

Catamount Library Network  
Catalogers Meeting Minutes  
February 25, 2014

**Present:** Tom McMurdo (VT Lib), Jill Chase (Waterbury), Janet Clapp (Rutland), Jo Coleman (Springfield), Leslie Markey (Brattleboro), June Osowski (Rutland), Wendy Sharkey (Bennington), Jill Tofferi (Ludlow)

**Use of frameworks:** Leslie questioned the purpose of the frameworks. Because the default framework has the most fields and flexibility it was agreed that in general we will use the default framework.

**Statistical patrons:** Brooks uses an in-house patron to count all the books used in-house at the end of the day. Waterbury wants to use the statistical patron to count computer users. Ludlow tried it but did not get accurate information. Brooks, Springfield, and Rutland use software that counts computer usage and Bennington uses paper records. Wendy said there was a Koha discussion of school libraries counting after school users so maybe we can adapt that process. We can research this after the meeting then share the information on Basecamp. Leslie suggested cataloging each computer and then checking out the computer to an in-house patron each time a patron uses it to get the circulation statistics. The computer would need to be checked in again.

**Cataloging Blu-ray/DVD combo packs:** Some libraries don't circulate the Blu-ray disc, some circulate the combo pack, and some split the pack so the DVD and Blu-ray circulate separately. How do we catalog so we don't have duplicate records but a patron can place a hold on the desired format? When circulating them separately, they could be on the same record with different call numbers to indicate format but the patron could get a Blu-ray disc instead of a DVD when placing a hold. If a separate bib record is created for each format under the same ISBN then there will be duplicate records. The records could be differentiated by putting "Blu-ray" after the ISBN and indicating Blu-ray in the GMD in the 245 field but this could be a problem during deduping. The best solution for those libraries that split the DVD and Blu-ray is to attach the item to a bib record that indicates only that specific format. Although it's strictly not correct, patrons will know what they are getting when they place holds. Catalogers will try to find the record for the individual format and report back with what we find.

**Deduping continued:** There was agreement that it is important to have good information rather than rush to make a decision about deduping. The Catamount board agrees that cataloging decisions should come from the cataloging group. The more information we get the more questionable the Bywater process seems. Automatically using the longer record is not always a good idea because some records are lengthy due to 904 fields but aren't necessarily more accurate or complete records. Concerns about MARCIVE's process include the possible loss of holds. The partial process MARCIVE suggested is not feasible. Tom suggested three deduping options at this point: 1) work out the free process with Bywater then see where are; 2) don't do Bywater at all because it may cause problems and just pay MARCIVE; 3) do Bywater then MARCIVE process. Jo asked if we can get feedback from other libraries that have used the Bywater deduping process. Tom will ask Joy at Bywater.

Leslie contacted MassCat, a consortium using Koha since 2008. Bywater did dedup for them. That took care of only a small portion of the duplicate records because only matching the first isbn means many duplicates are not found. MassCat hires somebody to manually merge records. Leslie proposed a fourth option: Catamount hire somebody to manually merge records. According to Leslie's rough estimates based on MassCat's statistics of time involved, this would be a cheaper alternative than MARCIVE and more effective than either MARCIVE or Bywater because of the human intervention. The MassCat person works 15 hours/week but not all that time is merging records. She merges about 800 records/month. There was concern about employer responsibilities if Catamount hires or contracts an individual. Leslie knows somebody that could work a few hours per week and since she's already a Brooks employee perhaps the cost of the deduping work could be deducted from the fee Brooks pays Catamount. There was consensus from the group that this is the best option so Jill Chase, as president of the catalogers group, will bring the proposal to the Catamount board. We will also get feedback from other libraries on the Bywater process to see if that is a method we can use to shrink the number of duplicate records that will need to be merged. Jill will post our proposal to the Catamount Management and Catalogers' groups.

**Next meeting:** Jill will send out a Doodle poll to determine the next meeting date and time.