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Past President's Report

Rob Banks

I am very pleased to report that the budget to-date appears to be OK. We still must remain vigilant and creative about how we continue to fund MPLA as the economy will be impacting us for several years to come. However, a few points make this picture brighter than anticipated. Dues are almost \$4,000 higher than this time last year. In a recession, that is excellent and thanks to everyone who has helped make that happen.

We did not meet our budgeted income from the conference, but did make \$9,456.95 on the conference in Wichita. The economy tanked between budget/conference planning and the actual conference and we were afraid that we would barely break even. To reach a figure only about \$4,500 less than budgeted is very exciting under those conditions.

Fundraising brought in \$764.14 more than last year. While the expenses for that effort are also considerably higher, it contributes to the bottom line.

Net income is \$10,189.32 as of July 15! At a time when other library organizations are laying off staff, furloughing others and generally cutting expenses in every way possible, we are slightly ahead. I heard a lot of horror stories at ALA from other state library associations about the problems rampant in their states. There are a few state associations that are struggling to remain as financially viable organizations. We have many people to thank for our success. Our members have been great to keep up memberships. We have had some fund raising efforts, which all help. Judy, Dan and Roy have all been quite frugal and managed to do their jobs with minimal expenses. I know Judy has worked quite hard to find printers for the newsletter to provide us the best possible production values at the lowest cost. That is not easy in this economy.

Thank you to everyone for what you have done.

Rob Banks

Past President