



General Membership Meeting
March 6, 2008

President Greg Needham called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Jackie Beach, Director of the CPC Regional Library System, welcomed us to the Crystal Coast. A plaque was presented to Past President Mary Sizemore, as well as a donation to her favorite animal shelter, to thank her for her service to the organization.

Minutes were approved of the November meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Tom Dillard – As of 2/29/08, the balance was \$110,046.62. That balance includes monies collected for Ancestry/Proquest (\$72,172) for which the check has been written but not yet mailed to the vendor. The report was accepted as presented.

Jonathan Hayes of Unique Management Services gave an informative summary of how his collection agency helps libraries recover material or monies. Unique, which services libraries only, can work in conjunction with your ILS to keep accurate account of money paid or books returned. Unique utilizes skip trace services to find patrons who have disappeared, and a series of phone calls and letters to retrieve materials. About 75% of their recoveries are in materials. If they are unable to get positive results in 120 days, major credit reporting agencies are notified. Many of their staff are students from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, with excellent telephone etiquette.

Social Networking – Skip Auld, Durham County Library – introduced 2 of his librarians, Jennifer Lohmann, (adult) and Autumn Winters (teen) who spoke about social networking in the library. Social networking is a way for people to get together and make connections, in the context of the library it would be online. Jennifer showed us that Facebook is just one of many sites that people use to get together. Often these networking sites attract people with specific interests such as knitting, reading, medicine, finances, etc. Autumn informed us that 70% of girls and 50% of boys have a social network presence. Social networking teaching skills needed so that kids are not left behind. These same skills are needed when taking online classes. Some of the developmental aspects of social networking include providing a sense of empowerment and allows for personal identity formation. Both Jennifer and Autumn talked about safety and that a “moral panic has been imposed unnecessarily” and that only 5% of online predators are using deception. Several educational resources include: www.staysafe.org, www.netsmart.org, www.isafe.org, and www.fbi.gov.