of SWON and we appreciate their role in serving local area libraries. Please let us know how we may help in keeping SWON available as our resource sharing organization.

Sincerely,
Ginny Bridges
The Brown County Public Library - Sardinia
13309 Purdy Rd
Sardinia, OH 45171
937.446.1565
bridgegi@oplin.org <<mailto:bridgegi@oplin.org>>

Subject: SWON services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:09:10 -0400
From: Slavinski, Barbara <Barbara.Slavinski@healthall.com>
To: 'anne@swonlibraries.org' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Good morning Anne and others,

In the last year, I have found the activities of SWON to be useful and supportive. I enjoy attending the technology updates with Glen. He compiles the latest news which I don't run into in my own circle of activities. I get a chance to listen in and interact with people on-line that I never meet in person. SWON helps me keep in touch with a community of other librarians. As a solo librarian, I have a somewhat ambiguous situation and am my own director, I guess. It's helpful to be able to listen in to other's experiences. I also appreciate the job-line listings. You can never tell what the future holds. I may need those job line listings someday.

I would use more of the at-your-desk opportunities to learn technology, management, or interpersonal relations. I like hearing what others are doing to handle daily challenges.

Best of luck with your deliberations.

Barbara Slavinski MLS

Drake Medical research and Consumer Library Mgr

Drake Center

151 West Galbraith Rd

Cincinnati Ohio 45216

513-418-2684

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:20:35 -0400
From: Cummings, Marge <mcummings@ccbhc.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

References: 4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org

Anne,

It was great to see you last week at the FoKAL summit. I want to thank you for the great job you do in making the arrangements and keeping everything running smoothly.

I was able to attend the training workshop at ECU hosted by SWON in October, 2009. It was very beneficial. I wish all our teaching faculty could have attended as well. I hope there will be more such workshops in the future.

Thanks,
Marge Cummins

Marge Cummings
Director of Library Services
Brooks Memorial Library
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977
Phone 606-337-1407
Email mcummings@ccbbs.edu

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:55:37 -0400
From: mangerta@ucrwc.rwc.uc.edu
To: Anne K. Abate anne@swonlibraries.org
References: 4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org

Hello Anne,

My name is Tammy Manger and I am the Circulation Manager here at Raymond Walters College Library. I'm writing to let you know that I strongly support the efforts of SWON. I have thoroughly enjoyed the Staff Symposium's that are offered along with all of the classes that I have attended. I look forward to seeing the list of classes that are offered and have always walked away with knowledge that can be applied in some way to my job.

Thank you for all you do,

Tammy Manger

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:46:29 -0400
From: Karen Beierlein <kbeierlein@bcpl.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

I have worked for Boone County Public Library for 10 years and have attended several workshops that SWON has provided. I can truthfully say that the majority of them were very insightful and informative. I would like to see SWON continue to provide these services in the future. However, I believe that you should utilize more of the talent that we have within the SWON network for speakers, instead of paying more money for outside speakers. I'm sure there are many members who could teach great customer service better than some of the speakers you have provided that have no library experience or it was so long ago that they are not current with the changes in public libraries. I'm sure this is a way to save on expenses.

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:50:28 -0400
From: Sandy Sumner <sumnersandy@gmail.com>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Anne and the Executive Board of SWON Libraries,

SWON Libraries has been an excellent resource to me over the past three or four years since I discovered them. I have had the opportunity to attend several workshops that were of benefit to me; attend meetings with professional colleagues that helped provide ideas and advice to my position; I helped present at a workshop - which helped me develop professionally in my career; and I recommend workshops to the staff I supervise now. SWON is willing to work with the economic times and struggling librarians to provide a needed service for all librarians. SWON has always been of help to me professionally as a librarian. I encourage others to utilize its services and wish that I had the money and time to be more involved with their activities. It is my belief that SWON is providing excellent services to its service area and I hope that it can continue to do so.

Thank you.

Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:51:36 -0400
From: Emily Cullen <cullen.meredith@gmail.com>
To: Anne Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>
<AAANLkTinwZZ_oMvcm0B3WZBRIm4kYAFj116OfWDHFh1P4@mail.gmail.com>
<04A12881-1C00-494C-AB97-16C86792E48A@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

I am always happy to help you in any way I can. You have really been a wonderful mentor and person I truly admire. Please find my statement below. I really hope it goes well at the meeting today. I wish I could be there, but I don't have my assistant on Mondays. Please let me know if I should add anything to my statement or can be of further assistance.

Good luck and I'll see you tonight for stock club!

-Emily

To members of the SWON Libraries Executive Board:

I wanted to take a moment to write about Anne Abate and how she has, and continues to be, a mentor to me. I was lucky to have an internship at SWON libraries and was introduced to a side of librarianship that couldn't be taught in a traditional classroom. I had an insider's view of how librarians connect to one another in their professional lives. SWON provided libraries and librarians with an outlet to connect, collaborate, and explore new ideas. Heading this effort is a woman who has made a passionate commitment to her colleagues, and her profession.

Anne has always been someone who has been in full support of my career and future educational plans. She provided me with valuable direction and advice, both professionally and personally. For her support, I will always be grateful.

The SWON Libraries staff is always seeking new and unique ways to connect to the ever changing library profession. I've had the opportunity to attend library interest groups which give library professionals a forum to discuss different perspectives and approaches uniquely suited to their library type. Additionally, I was asked if I would be interested in participating in a new interest group seeking to fit the needs of librarians working in small or solo staffed institutions. I look forward to meeting with this interesting group of professionals.

I am lucky to have Anne as a mentor and a friend. She is a woman who has my greatest respect and admiration for being a strong leader, knowledgeable librarian, and caring friend.

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:29:51 -0400
From: Jamie
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

I have used the job listserv provided by SWON libraries for years. I am not currently working in a library, so the job announcements have kept me aware of the job market, and the information provided in them has allowed me to see the expected qualifications, salary, and benefits for each job posted. I have looked on other job listing sites, and SWON always has those listings, also, so that I now just rely on it for my job searching.

I hope this helps. Please just include my first name with the comments.

Thanks,
Jamie

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:27:22 -0400
From: Randolph, Mari <Mari.Randolph@cincinnati.library.org>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hello,

I am writing to express to you what SWON Libraries has done for me. As a professional trying to get back in the loop after many years being a stay-at-home mom it has been invaluable. The job postings made it so much easier for me when I was looking for a position.

Professionally, SWON has provided me with a place to share ideas and grow in my profession as a Teen Librarian. I am always encouraged by my manager to attend relevant programs that SWON offers. It is valuable time spent with colleagues who have similar interests. Not all of us have the chance to attend big conferences - SWON provides us with easy, practical and meaningful programs that connect all of us and make us better professionals.

I'm grateful to SWON for allowing me to explore my niche of the library world. In this fast pace, everchanging world it's so nice to belong to a group that provides me with so many different resources.

Thanks SWON, keep up the great work!

Mari Randolph

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:23:36 -0400
From: ANONYMOUS MEMBER DIRECTOR
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

My library is in a part of the state that had originally been covered by the now defunct SWORL. We are part of Miami Valley Libraries (MVL) that provides good programs and good interaction between libraries. That being said, we find great value in the programs and user groups sponsored by SWON. The tech offerings from Glenn help us stay up to date on trends in technology that my small staff does not have time to search out independently. The programs supplied by SWON for youth services have been beneficial to my staff serving children and teens. The user group for genealogical services has been helpful to all of my staff in giving us good ideas on how to better serve patrons looking for local history and genealogy. The programs geared toward circulation and front desk staff have been beneficial in helping us understand what our patrons need and to handle the stresses that come from serving patrons with diverse needs.

We do not participate in the document delivery program sponsored by SWON since we participate in document delivery from Cargo Express through the State Library. This core service from SWON is simply one that we do not feel we need.

