

CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
April 9, 2009
DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CITY LIBRARIAN: We had several good articles in the Herald & Review this month. We are working on decluttering and cleaning all areas of the library. We are also working on removing things stored on the floor. I had a meeting with the Master Gardeners concerning their plans for the library gardens. They are also interested in doing something at the Library Annex. I gave a tour of the DPL behind the scenes for the RPLS seminar. I visited the sites and attended the panel presentations for the United Way Community Basics panel. In addition to my regular meetings, I also attended the RPLS Advisory Board meeting, met with Ed for several grievance issues, and met with new sales rep for Recorded Books.

DISASTER: We are back up and running after our water leak. The library was closed only 4 hours and 5 minutes to the public. The meeting rooms were closed a week and the lab a little longer. We did however make arrangements for the free tax assistance to continue as scheduled, by temporarily borrowing computers from other areas of the library. Altogether, including staff time on Sunday, we submitted to the City for water damage invoices totaling \$21,607.15. Part of this includes 2 computer tables, 5 laptops, 1 projector, and 14 meeting room tables. The largest expense was Servpro for water removal, mold prevention and cleaning at \$7,773.80. The plumber only cost \$347.15 to fix the leak. Again I can't say enough about how the staff pulled together and worked really hard to get us back into shape, so we could continue to serve our public.

FOUNDATION: The Foundation has not met. Demolition has started on the ground floor of the Library Annex. We are working with Habitat for Humanity, and they are taking a whole lot of what we can't reuse for their resale store. The blueprints are being finalized after the last modification. BWC expects to submit them to the City for approval before the end of April and go out to bids shortly thereafter.

PNG: The final projects were unveiled March 23rd during an evening presentation open to family and friends. Over 50 people attended. The H&R ran a nice article about the presentation and the PNG program. We have received word that the program will continue and we can expect to receive \$12,500 for the next year.

RPLS: The Users Group meeting is in Springfield April 15th. On April 21st there will be an upgrade to the automation system. Hopefully we will only be down half a day. RPLS

Rostek from her January injury. Heather Taapken resigned, as she is moving out of state. The process to fill the now vacant position has begun.

ADMINISTRATION: Our total number of checkouts in March was 50,468 items from the main library, plus 5,582 items routed out to other libraries in RPLS. That when combined with extensions checkout of 7,658 brings the total checkouts for the month to 63,708. This brings our checkouts up by +22% from March 2008, up +8% from February 2009, and up +4% for the fiscal year. Meeting rooms were booked 23 times earning \$1,040.

ADULT DIVISION: Plans for our 3rd annual 'Patriotic Celebration in Central Park' are underway. The program will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 17th. Work is also underway for WWII exhibit scheduled for the fall. Our 7 programs had 396 attendees. A total of 334 people used the Database computers, +14.2% increase since March 2008, +12.9% increase since February. Of the 334 people, 141 (42.2%) were doing job search related work. Patrons logged on to the internet for 156,132 minutes and there were 6,190 Professional Assists: 6190, +27% increase since March 2008. Our 11 online book clubs were accessed 22,680 by 1,134 members. The Local History room had 104 visitors, 22 of them were from out of town.

BUILDING DIVISION: Since Chris has been out, Noah has stepped up to days. He and his crew have been busy getting the meeting room back in working order. Since we were down, we took the opportunity to deep clean them, paint and straighten up the storage area. They look as good as the day we opened.

CHILDREN'S DIVISION: We are already gearing up for the summer reading club. Our 32 programs had 791 attendees; we had 11 groups use the library with 241 participants, 1 outreach program reached 200 people, and 421 kids signed up to use the computers. On March 26 all the library assistants were able to attend at least one of the RPLS programs held at DPL. We partnered with several different groups, including District 61, the Education Collation and Big Brothers Big Sisters to name a few.

CIRCULATION DIVISION: Total number of checkouts during the month of March is 50,468 items, up +8% as compared to the 46,314 items checked out in February 2009, and up +8% as compared to 46,655 items checked out in March 2008. The total gate count for the month of March is 31,577, an increase over March of 2008 by +12%, contributing to an increase of +4.8% for the 2009 FY. There were 8,122 items were checked out of the DPL by patrons from other libraries and DPL patrons checked out 3,830 items at other libraries. Of the 3,830 items checked out by our patrons at other libraries, 1,975 of those items were checked

opened in March, up +23% from March 2008. New library accounts are up +16% overall from 2008 at this time.

EXTENSION DIVISION: ISAT testing began the first week of March, and lasted two weeks, but circulation was up over March of last year on both bookmobiles. On March 3rd the generator on 548 wouldn't start, so we used the Colorado. Bodine Electric found bare wires that shorted out, and fried the controller. Repairs cost just over \$2000 and it took two weeks to fix. We had 17 volunteers donate 146.9 hours of work.

GATES COMPUTER LAB: We only had 1 class this month due to the lab being closed for water damage. It was full with 10 participants, 9 of whom were Decatur residents.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION: For extra security outside, ADT installed two new cameras. One is facing the west side of the annex, the other in the loading dock area. We had to purchase 15 pairs of radios to replace deteriorating ones. We also purchased and installed 5 new LCD monitors in Circulation, the previous monitors were failing.

TECHNICAL DIVISION: Acquisitions processed 559 invoices and barcoded were 1,887 items. Of these items 1,255 were new titles and 1,785 were new items. 5. 577 and 109 reference periodicals were processed, while 30 were deleted. We received 41 bins of mail and 345 bins from RPLS. We receive 248 packages and 75 went to other departments in the library. Our patrons requested 136 items on ILL and of this number 32 were filled on Illinet. We requested 110 items on OCLC and received 138 OCLC items. OCLC requests to us were 968 up by +12% from February, and we were able to fill 334. We cataloged 1497 titles, reclassified 22 items, and reinstated 32 titles into our collection. There were 210 titles/210 volumes agency changes, and 428 database and 288 marc record changes. We imported 488 new records into the Horizon database, item work on 1697/2234 titles/volumes and withdrew 1541/1563 titles. Processing bound 362 paperbacks processed 211 unclassified paperbacks, and 578 periodicals. They mended 922 items (Books & periodicals 401, AV 115, replacement jackets 195).

Respectfully submitted,

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