

MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY



July 2008 Report

Presented at the August 12, 2008 Library Board Meeting

1. STATISTICS

Circulation:	Adult	YA	Juv.	Total	Year to Date
2008	39,580	5,637	28,985	74,202	444,826
2007	38,058	4,799	27,549	70,205	424,681
2006	36,904	4,736	21,748	63,388	395,718
2005	34,280	3,533	17,791	55,604	356,973
(2007-08 +/-)	(+4%)	(+17%)	(+5%)	(+6%)	(+5%)

Self-Service checkouts:

	3M	ITG	Total	% of total
2008				
2007	5,845	6,731	12,576	17.9%

Library cards issued:	Adult	Juv.	Sr.	Org.	Total
2008	117	47	0	1	165
2007	124	67	4	0	195

Dynix holds:

	Loaned to	Borrowed from
2008	18,423	19,186
2007	16,820	16,742
	(+10%)	(+15%)

Miscellaneous:	ILL	Visits	Study Rooms Use
2008	22	47,453	510 hours / 371 bookings
2007	30	45,622	441 hours / 337 bookings

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES		
Date	Program	Attendance
July 1, Tuesday	Storytime for 2 and 3 year olds	28
July 1, Tuesday	Storytime for 4 and 5 year olds	17
July 2, Wednesday	All ages storytime	38
July 2, Wednesday	All ages storytime	16
July 2, Wednesday	Children's program: <i>Bee Movie</i>	140
July 3, Thursday	Baby storytime	12
July 3, Thursday	All ages storytime	25
July 3, Thursday	<p>Tweens Book Discussion Content: <i>The Penderwicks: a Summer Tale of Four Sisters, 2 Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy.</i> Lori's evaluation: Great turnout! Even though 31 kids had signed up, I was only expecting maybe 10 or so. I divided the kids around 3 round tables and had them take turns picking questions out of a basket and leading their group's discussion. Betsy & I merely circulated among the tables adding a comment or question here and there. All the kids seemed to have a good time and had a lot to say.</p>	19
July 7, Monday	Evening family storytime	18
July 8, Tuesday	Storytime for 2 and 3 year olds	13
July 8, Tuesday	Storytime for 4 and 5 year olds	18
July 8, Tuesday	Tweens Drama Club	11
July 9, Wednesday	All ages storytime	21
July 9, Wednesday	All ages storytime	29
July 9, Wednesday	Book Bunch & Lunch	12
July 9, Wednesday	Teen program: Salsa Squared	5
July 10, Thursday	Baby storytime	11
July 10, Thursday	All ages drop-in storytime	15
July 10, Thursday	<p>Tweens Drama Club: Performance (Group A) Content: 11 'tweens performed 3 plays for friends and family: <i>Grasshopper to the Rescue; Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock; Old Cricket.</i> Evaluation: Everyone had a great time - lots and lots of positive feedback from the kids and their parents. Betsy was absolutely essential to the success of this program. Theater clubs are just too much for 1 person even with such a small group of kids.</p>	43
July 10, Thursday	Computer class: Introduction to Word	11
July 11, Friday	Computer class: Online Genealogy I	7
July 11, Friday	<p>Parent & Child Book Discussion Content: Book Discussion of <i>Diary of A Worm & Diary of A Spider</i> by Doreen Cronin. I had all 7 round tables set up and each table had their own discussion. I had questions and discussion points at each table. As a group, each table picked out their favorite part of the book to read out loud. I went around to each table during their table discussions. After the small group discussions, one person from each table read their favorite part out loud. Svetha's evaluation: Went really well. I was able to offer spots</p>	59

