



MEMBERSHIP REPORT for IHLS Board of Directors October, 2014

On October 20, 2014, IHLS held the first “annual” Member Day at the Knights of Columbus Building in Effingham.

Participation easily topped 150, with 144 registered participants that included 18 IHLS staff members. Additionally, there were representatives from at least fifteen agencies in the vendor area who were interested in the opportunity to share information regarding their products or services with our attendees.

Leslie Bednar kicked off the morning with a welcome and an overview of the development of IHLS over the last three years.

The nine breakout sessions were conducted by a variety of presenters, including the Illinois Attorney General’s Office, the Effingham Police Department and members of the IHLS library community. Topics included:

- Open Meetings Act
- FOIA
- Safety in the Library
- What’s New in Technology?
- Marketing & Customer Service
- Weeding Your Collection

In addition, roundtable discussion groups were held on the topics of New Directors, School Librarianship and Library Construction.

The day was capped off by a semi-annual meeting of the SHARE membership. Lunch was catered by a local Effingham café and more than 240 cookies were consumed!

System staff contributed enthusiastically. Operations, the Cataloging Maintenance Centers and the Machine Sublending Agency all manned booths in the display area. Other staff members made sure IT issues were addressed, facilitated sessions and manned the lunch line. “Fabulous” raffles were conducted throughout the day!

As has always been the case, the “value-added” element to this type of event is the networking opportunity it gives to the membership.

Evaluations have been positive with good suggestions for the 2nd Annual. Plans are already in the works!

Submitted by Chris Dawdy and Ellen Popit, IHLS Staff