

Consortial Reports

CARLI/I-Share

- No report

Cooperative Computer Services (CCS)

- No report

Library Integrated Network Consortium (LINC)

- No report

LINKin

- Poplar Creek Public Library District (in Streamwood and Hanover Park) has joined LINKin.

Multitype Automation Group in Cooperation (MAGIC)

- No report

Northern Illinois Cooperative (NIC)

- No report

Pinnacle Library Cooperative (PLC)

- Pinnacle has entered into an agreement with My Library Rewards—a reading incentive program that allows patrons to earn points for each item checked out at any of our libraries. Patrons can then redeem those points on discounts from businesses in the area. MLR contacts all the nearby businesses to secure available offers. They also provide a website and app for patrons to redeem their rewards. Our first group of libraries is set to go live in the middle of April, with the rest of our libraries following in the weeks after.

PrairieCat

- PrairieCat is moving ahead with staff independence planning, with a deadline of July 1, 2018 for removing staff from RAILS and rehiring under PrairieCat for FY2019. We are currently seeking a part-time, temporary HR and finance assistant to help Carolyn Coulter set up the payroll system, etc. This position, based out of the RAILS Coal Valley facility, will be transferred to a regular part-time position under PrairieCat after independence.
- Work continues on bringing Marseilles Public Library into the consortium. This should be completed sometime within the next few months.
- Planning for PrairieCat User Group (PUG) Day 2018 is underway. This year, PUG Day will be held on September 28 at TaxSlayer Center in Moline.
- Our biannual member update meetings are planned for the week of April 16. We will visit seven member libraries in our “zones” to pass along information from our standing committees and Administrative Council. We will also hold brief focus groups at these meetings for our support website project. Our support website is being redesigned with the help of Brian Smith at RAILS.
- Three staff from PrairieCat will attend the annual Innovative User’s Group conference in April.
- Planning is also beginning for a Resource Sharing member summit in August. This will be held August 17 at Kishwaukee College and will address resource sharing questions and issues in the consortium. All levels of member library staff are encouraged to attend.

Resource Sharing Alliance NFP (RSA-NFP)

- RSA moved from running Symphony on RSA servers to SirsiDynix's SaaS hosting on Jan 24, 2018. (SaaS stands for Software as a Service.) RSA now has production, test, and training servers all running in SirsiDynix's SaaS facilities, and all of RSA's production environment now runs in SaaS. RSA still has Director's Station and Web Reporter, as well as a document server, running on our locally hosted infrastructure. Directors Station and Web Reporter are being phased out and will eventually be removed once BLUEcloud Analytics has been fully fleshed out.
- After the SaaS upgrade, RSA had some odd network issues with random drops of services to individual clients. We have had no overall drops. After about a month of troubleshooting, we determined that our NAT (Network Address Translation) rules needed tweaking from static to dynamic NAT rules. Once we did this and flushed the caches, all our drop issues were fixed. Now we are just dealing with the typical Internet "just-cos" drops.
- RSA is back on the upgrade cycle after a year of adding new libraries and cleaning up from a bad database deduplication. We've scheduled upgrades to the newest versions of Symphony and Enterprise/Portfolio in late April. We restarted our OPAC tweaking campaign and are working on various experiments to the search displays.
- RSA held its annual RSA Day in March and had approximately 130 people attend. That was the largest turnout yet. Miguel Figueroa from ALA spoke on "The Library of the Future."
- RSA's cataloging department has caught up from six months of being half-staffed. Thousands of outstanding cataloging requests have been completed, and we are back on our normal turnaround schedule. Our catalogers have resumed working with libraries for cleanup of brief records and other database cleanup projects.
- RSA revised its bylaws to double the size of the board of directors from six members to twelve members. We will fill the new positions in May. This ensures we have a larger representation of our membership as we begin the hard process of completely reworking our membership levels, feature sets, and pricing. We expect to lose libraries over this rework and need as many points of view as possible for the process.
- Normal Public Library and Bloomington Public Library issued a joint RFP for an ILS system. Normal Public Library is RSA's second largest library; Bloomington pulled out of RSA in 2006. RSA has responded to the RFP with a proposal to add Bloomington back into RSA. They expect to have a decision on what each library will do in late May. The RFP had many options, including individual standalone systems, a shared system, or disregarding all submissions and standing pat. Bloomington would become RSA's second largest library if it joins RSA.

Rock River Library Consortium (RRLC)

- No report

System Wide Automated Network (SWAN)

- SWAN is in its final weeks of preparation for the New 19 migration, which will occur on May 1. The final New 19 Q&A meeting was held on April 4, and so far, things are going smoothly. We anticipate that SWAN staff will be "all hands on deck" for the weeks of April 23 and April 30 to facilitate this major milestone. Training for our new libraries also continues this month. Site visits to deliver PR Welcome Kit materials for the migration and beyond were made to all the new libraries in late March. These materials were created via a joint effort of the SWAN staff, MAGIC, and LINC library staff.
- All SWAN libraries will be down on Monday, April 30, as part of the data reindexing required with the addition of the 19 libraries.

- As part of the New 19 migration and planned downtime, we have developed a web-based patron lookup tool that utilizes SirsiDynix Web Services. This lookup web page will allow library staff to verify whether or not a patron is in good standing. This is only available to SWAN members through the SWAN support site. Chicago Public Library offers a similar patron lookup tool.
- SWAN has also begun preparation for our annual conference, which will be held on Friday, August 17 at Moraine Valley Community College. With the addition of our 19 new libraries, we are hoping to have up to 400 library staff in attendance at this year's event. Our theme of "Come Together" will highlight the importance of collaboration and community from state, local, consortial, library, and staff perspectives. All are welcome to attend, as we hope to have a broad offering of speakers and sessions that will apply to everyone, not just SWAN libraries.
- SWAN is just beginning work on its strategic planning process by issuing an RFP for facilitators. We have thus far received eight responses to our RFP, which has a deadline of Monday, April 9. Our initial meeting to review these responses will be held immediately after the SWAN board meeting on April 20.
- The Enterprise 5.0 upgrade was completed on March 21, and current library Enterprise themes were updated in preparation for that change. Our User Experience Manager, Tara Wood, continues her hard work on refining our catalog profiles and offering new options for our libraries.