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, cont'd.		
	for patrons on the waiting list. Everyone had a lot of fun and breaking up into smaller groups worked well. This format was also a good way to get some of the quieter patrons to bring in their insight - I think they felt less inhibited with the "round table discussion". It would have been too difficult to lead a discussion otherwise and would have felt more like a lecture. The kids enjoyed hearing their favorite sections read out loud again and everyone really enjoyed assembling their "sundaes". It was nice to end with movie. All the read-alikes from the display were checked out. Very fun and rewarding.	
July 14, Monday	Krafty Kids: Summer (afternoon session)	39
July 14, Monday	Teen Advisory Committee	5
July 14, Monday	Krafty Kids: Summer (evening session)	32
July 15, Tuesday	Storytime for 2 and 3 year olds	14
July 15, Tuesday	Storytime for 4 and 5 year olds	15
July 15, Tuesday	Tweens Drama Club, Group B	20
July 15, Tuesday	Adult program: "Strange Wisconsin", presented by author Linda Godfrey	46
July 16, Wednesday	Toddler storytime	23
July 16, Wednesday	All ages storytime	35
July 16, Wednesday	Book Bunch & Lunch Group B	24
July 17, Thursday	Baby storytime	18
July 17, Thursday	All ages storytime	23
July 17, Thursday	Tweens Drama Club, Group B	12
July 17, Thursday	Computer class: Intermediate Word	10
July 17, Thursday	Teen program: Battle of the Sexes	11
July 18, Friday	Family program: Traveling Lantern Theater Company Content: Traveling Lantern presented the play "Caterpillar Hunter" Kathy's evaluation: The Traveling Lantern Company once again entranced our large audience with their professional performance. As in the past, they proved to be reliable, on-time, and extremely entertaining for our group of all-ages participants. Their work is always engaging and includes audience participation on several levels. The two women performers were well equipped to handle the large group and mentioned that it was a very good and attentive group as well. There were lots of laughs and applause, and the exit comments from the patrons were all positive. Recommend to hire them again!!	178
July 21, Monday	Family evening storytime	10
July 22, Tuesday	Storytime for 2 and 3 year olds	14
July 22, Tuesday	Storytime for 4 and year olds	10
July 22, Tuesday	Tweens Drama Club, Group B	19
July 23, Wednesday	All ages storytime	12
July 23, Wednesday	All ages storytime	39
July 23, Wednesday	Book Bunch & Lunch	18
July 24, Thursday	Baby storytime	20
July 24, Thursday	All ages storytime	27
July 24, Thursday	Tweens Drama Club, Group B	19

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, cont'd.		
July 24, Thursday	Teen program: pizza and soda tasting	21
July 24, Thursday	<p>Adult Book Discussion Group Summer Potluck.</p> <p>Content: Discussion of the book "Tales of a Female Nomad" by Rita Golden Gelman, accompanied by a meal of salads and garlic chips from Bandung Indonesian Restaurant, and pizza, soda, and dessert provided by program funding from the Friends of the Library.</p> <p>Liz's evaluation: It was an engaging and thoughtful discussion on the motives and message from the author, Rita Golden Gelman. "Tales of a Female Nomad" turned out to be more memoir than a travel tale, but was well received by all participants who said they would definitely recommend the book to others.</p>	18
July 25, Friday	<p>Tween Mystery Jeopardy</p> <p>Lori's evaluation: Excellent! As usual, Patrick did an outstanding job. The kids really get a kick out of the realistic, computerized Jeopardy game board. Betsy helped with lunch and scores and just in general - very nice to have an extra set of hands. The kids all seemed to have a great time. I did not do reminder calls, so 38 out of the 50 signed up is not a bad turnout! Any more and it would have been too much anyway.. All-in-all, highly successful!</p>	29
July 25, Friday	<p>Computer class for adults: Genealogy Online II</p> <p>Content: Hands-on computer class. Description: "Explore some of the many free online resources available for researching your family's history, including FamilySearch, RootsWeb, and the Wisconsin Historical Society's genealogy Web site."</p> <p>Sarah's evaluation: This class went very well and was fun to teach. I'm really glad I split up the genealogy class into two sessions so we could cover more material. It could easily be a 3-part class! I really promoted the resources at the Wisconsin Historical Society and introduced the participants to their digital indexes/collections and MadCat, so hopefully they will take advantage of our proximity to such a wonderful genealogy collection. Footnote and FamilySearch Labs, which both run on Flash, weren't as slow as I had worried they might be.</p>	6
July 28, Monday	<p>Parent-Child Book Discussion: <i>The End of the Beginning</i> by Avi.</p> <p>Content: Set up 7 round tables for small group discussion and discussion points and thoughts for each group.</p> <p>Reading: Each group was given 2 chapters to skim through and chose a "designated reader" to share their favorite passage.</p> <p>Book display and bibliography of read-alikes.</p> <p>Film: A Boy, A Dog and A Frog by Mercer Mayer</p> <p>Svetha's evaluation: Really nice. I liked the small round table discussion format from last month. It works well and gives people a chance to express themselves freely without having a "leader". I received a lot of positive feedback for the program which always makes me feel good!</p>	41