Our expectations for our regional library consortium are being met. The cost is realistic for the services we are receiving and for what we want, which is primarily continuing education and an opportunity to interact with other people in the library world. The location of the office is close enough that staff can attend meetings, workshops, and user group meetings without having to spend an entire day away from the library.

Anne - I do not feel comfortable having my name given out since this seems to have become such a volatile meeting. Please use my comments but not my name.

My one thought is that it might be time to reconsider the scope of the type of libraries served by the consortium, and the geographic area that is included. Are we spreading our service area too thin?

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:36:09 -0400
From: Strait, Constance <CStrait@gcpl.lib.oh.us>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

As far as cataloging and technical services goes, SWON has provided some helpful continuing education such as RDA updates and the Catalogers' Interest Group quarterly meetings. We are not, however, a member library in part because of SWON's fee structure. Maybe that could be addressed at the meeting.

Best,
Connie

Connie Strait
Head of Technical Services
Greene County Public Library
503 Kinsey Road
Xenia OH 45385
Tel: 937-352-4007 Ext. 6301
Fax: 937-374-7967
cstrait@gcpl.lib.oh.us

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 13:28:26 +0000
From: Lacy, Maryann V. (LNG-DAY) <maryann.lacy@lexisnexis.com>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Hello Anne,

I would like to thank you and your staff for all the excellent work you do for the library communities in your region. I especially find the Spring and Fall Support Staff Symposiums valuable, not only for learning, but also for interacting and networking with my peers from other libraries. You are one source for library related education and information, including your jobline service, as well as announcements from member libraries. Your staff is pleasant, knowledgeable, and always helpful when I call or email.

Keep up the good work. I look forward to participating in many more of your offerings!

Maryann Lacy
Information Assistant
Technical Library
GAR iLabs
technical.library@lexisnexis.com
937-865-6800 x54435

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:28:41 -0400
From: Lois Hamill <hamill11@nku.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

14 Jun 2010

Good Morning Anne,

SWON has been helpful in providing high quality training at an affordable price. In a time when travel budgets among other expenses have been cut, SWON has been able to provide training which did not require attendees to even leave their office.

As a co-director of a KY state grant [federal regrant] to digitize one of our archival collections, we relied on SWON offerings to develop a set of 4 trainings to prepare the committee before it started work.

I have attended sessions on digitization at my national conference [Society of American Archivists] for years now as well as the NEDCC intensive 3 day School for Scanning. I was pleasantly pleased with the quality of the SWON training we received.

I also attended the recent SWON program at the Erlanger Library on Leadership presented by Linda Bruno. I thought this was an excellent program.

I think the loss of such training opportunities would be to the detriment of library personnel in the region.

Lois Hamill, C.A.
University Archivist
106A Steely Library
Northern Kentucky University
Highland Heights, KY 41099
Phone(859)572-5863
email hamill11@nku.edu

Subject: RE: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:30:20 -0400
From: Wilkins, Susan <suwilkins@aii.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

I will probably not be able to attend (although I'll try) but I've been very satisfied with the programs and services provided by SWON. I miss the delivery service but understand that many budgets have been drastically cut (my own included) and, as a result, services need to be cut back or eliminated.

I run a very small library but have always felt that my voice has been heard.

Susan

Susan Kester Wilkins
Director of Library Services
The Art Institute of Ohio - Cincinnati
8845 Governors Hill Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45249
(513) 833-2429
www.artinstitutes.edu/Cincinnati

Subject: SWON support
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:13:34 -0400
From: Chris Einhaus <Chris.Einhaus@kentonlibrary.org>
To: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

I work at the Kenton County Public Library and have attended many of the Support Staff Symposiums especially those very close to Northern Kentucky. They are always fun and informative and the symposium staff always work so hard to make the event a success.

chris Einhaus
Acquisitions Clerk
Kenton County Public Library
www.kentonlibrary.org

Subject: FW: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:14:57 -0400
From: Perry Bratcher <bratcher@nku.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
CC: Arne Almquist <almquista@nku.edu>

Anne - It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for SWON libraries. The organization provides educational support for both me and the staff of Northern Kentucky University's W. Frank Steely Library that would otherwise be unavailable. In my role as Library Systems Manager, I am particularly appreciative of the educational support provided, and especially by the work of Glen Horton.

SWON has provided affordable workshops for staff that otherwise would not be available. In particular, we had 12 staff members attend two online workshops this past spring. We used an in-house evaluation form for these workshops and found that ratings were high. Most of the attendees were paraprofessionals, whose travel budget is limited, and this provided an opportunity for them to participate. I also know that several members of our staff are active in the SWON Staff Interest Group.

Personally, I've also attended SWON Tech Service Interest Group meetings and find them valuable. I also attend Glen's "Tech News You Can Use" online updates and use that information to update my knowledge. As a former Chair of the Kentucky Library Association Information Technology Roundtable, I have used Glen as our featured speaker, and I know that he has also presented regularly at other KLA conventions. He is always well received and gets very positive comments on his presentations.

In short, SWON provides a valuable service to both me, and to Steely Library. I am pleased with the level of notification and support I receive from the organization. If I can be of further assistance, feel free to contact me.

Perry

Perry Bratcher
Professor of Library Services/Library Systems Manager
503A Steely Library
Northern Kentucky University
Highland Heights, KY 41099
859-572-6309

Subject: Support

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 13:24:41 +0000

From: Burgett, Shelley J (Somerset) <shelly.burgett@kctcs.edu>

To: executive@swonlibraries.org <executive@swonlibraries.org>

CC: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Greetings:

Please accept this email in strong support of the mission of SWON libraries. As a director of a Kentucky Library I have attended a number of activities organized and/or sponsored by this organization most recently the meeting the of Kentucky academic libraries group, FoKAL. As expected this meeting was well-organized and executed and proved to be beneficial to me and the library I serve. I have also attended training sessions offered by SWON both online and in person and am able to offer praise of both the content and quality of the sessions. I have encouraged my staff to take advantage of the professional development opportunities offered by this group and will continue to do so. In closing, let me say that this organization has a track record of providing excellent service to the libraries and librarians it serves. It is a valuable resource.

Shelley Burgett

Shelley Wood Burgett

Professor / Director of Library Service

Somerset Community College

808 Monticello St.

Somerset, KY 42501

606 451-6711

Subject: RE: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:52:56 -0400
From: Lisa Einhaus <Lisa.Einhaus@kentonlibrary.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

I truly appreciate the support that SWON provides for library support staff. The Support Staff Symposium is something I look forward to every year and has certainly had a positive impact in my own career development. The library profession as a whole benefits immensely from SWON's offerings, from online information sessions to just simply knowing there is an organization we can count to provide vital support for our profession.

Sincerely,
Lisa Einhaus

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:55:45 -0400
From: Susan Kremer <seeklists@gmail.com>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

Hello Anne,

Not only is this service important to me in my job search, but I would think it would be an important resource for member libraries and other participating libraries to quickly reach a qualified group of applicants for their open positions. I hope you will continue this service.

Thank you.

Susan

Subject: RE: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:59:43 -0400
From: McCabe, Tim <mccabe@xavier.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
CC: McCabe, Tim <mccabe@xavier.edu>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

SWON has been and continues to be a valuable resource to me. It has provided opportunities in professional development from which I have benefited (Case in point: the Digital Audio Workshop given at the Boone County Public Library in May, 2009).

I also regularly view the SWON job postings to see what might be available (not so much for myself, but for others who are looking).

Last of all SWON does provide a means to network with other local professionals who are addressing the same challenges as myself.

Thank you for your leadership and for the important role that SWON fulfills!

Tim McCabe
Archives Librarian
Xavier University Library
(mccabe@xavier.edu)

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:01:15 -0400
From: Maria Vega <vegama@oplin.org>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

I wanted to write to let you know that SWON is important to me for two big reasons. The first is because of professional development and training. Due to the current budget crisis, my library has very limited funds for training and travel to attend courses. I have to pay my own way to attend most professional development. I am grateful to SWON because it has allowed me to stay close to home, with sessions in Greenville or Dayton. I wouldn't have been able to attend a YA/Teen Summer Reading workshop without SWON.

