

Director's Report July 2010

To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing. Elbert Hubbard

Summer Reading Program:

The library has positively exploded with activity! In the first month, we have almost exceeded all of last year's stats. The kids and parents are excited and it shows. Here's what we have thus far:

- 631 registered
- 170,500 minutes worth of book bucks cashed in at the store
- 31 programs
- 311 adults in attendance
- 1,114 children in attendance

We had a pirate theme one week in June and will do so again in July. The staff dressed up like pirates and had fun with the patrons. As you can see in our check out stats, children's check outs are up dramatically from last year. The adults, however, lagged a bit.

Adult Programs:

Readers Anonymous is discussing *The Birth House* by Ami McKay this month. The evening book club is reading *The Year of Fog* by Michelle Richmond. Since moving to 5:30 p.m., the evening group has picked up new members.

Food for Fines:

We collected 57 jars of peanut butter and 33 jars of jelly in June. We are accepting ketchup, mustard and mayo from July 17-24.

Building Task Force:

We will have a second joint meeting with the Board on Wednesday, July 28, 5:30 p.m., to go through the compilation of the focus groups. Hopefully, you will be able to come to a consensus as to what approach needs to be taken to garner wider participation in our surveys.

Budget:

We had our capital projects workshop with the Commission. I was not able to get the security gates back in. In August, we will have the operating budget workshop. When I met with Doug and Duane, this did not get changed a great deal from what I provided in last month's packet.

Lighted Display Case:

I awarded the display case to Bartz Carpentry & Construction at a cost of \$576.30 after being assured that it will be a solid oak case. We have a total of \$358 in donations from Irene Kolar and Tony DeMaro memorials. I have approached Friends to pay the remainder and they are interested. If they do not, I will take money out of trust fund donations to pay the remainder.

ALEPH Upgrade:

On July 9, SDLN begins what is scheduled to be a three-day upgrade to our circulation system/catalog. However, if this upgrade goes as most do, we will be down much longer. Public library directors tried to get the upgrade moved out of our summer reading program months, but SDLN would not move it as, if all goes well, everything will be in place before academic libraries begin to have heavy usage. It did not make us happy that our complaints were not heard/understood.

Unfortunately, this will be trying for the patrons as well as the staff as we will only be able to check in and check out materials, and while patrons can access the catalog from home, they can't place holds or renew items. Interlibrary loans will not be available either.

Branch Out:

This is a one-day conference held for para professionals, anyone who doesn't have a degree in library science. Linda Weberg and Cathy Battin are attending and I will be presenting a session on collaborating with entities within your community. It is held in Sioux Falls, so we plan to tour the newly expanded downtown library.

Mentor:

I have been asked by the State Library to mentor a public library director who is getting her Master's in Library and Information Science through a state program. Our first gathering of mentors and students will be August 3 at the State Library, Pierre. I plan to attend that session and will probably go out the afternoon before as the day begins at 9:15 a.m.

FISH!:

At the staff meeting this month, I am introducing an internationally known program called FISH! This program addresses creating a workplace environment where people are connected to their work, to their fellow staff members and to their customers. It "imagines a workplace where everyone chooses to bring energy, passion and a positive attitude with them each day." It is a great customer service program that I have used before. We used Teget funds to purchase items related to the program. This is The FISH Philosophy: "Be There, Play, Make Their Day, Choose Your Attitude."

We do a good job with customer service, but there's always a higher goal to reach. There are some of us that need to smile more and be friendlier. This is a "game" of sorts where everyone becomes involved in making work a happier, better place.

2009 Annual Report:

Enclosed you will find the 2009 annual report. I will e-mail this to the City Commission in July as a point of information.

Library Foundation:

The Foundation will meet on July 15 with the by-laws and insurance as our agenda items. After this meeting, we should be ready to apply for our 501 (c)(3).

Election of Officers:

This is the meeting that we open our last meeting of the old year, conduct old business, close, open our first meeting of the new year, elect officers, and conduct our new business.

June Computer Usage: 2,429 half hour and 267 hour users; **2,696 total users**

June Traffic Count: 16,432

June Meeting Room Usage: 73 uses; 145 hours

Non library: 56 hours, 13 uses

Library: 45 hours, 39 uses

June Study Room Usage: 21 uses; 44 hours

Additions to the Collection in June: 279 total items

June 2010	Adult	Young Adult	Junior	Easy
Fiction	128	6	23	23
Non fiction	48		18	7
DVD	15		2	
Audiobooks	4	3	1	
Music CDs	1			
Professional				
Total	196	9	44	30