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, cont'd.		
July 29, Tuesday	Storytime for 2 and 3 year olds	8
July 29, Tuesday	Storytime for 4 and year olds	15
July 29, Tuesday	Tweens Drama Club, Group B	19
July 29, Tuesday	<p>Culture Clash for Teens Content: Teens signed up for a country & brought a dish to pass from that country, returned Peace Corps volunteers invited to bring artifacts from their travels & talk about their host countries, multicultural games (hoop race, mancala, go), country facts trivia contest. Rebecca's evaluation: Good group of very polite teens. They seemed to enjoy all the activities and looking at the strange multicultural objects we brought in. A Peace Corps volunteer from Morocco wore a black veil/dress. One teen made Ethiopian bread & homemade cheese that was delicious.</p>	7
July 29, Tuesday	<p>Program for adults: An Evening in Paris. Content: Jennifer Peters has created a DVD with pictures of Paris accompanied by a soundtrack of words and music. She also did a short "travel phrases" presentation first. Liz's evaluation: Great crowd; many, many enthusiastic comments at the program's conclusion. Jen is a lively speaker; very knowledgeable; and knows how to interact with large audiences. The chocolate and brie provided by the Friends got several compliments too. And, as ever, Patrick was a huge help technically. All in all, a very upbeat conclusion to this summer's adult reading program.</p>	54
July 30, Wednesday	All ages storytime	33
July 30, Wednesday	All ages storytime	27
July 30, Wednesday	Book Bunch & Lunch	18
July 31, Thursday	Baby storytime	25
July 31, Thursday	All ages storytime	20
July 31, Thursday	<p>'Tweens Drama Club B Performance. Content: Final rehearsal 1-2pm; Performance of all 5 plays plus skits. Lori's Evaluation: Whew! A great group of kids and they all did very well! We even attracted families without performers in the cast!! Lots of positive feedback about this and other programs. READ posters continue to be a hot topic. Lots of fun, lots of work, glad it went well.</p>	70
July 31, Thursday	<p>Computer class for adults: Advanced Word Content: Hands on computer class. Class description: "Using Microsoft Word 2002, learn about formatting borders and shading, inserting clip art, creating columns and tables, and more." Evaluation: The class went very smoothly; we even finished a few minutes early. 6 is really the perfect class size. Everyone gets their questions answered, and it's so much easier to keep everyone caught up. A couple people asked for extra handouts to give to friends. One woman commented at the end: "You've just made my life so much easier!"</p>	6

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, cont'd.		
	Number of programs / Total attendance	
	Children's	51 / 1,452
	Teens	5 / 49
	Adults	8 / 158
	GRAND TOTAL	64 / 1,659

3. LIBRARY EXHIBITS		
Location	Exhibit	Artist/Collector
Lobby display case	Middleton Historical Society	
Picture rail	Mixed media	Mary Ann Inman