Secondly, as a member of the OLSSI planning committee, I appreciate SWON for allowing us to use your services. Our conference would literally not be possible without your assistance.

SWON has many activities that I participate in, including the Teen Reading Challenge, where I got hundreds of wonderful reviews of books from lots of great librarians.

Thanks for all of the important work you do.

Maria Vega

Information and Teen Programming Coordinator
Piqua Public Library

Subject: Note to the Executive Board
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:08:40 -0400
From: Melanie Sperling <msperling@bcpl.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Executive Board,

This has to be brief as I am on duty but here goes:

Twice in the past nine months SWON has brought Diane Kovacs, noted author and instructor, to our area to teach affordable, informative classes. I learned more in each of those days than I have in some semester long graduate level courses ... and I can even use the time spent in these classes toward my certification in Kentucky!

I love SWON very, very much!

Melanie D. Sperling
Reference Librarian/Volunteer Coordinator
Boone County Public Library
1786 Burlington Pike
Burlington, KY 41005
859-342-2665 ext. 8110
fax: 859-689-0435

Subject: The Future of SWON Libraries

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:43:11 -0400

From: Mary Jenkins <MJenkins@cms.hamilton-co.org>

To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

References:

<LYRIS-52392-15192758-2010.06.12-15.19.35--MJenkins#cms.hamilton-co.org@sla.lyris.net>

Dear Anne and the Board of Trustees of SWON,

Please consider my comments on the value of SWON libraries to my own library and to the region. As the head of the Ohio Law Library Consortium, former chair of the NH College & University Consortium, and incoming member of the statewide consortium of county law library resources boards, and as a long-time library director with a commitment to professional engagement and development for me and my staff, I urge you to consider the importance of the collective and of a regional resource like SWON to local libraries, particularly those non-academics that don't have access to OhioLink.

/Professional Connections:/ Through its listservs, training sessions, job connections, meetings, interest groups, connections with the local SLA chapter and other regional organizations, and other events, SWON is a critically important resource for librarians and library staff in the area. We connect across library types via SWON to discuss, share information, announce events, and find jobs and employees.

/Training/Professional Development:/ SWON's array of programming makes SWON an essential provider of library-related training in the region. My staff and I value the training sessions available at SWON. We can afford them and don't have to invest an extra \$100 to travel to Columbus, for example. In fact, as a nonmember library, I would be happy to pay a higher rate than we do now for most programming. It's a steal, particularly given the range and the quality. There are many ways to get training, but few that are local, affordable, and library-oriented.

/Interlibrary delivery:/ Even in this age of electronic delivery for so much of the information our users need, interlibrary loan/book delivery remains a vital service for libraries outside of the OhioLink circle. If delivery is a service for which you're considering elimination, I hope you will discuss this with member libraries and find another more cost-efficient delivery model or a reduced schedule if needed.

Finally, I suggest that SWON engage all libraries in the region in a brief study to determine what services and resources are needed, even beyond the current membership of SWON.

I wish you well in your strategic planning and implementation and I encourage you to carefully consider the long-term impact of reductions

in programming and services to an organization that is committed to providing excellent services. In financially challenging times, the power of consortia and service organizations tends to be needed more than ever by members.

Cordially,

Mary Jenkins
Director & Law Librarian
Hamilton County Law Library
1000 Main Street, Room 601 Cincinnati, OH 45202
Main 513.946.5300 | Fax 513.946.5252
IM & Skype: jenkinscinci

Subject: RE: [sla-ccin] The Future of SWON Libraries

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:41:55 -0400

From: Starbuck, Edith (starbuem) <STARBUEM@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>

To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

References: <LYRIS-4505-15192758-2010.06.12-15.19.35--starbuem#ucmail.uc.edu@sla.lyris.net>

To Whom It May Concern:

SWON, and before it GCLC has been an important resource to me over the years. I can count on SWON to be on the cutting edge of technology and other pertinent topics for area librarians. I think of SWON as sort of a clearinghouse for local librarians; a place to network, to find mentors, to ask colleagues for help, to learn new things or to share tips. SWON is generous about sharing their facilities with other organizations as well. I have relied on SWON in all these ways over the years. SWON has always encouraged member input, ideas, participation, and has been very receptive to suggestions. When Anne Abate became the director of SWON, I was very pleased. Anne is a strong vibrant leader and a huge believer in supporting libraries and librarians in their mission to provide excellent service regardless of diminishing resources.

Over the past year, I have not had the luxury of participating in many of the programs that SWON offers. This is due to several things; one is that frequently there are schedule conflicts, another is that with fewer staff in my department, it is far more difficult to take time away from work, and another is that in these difficult economic times, there is less funding available for continuing education. I do like seeing that SWON is offering many more opportunities to attend sessions online from my desk. I hope to be able to take more advantage of these online opportunities in the future.

In summary, SWON is a valuable resource for me and other area librarians. It is a flexible and nimble organization under the leadership of Anne Abate. I don't know another leader who could have dealt with the economic down turn as well as she has. In these difficult times, it's important to give SWON and Anne the support and the opportunity to keep making a difference for southwest Ohio and neighboring librarians.

Sincerely,

Edith Starbuck, Librarian and SWON Member
University of Cincinnati Health Sciences Library

Subject: RE: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 14:39:48 +0000
From: *****
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140B79.2050200@swonlibraries.org>

Anonymous, please.

The Southern Ohio library profession as a whole needs a consortium of like-minded professionals to keep the intellectual soil turned and fertilized, if you will. This will help keep the garden of libraries vibrant and blooming with new ideas, new programs, and new services. Thank you.

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:37:43 -0400
From: Ignatius, Elaine (ignatiem) <IGNATIEM@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

There are few training options available to technical staff. I have attended several at the SWON facility in the past few years and they have always been informative.

In addition to the chance to learn new skills directly related to our library work, they supply an opportunity for informal collegial exchange that often can give insight on solutions and ideas in a broader sense.

Elaine Ignatius

Subject: SWON's help over the years
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 07:15:40 -0400
From: Ruth Coyle <Ruth.Coyle@kentonlibrary.org>
To: anne@swonlibraries.org <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

SWON has been very helpful to me and my staff. I am the only MLS Cataloger at my library now and I appreciate being able to attend the Tech Services Interest Group meetings where I can find other Catalogers facing the same challenges and changes that I am facing. The sessions on FRBR and RDA have been invaluable. My staff enjoy attending the SWON support staff symposiums and always come back with new and interesting ideas. SWON also held a book repair/mending workshop that we desperately needed. My processing clerk learned a great deal from that workshop and has repaired almost 500 books since attending. My staff and I are very lucky to have SWON so close by. Thanks for all your help!

--

Anne K. Abate, Ph.D. Executive Director
SWON Libraries
(serving Southwest Ohio and Neighboring Libraries)
10815 Indeco Drive, Suite 200
Cincinnati, OH 45241-2926
anne@swonlibraries.org
Voice 513-751-4422
Fax 513-751-0463
www.swonlibraries.org

Subject: FW: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 07:39:13 -0400
From: Rosanne Rawe <rrawe@nku.edu>
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

I live and work in Northern Kentucky. Over the years SWON Library Services has been the only consistent source of pertinent professional development for library assistants. I will miss the professional presentations that SWON provides.

Rosanne Rawe
Northern Kentucky University
Steely Library
Acquisitions/Serials Assistant

Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 05:17:44 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jack O'Gorman <ogorman_jack@yahoo.com>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

Hi, how are you? I am unaware of what members have stated about your leadership of SWON. I do not think that a few negative comments should derail the excellent programs and support that SWON gives to tristate libraries. I have attended several professional development events at SWON and have experienced good benefits from those programs. I have also relied upon SWON for regional information and for technology ideas.

Keep up the good work!

