

NLS Telephone Forum - 4-27-2011
(paraphrased)

Comment: (Bob Fistick - NLS)

Welcome on this wonderful sunny day across the United States. All the regional conferences are coming up soon and you're all excited about that. We are too! It gives us a chance to share information with one another one on one, and to hear from you all the things that are going on in the digital transition, and all of the concerns that you have. Here is an announcement by Carolyn Sung...

Comment: (Carolyn Sung - NLS)

The first announcement is one I think you're anxious to hear and it will be followed by an Operations Alert this afternoon - is that the BARD for Institutions will open for registration of Friday, April 29th. This means that Michael will have to take BARD down on Thursday (tomorrow April 28) from 2:30 to 6:00 to make the changes, but I think this has been anxiously anticipated so I hope this is good news. The second piece of news is the monthly shipment of digital players to libraries will discontinue. Through everybody's extraordinary efforts, we've distributed a great number of machines and now the machines will be going to the west [MSCW] and we will give you an opportunity to order what you need. We have plenty of machines and we just wanted to go from a "push" to a "pull" so that you can request the machines that you need. If you need machines we've got them so don't worry - and the Operations Alert will tell you the story of how to order them. I will now turn the telephone over to you guys to ask questions...

Comment: (Bob Fistick - NLS)

Just one more announcement - we just got some information that we have to share with you. We have been informed that the LOC systems including BARD will be going down on Friday and they won't be up until 6:00am on Monday. Not all of you are there - we will send out an Operations Alert this afternoon so that everyone knows. With that, let's open up the calls...

Question (Connie Sullivan - SD)

I have a question on the excess of RC master copies. If we're getting digital copies, can we go ahead and XCESS the masters and the copies, so that we can make more room?

Answer: (Carolyn Sung - NLS)

Oh, that's a difficult one. Because there are people who are still reading cassette books. And, if a book becomes damaged and there's no other copy, you're going to need your master to make a replacement. Let's say if it becomes damaged and you have other copies on the shelf, you know, it's a moot point, but I think that has to be a closely monitored position.

Comment (Bob Fistick - NLS)

But you can certainly reduce the overall number of copies that you maintain - cassette titles.

Question: (Connie Sullivan - SD)

If we do need another copy, can't we just get it from Multistate, or interlibrary loan it for that person? Because I thought we were trying to get them off of the cassettes and on to the digital, and to do this we have to at least get rid of some of them because of the storage and because, why would we want to keep extra books around?

Answer: (Carolyn Sung - NLS)

Well we did say you can reduce the number of copies significantly.

Question: (Connie Sullivan - SD)

So we don't have to keep a master copy of all the books?

Answer: (Bob Fistick - NLS)

Well, it's prudent to keep a master copy - on your part. Honestly it is. Get rid of your extra copies, but hold on to your master copies for awhile. That would be our advice to you.

Comment: (Connie Sullivan - SD)

Ok. Thanks.

Question: (Kim Charlson - MA)

I guess this is probably for Bob. I just wanted to review the times for BARD being down?

Answer: (Bob Fistick - NLS)

Thursday we're going to go down 2:30 to 6:00 hopefully it will be back up as soon as the upgrade is performed and when BARD is back up it will have those institution capabilities. The whole library of congress is going down at 5:30 on Friday. They asked us to say that it will be down until 6:00am on Monday, but we may come up earlier than that, but, that's just like, a worst-case thing.

Question: (Kim Charlson - MA)

And, are you posting a message (on) BARD to alert people to that?

Answer: (Bob Fistick - NLS)

Yes, I'll be making the usual announcement saying the system will be down from when to when - that'll be right after this call.

Question: (Ruth Hemphill - TN)

I just wanted to verify... those times are Eastern times, right?.

Answer: (Library Staff - NLS)

Yes, Eastern Daylight Time.

Question: (Ruth Hemphill - TN)

You're going to post that right away so people will have a little advance notice? We get a lot of calls...

Answer: (Library Staff- NLS)

If it's any consolation, I get a lot more calls... (laughter).

Question: (Richard Smith - MO)

Will we be getting a press release for BARD institutions we can use?

Answer: (Library Staff - NLS)

A press release for BARD institutions?

Comment: (Richard Smith - MO)

Yeah being open to register, and some examples of what type of institutions would be eligible. We have the specifics but a press release would be nice.

Comment: (Library Staff - NLS)

Why don't you start with the ones who are active institutions?

Comment: (Library Staff - NLS)

And, we'll work on the press release. We're excited too about the this outreach for institutions. Certainly an area of the program where there's a lot of opportunity for us to get the word out about our program and there are probably many, many people who could use the program and a whole range of institutions. Alice Baker O'Reilly is coordinating with our Network Division managers on this whole program and we're just starting the pilot to test out several of the products to see how they might work in terms of what kind of a return we get on them and from that we're going to actually be going into the large mailing list. So, I think you should all be excited about it and hopefully you'll have a chance real soon to work with your current institutions as Steve was saying and make sure everything is up to speed with that and then right down the road will come this huge national effort to outreach to these different institutional groups.

Comment: (Carolyn Sung - NLS)

Also, Richard, the postcards that libraries ordered - around 77,000 - individualized for libraries - about the player and the program - should be coming in a week or two. So you can start using those with individuals and institutions.

Question: (Christie Briggs - MT)

I just had a question about the announcement for Web Braille and the Union Catalog. Will there be an announcement for those items too?

Answer: (Library Staff - NLS)

As soon as we're able we'll send out an Operations Alert alerting everybody to the outage this weekend.

Comment: (Kim Charlson - MA)

I just needed a refresher on when the Collection Development Advisory Group is going to be meeting?

Answer: (Library Staff - NLS)

Last week of May. 26 or 27?

Comment: (Library Staff - NLS)

There is, Kim, a calendar on the Network Library Services webpage. That would be another place to look...

Comment (Library Staff - NLS)

Ok, thank you everyone for joining us!

No more questions or comments.