



Highlands Regional Library Cooperative

400 Morris Avenue, Suite 202
Denville, NJ 07834

TEL: 973-664-1776 or 800-NET-HRLC (*Members Only*)
FAX: 973-664-1780

www.hrlc.org

HRLC Technology Committee Meeting, May 2, 2006

Present: Joanne Roukens, Amy Kearns, Mary Martin, Kim Grohs, Nancy Madcsi, Rosalie Baker

1. Overdrive digital audiobook update. Joanne said Overdrive hopes to meet the June 1 target date. The site may be up, but not publicized.
2. Talked about the availability of inexpensive software for libraries at Tech. Soup www.techsoup.org. Also open source software for libraries that need an office suite, but cannot afford licenses for Microsoft Office www.openoffice.org. A website discussing and listing open source software is at www.opensource.org.
3. NJLA Conference—Members of the NJLA library community are now more willing to blog. Check out the NJLA conference blog at blog.njla.org.
4. Amy and Mary spoke more about the podcasting done at NJLA. They set up a free podcast using www.audacity.sourceforge.net. People are now podcasting entire programs, like an audioblog. To set up a free podcast you can also use www.podomatic.com (Mary recommended www.stuckintraffic.podomatic.com to hear motorists gripes) but Audacity software was better for recording. To listen to a podcast, use iTunes or Juice software.
5. Amy mentioned wikis out there. You can make your own wiki at pbwiki.com. Amy has signed up for it at <http://hrlc.pbwiki.com> password: hrlc or <http://hrlctechcom.pbwiki.com> password: tech.
6. Once the buzzwords started flying, the meeting segued into a discussion about the blast of new technology. Trying to keep current is becoming an increasingly difficult problem. The popularity of the podcasting sessions, and the program on blogging at the NJLA conference led to the idea of a bulletin and /or program.
 - a. A monthly listserve Buzzword Bulletin could be implemented. A buzzword of the month would be defined, linked to an example(s), source of the software, etc. This could be included on the list, as a link from the list, or part of the monthly newsletter.
 - b. A technology committee –sponsored workshop or roundtable could be held dealing with Buzzword Mania. We discussed whether the program should be informational and/or hands-on.
 - a. Suggested program length: 3 hour program, 1 hour lunch, with optional 1.5 hour open lab. MCL has a lab seating 20, Parsippany seats 12, and CCM seats 20.
 - b. Target audience: public service desk people who have some familiarity with the Internet. It would also appeal to academic, school, and public librarians.
 - c. Purpose: Information, explanation, catching up. People are feeling “left in the dust” by all of the new vocabulary resulting from the new technology. The participants at the workshop could then go back to their home libraries and give similar programs to their patrons and staff. Could be the launch of the innovative technology contest.



Highlands Regional Library Cooperative

400 Morris Avenue, Suite 202
Denville, NJ 07834

TEL: 973-664-1776 or 800-NET-HRLC (*Members Only*)
FAX: 973-664-1780

www.hrlc.org

- d. At the end of the program, the participants will be able to:
 - a. Find the definition for a technology term on the internet
 - b. Express at least one thing they learned that is possibly applicable to their library.
 - c. Name one or two technologies and how they are currently used in a library (based on provided examples)
 - d. Choose at least one technology not to be implemented at their own library at present. Not all technologies are applicable to all libraries.
 - e. Feel more comfortable with the constant state of “not knowing” we live in
- e. Suggested topics to be covered:
 - a. Net tools for organizing info
 - a. Wikis (pbwiki.com to make your own, library best practices wiki.
 - b. RSS (bloglines, notifying people of new books)
 - c. Blogs (incorporate into library home page, etc.)
 - d. Freeware organizing tools (Kim’s notes from CIL)
 - e. Firefox/tabbed browsing
 - f. Flickr—organizing tools for photos
 - b. Communication on the Internet
 - a. podcasts (including the software: podomatic.com, audacity.sourceforge.net)
 - b. iTunes, iPods and more (including video on iPods)
 - c. VoIP (including Skype)
 - d. NetMeeting software
 - e. Video over the internet: youtube.com, video.google.com, ifilm.com, singingfish.com
 - f. Text messaging
 - g. Instant messaging—THE way to communicate with teens. Trillian, meebo.com
 - c. Technology trends
 - a. Web 2.0—cool free tools
 - b. Social networking (My Space, Second Life, avatars, etc.)
 - c. Vlogging (video blogging)
 - d. Open source
 - e. Teaching with the Internet (web quests) – (a possibility for school media specialists, a separate program on Columbus Day?)
 - d. Sources for more things
 - a. search term “define” in Google
 - b. Wikipedia
 - c. Webjunction.org
 - d. Techsoup.com (cheap software licenses)
 - e. Cnet.com
 - f. HRLC listserv
 - g. Join the Technology Committee
 - e. Dealing with naysayers, higher ups in the library



Highlands Regional Library Cooperative

400 Morris Avenue, Suite 202
Denville, NJ 07834

TEL: 973-664-1776 or 800-NET-HRLC (*Members Only*)
FAX: 973-664-1780

www.hrlc.org

7. Resource sharing, cool new stuff:
 - a. Internet Explorer 7.0 has been released. Apparently it is very Apple-like.
 - b. Google has a downloadable 3-D sketching tool at <http://sketchup.google.com>. It is very easy to do.
 - c. Kim Grohs mentioned an IT troubleshooting wiki at www.splunk.com
 - d. <http://librarygarden.blogspot.com> an NJLA blog.

8. Next Tech. committee meeting date is set for Thursday June 22 at 2:30-4 P.M. at the HRLC office.