Jack O'Gorman
Reference Librarian
University of Dayton

Subject: SWON Professional Development
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:37:03 -0400
From: Hunter, Nancy (hunternl) <HUNTERNL@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>
To: 'anne@swonlibraries.org' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

To whom it may concern,

I feel so fortunate to be a part of SWON. They provide 2 professional development symposia every year for library staff. The committee that organizes them works tirelessly to ensure that a well planned event is available. From the speakers, location, food, door prizes , etc, nothing is overlooked. Everyone is welcomed and made to feel at ease. The programs are always relevant , interesting, and educational. I know I leave knowing so much more than when I walked in. The symposia are also a wonderful way to network. It is so nice to put a face with a name.

I think that SWON is doing an excellent job of providing the needs of its members.

Nancy

Nancy Hunter

Library Associate

Clermont College Library

U.C. Clermont College

4200 Clermont College Drive

Subject: Monday meeting
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:43:24 -0400
From: Carol Bredemeyer <bredemeyer@nku.edu>
To: Anne Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne – I just wanted to write and emphasize how important SWON Libraries is to libraries in this area. I have attended SWON training programs and so have most of our staff. SWON fills a need for local programming for library staff that is not offered by any other library organization. SWON also provides training specifically geared to paraprofessional staff that is not offered by any other organization.

Many of the member libraries do not have money to send their staff members to conferences and SWON Libraries is their only source for training. For as long as I have worked in libraries, GCLC AND SWON Libraries have been there providing training and networking opportunities. They are an invaluable resource for libraries and librarians.

*CAROL BREDEMEYER***

ASST. DIR. FOR FACULTY SERVICES

CHASE COLLEGE OF LAW LIBRARY

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

NUNN DRIVE

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KY 41099-6110

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 08:44:18 -0400
From: Roedig, Linda (roedigla) <roedigla@ucmail.uc.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Good morning Anne,

SWON libraries and the Clear program has been instrumental in helping our library grow. Our school is small but has very little funds to improve our library, which is so critical in the growth of our young children. I volunteer at the school, although I am employed by the University of Cincinnati. Joining the group has been a major advantage not only to myself by getting to meet people from many different schools and sharing ideas, but for St. Augustine School's faculty, staff and students. We have become enriched because of this kind of program. These children are our future and isn't that what it's all about. I will always remain grateful and indebted to SWON Libraries.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Linda L. Roedig
Program Coordinator, CSD Clinic
Communication Sciences and Disorders
College of Allied Health Sciences, University of Cincinnati
Hastings and Williams French Building
3202 Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0379
Phone 513-558-8503
Fax 513-558-8988
linda.roedig@uc.edu
www.uc.edu/csd

Subject: SWON and SSCC
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:51:21 -0400
From: Louis Mays <lmays@sscc.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

I polled our staff and the support staff symposium is the most popular with them. We have been meaning to take advantage of your offer to provide a web site for registration for SSCC staff development events, but we are so swamped with the day-to-day, we have not had the time to schedule anything.

SWON provides several staff development events that are of interest to non-library staff at SSCC. This has been a big plus for us. We also enjoy Glenn's Tech News webinars, which keep us updated on events in technology.

I do believe SWON leans heavily toward public libraries and sometimes I feel academic libraries are left out of the loop. My main concern, however, is that SWON is not reaching out to the poor rural public school districts, which have either eliminated or greatly reduced school library staff and services. We will continue to use other higher education avenues for staff development, including OhioLINK.

We will continue our membership for the immediate future, but if our enrollment takes a dive, so will our budget. If that happens, our membership may not continue.

I hope you have a very productive meeting, and look forward to the outcome.

Louis E. Mays

Professor/Librarian

(800) 628.7722 (Ohio only)

(937) 695-0307 Ext. 3580

(937) 695-8093 (fax)

sscc

Subject: The important value of SWON's professional development opportunities

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:48:59 -0400

From: *****

To: 'anne@swonlibraries.org' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

With short notice, I've decided to ask you to keep my letter below anonymous. With more time, I would want to run this by my manager, to be sure that she would approve my representation of PLCH, but I am fine with you using my letter as anonymous. Good luck, and I am always thinking of you, Anonymous

Subject: Support for SWON
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 09:31:23 -0400
From: harmonse@ucrwcu.rwc.uc.edu
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hello Anne,

I was very distressed to read this email about some members questioning your leadership. You have done an outstanding job as the director in leading this organization through a number of significant changes beginning with your assumption of the directorship after the disastrous era of Michael McCoy. You turned things around very quickly and reached out to the then GCLC community to assure all members that the organization was strong. And when GCLC became SWON you made sure that all voices were heard and gathered an excellent group of members to write the new bylaws that would ensure equitable participation among all the members and address the diverse needs and the challenges of meeting those needs across a larger geographic area.

I know from personal experience how receptive you are to new ideas. One example that immediately comes to mind was the creation of a new interest group, Cincinnati Ethnic Librarians and Staff. When one of the RWC Librarians spoke to me about the need for such a group I had suggested that she contact you and you immediately endorsed and supported the establishment of this group. CELS hit the ground running and started working on a project with the Withrow High School Library, getting alumni involved in reviewing and updating the resources. Without your support for CELS, such a project would likely never have been accomplished.

When I have attended a number of state-wide meetings, I hear many positive comments from librarians about the quality of services and programs that SWON provides. You also came to the rescue when ALAO needed a new fiscal agent last summer due to the restructuring of the Ohio College Association and subsequent elimination of the office and staff. The transition was seamless and what is more, was accomplished very quickly due to the upcoming ALAO annual conference in October. The ALAO Board (of which I am a member) was very pleased with the transition and the service that SWON is providing as the fiscal agent. I was also pleased with the support you provided to me as the ALAO chair of the Professional Development Committee when conducting the blind review of applicants. You enabled the committee to complete its work very efficiently. And your feedback on the process, since this was the first time we asked your office for support, was invaluable. I have integrated several of your suggestions into the committee's procedures for the future.

SWON is also known for the quality and quantity of outstanding professional development activities and programs. There literally is

something for everyone and I can say that all of the programs I have attended have been excellent in the 16 years that I have been involved with GCLC/SWON.

In addition to your leadership, you also have an outstanding staff. Glen is truly amazing in all that he knows about technology, but even more importantly, he is able to provide support to any and all members who need it and keeps everyone informed of upcoming trends in technology. Furthermore, he is recognized at the state-level for his expertise. The office staff--Rhea , Pat and Jenny, also are wonderful to work with. And of course, Vicky, the Continuing Education Coordinator, and her predecessors, have done an excellent job in organizing and providing the incredible array of professional development programs.

Balancing the needs of such a diverse and large group of members is never easy, but I think you have done an excellent job. You listen, you reach-out and seek input and you and all of the SWON staff have done an outstanding job in informing the members of all of SWONS's operations, issues, services and programs.

If there is anything more that I can do to demonstrate support for you and the SWON staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Stephena

Stephena E. Harmony, MSLS
Associate Senior Librarian
University of Cincinnati
Raymond Walters College Library
9555 Plainfield Road
Blue Ash, OH 45236-1096
513-936-1547
stephena.harmony@uc.edu

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:54:43 -0400
From: Amanda Hopper <ahopper@bcpl.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been working in the library field for approximately 6 years. While I have my Masters in Library Science, there are so many tasks and issues that occur on a daily basis that are not addressed in a classroom. It is essential to library professionals and paraprofessionals to stay current in the library world and continue to gain knowledge about best practices. The Southwest Ohio Network offers such wonderful professional development opportunities for the Cincinnati area. I have attended the Picturebook Read-In since 2008, Better Weeders Attract More Readers in 2009, Lessons in Leadership in 2010, just to name a few. The trainings have helped within every stage of my career and have helped me excel. It is easy to register for courses and all the trainings are given at reasonable prices. Every training I have attended through SWON has been beneficial to the development of my career and my service to my community. Anne and her staff offer timely, professional, and encouraging trainings that are helpful to so many people in the library world. They are an essential piece to the libraries in this area and it would be to every one's detriment were they not able to offer the services that everyone so crucially needs.

Thank you,
Amanda Hopper

Amanda Hopper
Youth Services Manager
Boone County Public Library
Scheben Branch
8899 U.S. 42
Union, KY 41091
Phone: 859-342-2665 x8207

Subject: SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:05:32 -0400
From: Brenda Clark <Brenda.Clark@kentonlibrary.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
CC: Dave Schroeder <Dave.Schroeder@kentonlibrary.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Anne,

Just a quick note to lend my support for SWON and the training (along with everything else) it provides. I've attended assorted classes over the years and even presented a couple of years ago. Your staff is always willing to listen to suggestions and will actually base many of your presentations on those ideas. Finding classes and workshops to help keep my state certification up to standards isn't always easy for me but SWON frequently has something new to offer.

I currently belong to PLAPPN. The members of this group are just amazing. We're always willing to help one another out with program ideas and performer contacts. The performer database is one of my favorite sites to use. I can easily look for specific ideas or just browse. One of the recent PLAPPN chairs (Venus Moose) headed a clean-up project. All the performers were contacted to verify their information and availability. This resulted in a bonus of adding many new names to the site.

Last but not least, I appreciate the fact that SWON's office staff will travel to various locations for meetings and trainings. No matter where you chose to have an event, it's always going to be a longer distance for someone in the group. It's nice to see that steps have been taken so it doesn't always have to be people from the same areas.

Brenda J. Clark
Adult Program Assistant
William E. Durr Branch
Kenton County Public Library
1992 Walton-Nicholson Road
Independence, Kentucky 41051
859-962-4030 ext. 4371
Fax 859-962-4037
Brenda.Clark@kentonlibrary.org
www.kentonlibrary.org

Subject: SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 10:58:48 -0400
From: Moon, Melanie <mmoon@brownmackie.edu>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

SWON Libraries provides the most affordable professional development I can find for myself and my staff. The sessions are informative and accessible. I am a member of the Technical interest group and the recently formed Small and Solo libraries interest group. I have found the staff to be friendly, knowledgeable and extremely helpful. I can e-mail any of them at any time and receive a prompt response addressing my question or concern.

I feel that SWON personnel have bent over backwards to keep us all informed and in the library loop. I am grateful that SWON Libraries is there for us.

Melanie R. Moon M Ed., MSLS, LMS

Librarian

Brown Mackie College

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:09:12 -0400
From: Barb Dawson <BDawson@cincymuseum.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

The Cincinnati Historical Society Library has been a member of SWON and its predecessor, GCLC, since its inception. As a non-circulating research library, the exchange of materials was never a factor in joining. Our motivation was networking with other libraries and continuing education. SWON has continued these aspects satisfactorily. Our library has also utilized the technical expertise of Glen through the years and been very satisfied with the result.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Dawson
Cincinnati Historical Society Library
Cincinnati Museum Center
1301 Western Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45203
(513) 287-7098

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Sun, 13 Jun 2010 20:50:16 EDT
From: MISUARNO@aol.com
To: anne@swonlibraries.org

SWON has played a significant role in my professional development since entering the profession as a part-time Reference Librarian in 2005. Initially the organization provided an excellent platform to discuss a variety of issues relating to reference services through an interest group organized by SWON for this purpose. Since becoming a full-time Adult Services Librarian, I continue to benefit from SWON services through my participation in PLAPPN, a network of librarians charged with creating adult programming for their libraries. The group provides a system of support for what can be a very challenging task. We share programming ideas, as well as the successes and failures we have experienced. In addition to the primary services such as PLAPPN, provided on a regular basis, I've also taken advantage of online classes and mini conferences provided by SWON. Each has proved to be of great benefit, enhancing my skills and boosting enthusiasm for my work. While I can't speak for others, I will note that many librarians, support staff, and managers can often be heard talking about a SWON event they have attended. These services contribute to a dialogue that is vital to our libraries. I remain grateful to Anne Abate and the staff at SWON for their hard work and dedication. Please continue to support this work and the valuable services being offered.

Janet Arno
Adult Services Librarian
Campbell County (Kentucky) Public Library
Cold Spring Branch
jarno@cc-pl.org <<mailto:jarno@cc-pl.org>> - 859.781.6166, x28

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:15:31 -0400
From: Linda/Jay Barkey <barkey.jl@gmail.com>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

There have been several professional development programs that I have participated in the past. For me, the ones dealing with leadership and technology training have been invaluable to me. It has been especially helpful for these to be delivered online. It is so much easier to schedule an hour or two at me desk than the better part of a day required to travel some where from Adams County.

For my staff, the current training issues I am trying to get the staff to participate in are customer service and working with other people, including other staff. Again, online training is the best for our district. I would also like to see some of the Summer Reading Program trainings and sharing delivered online.

The regional libraries are the best source for this delivery. It is nice that we have reciprocal agreements with other regional libraries so that we may take advantage of their training topics also.

I wish directors would take some time to really consider all the potential the video conferencing equipment at the regionals has for training all around this state. In this time of tight budgets, much training and sharing could be provided no travel costs and a reduction of lost work staff time during these training sessions.

Anne, you may use my name and these comments in any way you and the board see fit. Good Luck. My total support is with you.

Jay

--

F. Jay Barkey
Assistant Director/Information Technology Librarian
Adams County Public Library
157 High Street
Peebles, OH 45660
(937) 587-2085
(937) 509-0030
(937) 587-5043 (fax)
<mailto:barkeyja@oplin.org>
<http://adamsco.lib.oh.us>

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:16:04 -0400
From: Brenda Fisher <fisherbr@oplin.org>
Reply-To: fisherbr@oplin.org
Organization: Highland County District Library
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

SWON has already provided me with one helpful online workshop this year on a topic I needed. We have just begun to use Facebook at our library and being able to attend an online workshop on Libraries and Facebook for only \$10 and a minimal expense in time was great.

I think the "Tech News You Can Use" Program is a wonderful idea and I've registered for tomorrow's session.

Glen Horton was a critical resource to our library when we were planning and setting up our Wireless routers. He helped us to provide access to many more people than we could on the internet computers that we own. As our county currently has one of the highest unemployment rates and virtually all jobs require an online application, this access is especially critical.

Our money is very, very tight this year. We depend primarily on the State of Ohio for our income. We chose to rejoin this year because we believe that the as needed technical support and advice that Glen gives us is well worth it and a better bargain than we could get elsewhere.

Brenda Fisher,
Computer Services Librarian
Highland County District Library
Hillsboro, OH

Subject: SWON supportor
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:17:06 -0400
From: Robinson, Jennifer <jennifer.robinson@cincinnati.state.edu>
To: <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Anne and SWON Staff,

I am writing to you today to let you know my high regard for SWON and its role in my professional development, as well as the professional development of many other librarians in the area. Not only does SWON provide high quality training on innovative and timely topics instructed by SWON staff or guest speakers very much in the know, it provides a central collaboration space for librarians from very different backgrounds and perspectives. It enables us to share ideas, solve problems, and promote/market libraries in a way that benefits the entire region. Since it is a part of larger group, SWON's reach goes even beyond the region to include the entire state.

I have gone to many training sessions, all of which I've found very helpful and would recommend to others. I also belong to SWON's Instruction Librarian Interest Group (ILIG) which is still in its first year, but has already given me numerous creative ideas to implement in my library instruction. My only wish would be for them to offer some of their training again! There was a one day cataloguing workshop that sounded perfect for me, but it filled up super fast and I waited too long to register.

As far as the staff goes, you could not find a better staff. They are always willing to go the extra mile and they treat you like family. To SWON, I would like to thank you for all that you do, and for the helpful and friendly attitude in which you do it.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer Robinson, M.L.S.

*Reference/Instruction Librarian

Johnnie Mae Berry Library

513-569-1606 tel 513-559-0040 fax

http://www.goaheadgetthere.com/images/CS_master_Logo.jpg

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

3520 Central Parkway

Cincinnati, Ohio 45223-2690

www.cincinnati.state.edu

Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:20:51 -0400
From: Carissa Thatcher <cthatcher@sscc.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Board Members,

I would like to express my concern regarding the matter of Ms. Abate and her leadership abilities.

Anne has been of great help since taking over the helm of SWON. She has had a vision of what the organization should be and has seen it through every step of the way. Anne has been of personal assistance to not only to the libraries that I have worked for, but to me as an individual. Anne takes an interest in each and every member of SWON, she works tirelessly to make sure that solutions to problems can be found. Anne is making SWON a great asset to libraries in Southern Ohio and I feel that she will continue to do nothing but improve this organization.

Thank you,

Carissa Thatcher
Fayette Campus LRC Manager
Southern State Community College
cthatcher@sscc.edu
1-800-628-7722 ext 5681
740-333-5115 ext 5681
<http://www.sccc.edu>

Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:27:07 -0400
From: Tenofsky, Deborah (tenofsdg) <TENOFSDBG@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Anne Abate for approximately seven years. I was the Chair of the SWON Reference Librarians Group. This Group met several times over the last few years, and brought together reference and instruction librarians from across the region to discuss reference topics, learn about each other's libraries, and take advantage of networking opportunities. We met at the SWON offices and at libraries in Ohio and northern Kentucky. I met librarians from many public, academic, school, and corporate libraries that I would not normally be able to access. They taught me about the workings of their libraries and gave me insights into their policies and procedures.

She and her staff have been extremely helpful to me and my staff at the University of Cincinnati Libraries. SWON offers interesting and engaging workshops for staff. Many of my staff have participated in these workshops and found them helpful and worthwhile.

Anne has been an excellent leader, and has move SWON forward.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Deborah Tenofsky
Head of Reference and Instructional Services
University of Cincinnati Libraries
401C Langsam Library
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0033
513-556-1888
tenofsdg@uc.edu

Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:27:07 -0400
From: Tenofsky, Deborah (tenofsdg) <TENOFSDG@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Anne Abate for approximately seven years. I was the Chair of the SWON Reference Librarians Group. This Group met several times over the last few years, and brought together reference and instruction librarians from across the region to discuss reference topics, learn about each other's libraries, and take advantage of networking opportunities. We met at the SWON offices and at libraries in Ohio and northern Kentucky. I met librarians from many public, academic, school, and corporate libraries that I would not normally be able to access. They taught me about the workings of their libraries and gave me insights into their policies and procedures.

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Anne has been an excellent leader, and has move SWON forward.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Deborah Tenofsky
Head of Reference and Instructional Services
University of Cincinnati Libraries
401C Langsam Library
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0033
513-556-1888
tenofsdg@uc.edu

Subject: please share with the Executive Board
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:25:24 -0400
From: O'Gorman, Kathryn <kathryn.ogorman@cincinnati.state.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Dear SWON Libraries Executive Board and SWON staff,

I can't imagine not having an organization such as SWON available to libraries in the area it serves.

The key services my library can't live without (in no particular order)

1. Jobline – the free advertising of jobs pays for our library's membership dues
2. Interest groups
3. Vendor discounts
4. Continuing education offerings

The future of SWON depends on the membership being active and informed, especially when services are being considered for reduction or elimination. I would advocate that all board agendas and minutes be available on the organization's website (if they are now, I can't locate them). Also, 4 membership meetings a year would be acceptable. At least two of them should be pure business meetings – no meal, no special speaker.

Some ideas to “reinvent” SWON:

Part time, not fulltime, technology person

Part time grant finder and writer

Reexamine dues structure- I am willing to have an increase in membership dues for next year. I realize others may not.

I understand the frustration other members are having. It is unfortunate that a few discontented people choose to air their difficulties in such a negative way. But, I strongly believe that SWON will survive and be better for it. I have faith in the organization's leadership to make this happen.

I can't attend today's meeting, but please plan to publish very soon an account of the meeting and the feedback that was received.

Thanks,

Kathryn O'Gorman

Library Director

Johnnie Mae Berry Library

kathryn.ogorman@cincinnati.state.edu

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:27:51 -0400
From: Denise Vallandingham <dvallandingham@bcpl.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
CC: Greta Southard <gsouthard@bcpl.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne,

Some thoughts to share at today's meeting if you find anything of value in my ramblings:

SWON has been invaluable for me; especially since I'm relatively new to library land. Having begun my library career just 5 years ago, SWON has been a way for me to meet professionals and paraprofessionals throughout the region. In doing so, I've shared ideas, learned from others and attended trainings (Music and Movement, Picture book read-in etc.) that have a direct impact on my day-to-day work.

I am an active member in CLEAR (Children's Literature Evaluation and Review) group and this keeps me in touch with media specialists and other public librarians as well as their thoughts on material appropriate for children. Not to mention having the opportunity to share our enthusiasm with each other in a safe, non combative environment. We collectively think our reviews might even help influence some publications and publishers (ABDO) which ultimately benefits everyone, especially young readers.

There exists some territorial thinking among some library staffers in our region - - sometimes serious, other times not-so-much, but none-the-less, it tends to pit library systems against one another. SWON helps negate that attitude, after all, we are all trying to achieve the same goals: promoting freedom of information, providing a sense of community, and supporting literacy efforts etc. SWON is the vehicle for combining efforts and painting a broader picture.

The employees of SWON are also invaluable. I know I can drop an email, pick up the phone or simply chat with Anne, Vicky or Rhea (if I am fortunate enough to run into them) at any time about anything pertinent to libraries.

Denise Vallandingham

Subject: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:29:00 -0400
From: Mallstrom, Diane <Diane.Mallstrom@cincinnati.library.org>
To: 'anne@swonlibraries.org' <anne@swonlibraries.org>

CC: Van Skaik, Patricia <Patricia.VanSkaik@cincinnati-library.org>

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your e-mail. I find SWON Libraries to be a necessary organization for our library professionals in the region. I have attended the Rare Books Interest Group for several years and before that the History and Archives Interest Group. SWON gives us all an opportunity to network with other librarians, share ideas and projects, successes and challenges in our field. I have also attended SWON sponsored workshops. These are invaluable workshops that help librarians with their continued education and outreach. As professionals we all should strive to learn and grow in our field. SWON has been there to give us the information and instruction to be better librarians.

I am sorry I will not be able to attend your meeting this afternoon. I hope this brief email lends my support.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Mallstrom
Reference Librarian
Genealogy & Local History/Cincinnati Room
Public Library Of Cincinnati And Hamilton County
800 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513-369-3132
Diane.Mallstrom@cincinnati-library.org

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 15:33:20 +0000
From: Eads, Sonja R (Maysville) <sonja.eads@kctcs.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Swon posted our library conference for us and set up an online registration which helped get the announcement out for us. Thanks !

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 15:35:59 +0000
From: Fry, Ian A (Gateway) <IFRY0001@kctcs.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

To SWON Libraries

AS a member of SWON we stress to our students the advantages of being part of the SWON system. We at Gateway Community and Technical College feel very privileged that we can be a part of this wonderful network of libraries. SWON has become our primary tool for professional development trainings. I and my colleagues have found the trainings and workshops of invaluable use when looking for professional development opportunities in the tri state area. Thanks you for providing these excellent resources for area libraries.

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:42:38 -0400
From: BECKY Ellis <BELLIS@columbuslibrary.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

I think your classes and other offerings are very timely and wish we could have some of the topics here in Columbus. I look to see what you're doing for ideas for CoASIS&T programs, you make them sound fun and interesting, not just another PowerPoint presentation. Hope you're around for a long, long time.

Becky Ellis
Reference Team Leader II
Franklinton Branch
Columbus Metropolitan Library

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:45:24 -0400 (EDT)
From: smitheki@oplin.org
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

During my six years with the Clermont County Library System, I have attended multiple SWON programs. I have been very pleased with the knowledge that I have gained and the way in which these programs have furthered my professional development. I feel that SWON is a very viable entity especially during these hard economic times.

Sincerely,

Kim Smithers
Youth Services Specialist
Clermont County Public Library
Owensville Branch
2548 US 50
Owensville, OH 45160
513-732-6084
smitheki@oplin.org

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:54:15 -0400
From: Gaynelle L. Predmore <predmor@bgsu.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Anne -Sorry not to write sooner, but I just saw this note. Please feel free to edit my response to make a stronger case because I want my support to ring loudly & clearly. I just can't believe what I'm reading in your e-mail. glp

To whom it may concern,

I cannot say it strongly enough how terrific this past year has been working with Anne Abate & SWON Libraries. As incoming treasurer, in 2009, of the Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO) who came in faced with the loss of the previous fiscal agent, the Ohio College Association (OCA), Anne has been a very helpful & patient purveyor of information and good ideas. She has made it possible for ALAO to have basically a seamless transition and in doing so allowed the organization to focus on the world of academic libraries here in the State of Ohio. We've been able to offer a successful annual conference and any number of interest group workshops as a direct result of their support. We have also been able to institute the use of credit cards and PayPal account that have made the members of ALAO most satisfied. As I'm in my second year as ALAO Treasurer, I couldn't imagine doing so without Anne's support. She's such an asset in so many ways.

How anyone could imply that SWON has lost connection with Libraries, is beyond me. I see so many amazing workshops & other activities being offered to all Libraries both online & otherwise. In short, not only would ALAO not be well served, but myself personally would not be should anything happen to Anne and/or SWON. Please continue your support of Anne Abate and the great work she & SWON do. To me Anne is the face of SWON and she helps facilitate all that ALAO is able to do.

Gaynelle L. Predmore
Library Associate 2
Curriculum Resource Center/Jerome Library
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0170
419.372.2956 Fax 419.372.7996
Think Green! Don't print this message unless you absolutely,
positively need to--let's try to save a tree! glp

Subject: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:09:39 -0500
From: Carey Fosburgh <cfosburgh@starkecountylibrary.org>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

This is such short notice and I may not meet the deadline. I do want to say that the Staff of our library use SWON resources to keep our Library Education Units and TLEU's as ongoing education and certificate requirements. We are finding it harder and harder to aquire these through affordable resources. We do need SWON services.
Thank You,
Carey

Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 12:11:18 -0400
From: Chris Toogood <ctoogood@allstccath.org>
To: 'Anne K. Abate' <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140EFA.10907@swonlibraries.org>

Dear Anne --

I've been quietly following this discussion and hope I 'm not too late to chime in with my comments.

As the only staff member in a small elementary school library, I know my observations don't carry the weight of those who are in loftier positions! But I will say that I've been grateful for any of SWON's professional development opportunities that I've been able to attend, and have learned so much by participating in CLEAR. I've always been happy to recommend those opportunities to my colleagues in the local Catholic Library Association chapter.

On a less happy note, our small consortium of school libraries was sorry to see the delivery service end, as it meant we were no longer able to share our resources. We attempted to develop a delivery service of our own, but found it to be cost-prohibitive (no surprise to you, I'm sure).

As others have suggested, perhaps a survey of members would help to identify expectations and clarify the future direction of SWON.

I hope the conversation at this afternoon's meeting will shed some light, and that a spirit of cooperation and professionalism will infuse the discussion. I'm unable to attend but will be thinking of you and hoping for the best outcome for all parties.

Chris Toogood
Librarian
All Saints School
Cincinnati, Ohio
513-792-4732, ex. 4616

Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 11:56:58 -0400
From: *****
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

SWON libraries offers a wide variety of continuing education programs, many of which I have attended during my time in Cincinnati. They have been very important for my development as a librarian. I have made friends and contacts through these programs and more importantly I have become a better librarian.

During the past year, SWON has become increasingly important to me. I am currently unemployed and Anne kindly allows me to volunteer for SWON. This keeps me connected to the library world. Some of my projects give me experiences I would never have gotten from my former position that may help with a new job. I have seen how hard everyone at SWON works and how well attended many of their programs are.

I believe Anne does a great job as the Executive Director for SWON libraries. She is strong and determined. She trusts her employees to do their jobs. She takes time to help members when they ask. And she has a sense of humor about the attacks of the people trying to undermine her leadership abilities.

Subject: Re: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 12:26:34 -0400
From: *****
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

After completing my MLS program and facing rather stiff competition for the few library positions that were open, Anne Abate personally agreed to work with me on not only polishing my resume, but interviewing skills and provided general guidance as well. I also have been able to take advantage of a the workshops provided by SWON Libraries as a whole and have found them to be extremely helpful for professional development.

Subject: [Fwd: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You]

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 12:32:07 -0400

From: Jennifer West <westje@oplin.org>

To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>, Brenda Fisher <fisherbr@oplin.org>

Anne - I agree with Brenda and am glad she has already responded. SWON has been very helpful to me in the past and I am happy we can continue our membership in it.

While I doubt we will be able to send many staff members to continuing education events any time soon, I am hopeful when the economy improves, we can start doing so again.

Glen has been a great help to Brenda in setting up our wireless and for that, I am thankful to have him as a resource.

I personally was unaware of the other members' negative feelings about SWON and these emails of the last few days are really a surprise.

Jennifer West
Highland County District Library

From: "Owens, Andrea E." <owensa@countryday.net>
Date: June 14, 2010 12:50:54 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: RE: SWON Libraries Needs You

Anne, I will not be able to attend today's meeting. Please feel free to forward my comments.

Greetings:

I am new to this area and new to SWON and have found SWON's staff to be both welcoming and supportive in adjusting to both the area and my position. SWON has saved us money through their contract negotiations. Anne has been particularly helpful in connecting me with local public libraries and with tips about INFOhio so that I can provide the best service possible for our students.

The former librarian told me about the consortium deliveries, which he used frequently to augment our collection, especially helpful with the junior paper. Given the cost of the delivery service, I can understand why that was suspended.

The professional development opportunities have been interesting and tempting but I have not had much opportunity to take advantage of them, even the online ones, due to scheduling conflicts. The reality of my position is that I serve both the middle and upper schools, support the middle school literary magazine, man the technology helpdesk and teach a graphic design course. After school hours are spent in team and division meetings, doing 1:1 research help and providing technical support. There is quite simply no time. Saturday workshops would be heaven sent but doubt that they would be well attended.

Andrea Owens
Techbrarian
Cincinnati Country Day School
www.countryday.net
6905 Given Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243-2898
Phone (513) 979-0247; Fax (513) 527-7649

From: "Healy, Pamela" <Pamela.Healy@cincinnati.library.org>
Date: June 14, 2010 3:35:44 PM EDT
To: "'anne@swonlibraries.org'" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: Importance of SWON

Dear Anne,

Sorry to respond past your deadline, I didn't read your email till 3:00 p.m. on Monday.

I appreciate SWON and the many valuable programs it offers. I have participated in the Ukulele workshop, Programming for Very Young Children Interest group as well as CLEAR. I appreciate how these groups allow me to develop as a professional as I am able to exchange ideas, learn from others, and evaluate literature with peers that impact programming, reader advisory, teacher collections and the services that I am able to offer at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

At the last CLEAR meeting, we were told that more of the burden of running CLEAR would fall on our shoulders and the cost would go up. I am very willing to do my part to keep CLEAR operating. It is a very valuable program that SWON offers and it would be distressing to see it deleted from the SWON programs.

I am signed up for the first time for the Picture book Read-In and looking forward to it. I wish I had more time in my schedule to attend other programs offered by SWON. SWON is vital to our library community and benefits more than just those who are able to participate directly in its programs.

Sincerely,

Pamela

Pamela A. Healy
Children's Librarian, Oakley Branch
Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County
(513) 369-6038
pamela.healy@cincinnati.library.org

From: "Peach, Amanda" <amanda.peach@kysu.edu>
Date: June 14, 2010 1:14:25 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries

Anne-

Oh no! I have just arrived to work and just received your email; tonight is my evening to work.

I know you said you needed these by noon, but I will send this anyway, in case there is ever a second meeting. Here it is:

SWON has meant a great deal to me throughout my career in librarianship. When I was still just a student in my bachelor's degree program, but trying to establish myself within PLCH in Cincinnati, I took advantage of several continuing education opportunities through SWON/GCLC. These class offerings allowed me to feel more confident and knowledgeable about the field when I eventually applied for the graduate program in Library Sciences. More pragmatically, my participation in those courses also demonstrated to my supervisors my commitment to self-improvement, a commitment which was then rewarded with wage increases and promotion, as well as a greater amount of responsibility being awarded to me.

SWON's usefulness did not end when I entered my MLS program, either. I was fortunate enough to serve as an intern at SWON as a part of my graduate studies and because SWON is so greatly respected within the tri-state, the time I spent at SWON opened doors for me forever after.

Upon graduation from UK with my MLIS, I continued learning through SWON, and it was the courses that I took at SWON that made me such an ideal candidate for promotion to Children's Librarian when the time came for me to apply. See, I had been serving as a reference librarian at PLCH, but always knew I wanted to try my hand at Children's Librarianship. With very little real-world experience to back up my interest, however, I turned to SWON for help. I valued and respected the SWON offerings so much that I paid for them out of my own pocket. After completing 3 such children's librarianship-related offerings at SWON, I was able to "talk the talk" and convince the branch manager at Deer Park to offer me a post as their Children's Librarian/ second-in-command. And do you know what she told me was the reason she hired me? Because of my willingness to pursue those classes at SWON at my own expense. And do you know how I responded in turn? I could never have done it without SWON.

The scope and reach of SWON is larger than you know. I am only one person, but SWON (under the leadership of Anne Abate) has had a gigantic effect on me professionally -- an effect so large that I am not sure I could measure it accurately.

From: Valerie Horton <VHorton@clicweb.org>
Date: June 14, 2010 12:59:21 PM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries

To whom it may concern:

I have worked with Anne Abate on several national projects related to delivery and as part of ALA's ASCLA ICAN section over the past five years. She has been contentious, kind, professional, helpful, and easy to work with. Best of all, she does what she says she will do and in a timely fashion. I can attest to Anne's excellent reputation through ALA ASCLA ICAN. As a fellow consortia director, I call Anne often for advise and help.

Valerie Horton

Valerie Horton
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From: "Withers, Robert E." <witherre@muohio.edu>

Date: June 14, 2010 12:54:18 PM EDT

To: Anne Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Subject: FW: [ALAO-Board] Fwd: [sla-ccin] The Future of SWON Libraries

Anne,

My apologies – I just returned from a visit to my doctor.

As you know, the Academic Library Association of Ohio has been thrilled with the job you have done since we ended our relationship with our previous fiscal agent, the Ohio College Association.

We have also greatly appreciated your willingness and ability to help us to move forward with our membership database, online registration for ALAO events, and accepting credit card payments.

I certainly hope that nothing happens to disrupt the outstanding level of service we have received from you.

Rob Withers

President, Academic Library Association of Ohio

From: harmonse@ucrwcu.rwc.uc.edu
Date: June 14, 2010 11:26:06 AM EDT
To: "Anne K. Abate" <anne@swonlibraries.org>
Subject: **Re: Support for SWON**

I am sorry that I won't be able to attend today's meeting to speak up in person, but I hope that the outcome will be positive. My thoughts will be with you and the SWON staff!
Steph

Subject: [Fwd: Re: SWON Libraries Needs You]

Date: Mon, 14 Jun 2010 12:32:07 -0400

From: Jennifer West <westje@oplin.org>

To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>, Brenda Fisher <fisherbr@oplin.org>

Anne - I agree with Brenda and am glad she has already responded. SWON has been very helpful to me in the past and I am happy we can continue our membership in it.

While I doubt we will be able to send many staff members to continuing education events any time soon, I am hopeful when the economy improves, we can start doing so again.

Glen has been a great help to Brenda in setting up our wireless and for that, I am thankful to have him as a resource.

I personally was unaware of the other members' negative feelings about SWON and these emails of the last few days are really a surprise.

Jennifer West
Highland County District Library

Anne - I just got in - on Monday I work noon to 8 p.m.

Subject: RE: Please help in the Future of SWON Libraries
Date: Tue, 15 Jun 2010 11:03:22 -0400
From: Sara Laughlin <Laughlin@monroe.lib.in.us>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>
References: <4C140531.7080904@swonlibraries.org>

I'm so sorry that I missed this message yesterday. My mother died last week, and I'm still catching up on a huge backlog of pressing e-mails. I hope the outcome was positive for you yesterday. Let me know if there is anything I can do at this point. I don't have deep knowledge, but our experience during the Breakthrough Process Improvement series was very positive. You and SWON were very organized and responsive, and the high level of participation suggested to me that you understood the needs of members and were addressing them. Your very thorough vetting process involved inviting me to give a brief presentation, reviewing our book, writing a successful LSTA grant to offset costs, and then scheduling and staffing the four sessions at each of two locations over a period of six months. That's way more effort than is normally expended for a "workshop" and we appreciated your understanding of the deeper desired outcomes and efforts to help us - and the participating library teams - reach them.

Sara Laughlin, Director
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(812) 349-3050
laughlin@mcpl.info
www.mcpl.info

Subject: SWON Libraries
Date: Wed, 16 Jun 2010 08:10:27 -0400
From: Katy McBryan <mcbryank1@nku.edu>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Anne,

I just returned from vacation and read your email. I am very interested in the success of SWON Libraries and hope that the services provided will continue at the same high level of professionalism. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do that would help.

Sincerely,

Katy McBryan

Steely Library

(859)572-5739

Subject: Re: [Jobline] The Future of SWON Libraries Services
Date: Wed, 16 Jun 2010 8:57:34 -0400
From: <ewhite@fuse.net>
To: Anne K. Abate <anne@swonlibraries.org>

Hi Anne, It was very nice talking to you on the phone Monday morning. Truly hope the SWON meeting went well & the Exective Board will still provide the services of the past years. It's a very important service since I'm a retired school Librarian. I worked at Cincinnati Public for a several years before I was hired at C.C.D.S. by Joan Chezem, who I loved working with at the school. Thanks again for all that SWON does for all the different librarians in Ohio. Sincerely,
Emily White

Subject: In support of SWON

Date: Thu, 17 Jun 2010 12:47:36 -0400

From: Brenda Fisher <fisherbr@oplin.org>

Reply-To: fisherbr@oplin.org, Executive Board <executive@swonlibraries.org>

Organization: Highland County District Library

To: executive@swonlibraries.org

To the Executive Board of SWON:

As the Computer Services Librarian at Highland County District Library I have found our association with SWON to be very helpful. Having Glen Horton's aid on an as needed basis, has been of great value to our library. I greatly appreciated the recent online workshop on Facebook and Twitter for librarians for it's content, online delivery, and it's very reasonable price. Our Children's librarian also reports positive workshop experiences through SWON.

I realize that libraries (ours included) are having to make deep cuts right now in their finances, but I hope that SWON can continue to exist in as close to it's present form as possible. Having experienced the demise of SWORL, I worry that SWON might be taking a similar path. Be cautious about giving up too much, as what you give up as a regional doesn't come back. One might consider economies of scale necessary and possibly think regions don't matter in an age of online meetings.

However, I've been through the loss of a regional (SWORL) and our library has gone without a regional for a period of time and I sincerely hope that it is not about to happen again. It is Not good to be without a regional. It is Not good to have to depend on state-wide programs and help. I hope and pray that you will really hear this and can support and encourage the community that is SWON. No community benefits from witch hunts.

Brenda Fisher

Highland County District Library

Hillsboro, OH