4. STAFF DEVELOPMENT: MEETINGS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION		
Date	Event	Participant(s)
June 16, Monday	LINK Integrated Library System Selection Committee field trip to the Outagamie-Waupaca Library System in Appleton.	Jason
July 8, Tuesday	South Central Library System Joint Technology Committee meeting	Sarah
July 10, Thursday	LINK Circulation Services committee meeting at the Madison Public Library	Elizabeth, Jason
July 10, Thursday	Dane County librarians meeting, at the South Central Library System. Review of 2009 Dane County Library Service budget proposal.	Paul
July 17, Tuesday	LINK Directors Council meeting, at the South Central Library System. Review of 2009 LINK budget proposal.	Paul
July 23-24, Wednesday-Thursday	WiLSWorld Conference 2005, highlighting library technology and current issues, at the Pyle Center, UW-Madison	Sarah

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Library Use Highlights for July 2008

- A very busy month. Our total circulation (74,202) came within 3,000 items of the circulation at the Madison Central Library. Total circulation of 70,205 is our best month ever and our 34th straight month of record circulation.
- A total of 64 programs attracted 1,659 participants. The program total is not a record, but the number of participants is – by a wide margin.
- The numbers of items lent to and borrowed from other LINK libraries showed an unexpected large increase – especially in light of the overall increase in library circulation.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT, cont'd.

- Use of the study rooms increased by nearly 15% compared to last July, continuing a summertime trend that started last year.

2008 Library Staff In-Service Agenda

- 8:30 Continental breakfast (optional)
- 9:00 Elizabeth: new self check machine; the general effect of increasing library use
Jason: news on planned system upgrade
Svetha: overview of how the summer reading programs went
- 9:30 Break into 5 discussion groups to discuss our feelings, concerns, and hopes for this new era at the library. (Facilitators: Liz, Elizabeth, Svetha, Patrick, and Jason)
- 10:15 15 minute break
- 10:30 Joan Gillman from the University of Wisconsin—Madison.
Ms. Gillman will get feedback from the break-out groups; talk about successful workplace transitions; and address the library's transition period specifically.
- 11:30 Lunch with new library director, Pamela Westby!
- We will each take 30 seconds to introduce ourselves to Pamela, as well, as in some cases, to each other.
- *Please plan to share your name, your job title, the length of time you've worked here, and "what you like best about your job."*
- 12:30 Clean-up
- 1:00 Library opens for business

Great Libraries Need Exceptional Board Members

And Middleton has always had them in abundance!

As this is my final report, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your ongoing service to the library. Past and present, no matter what the configuration, I have enjoyed working with a group of board members who always have the best interests of the library foremost in mind. I have truly been fortunate in this regard.

Thank you for having the trust and confidence in my vision for what the Middleton Public Library can become and for working with staff and city officials to achieve our goals. I am so proud of all that we have accomplished.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont'd

Snapshot of Middleton Public Library Holdings (number of volumes), 1991-2008

(The last of what has been many statistical presentations!)

Books	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008
Adult hardcover books	22505	23980	25067	27290	30255	32004	30702	35990	36657	37492	38613
Teen hardcover books	1326	1389	1308	1435	2245	2742	2943	3537	3780	3810	4017
Children's hardcover books	14719	17150	17089	16629	17788	17548	15391	18879	20963	21645	22401
Adult reference books	1170	1314	1343	1399	1385	1323	1294	1088	870	814	789
Children's reference books		117	113	172	216	234	231	297	165	146	203
Large print books	500	803	1035	1165	1178	1237	1298	1597	1800	1848	2050
Foreign language books						242	277	517	663	673	750
Total hardcover books	40220	44753	45955	48090	53067	55330	52136	61905	64898	66428	68823
Adult paperbacks	4818	6465	7707	8058	8850	8844	9475	7993	7687	7680	7953
Teen paperbacks	1299	1376	1757	1673	1804	2125	2265	2532	2562	2742	2901
Children's paperbacks	1865	2279	1530	1556	1925	1772	1760	3536	4959	5728	6454
Total paperback books	7982	10120	10994	11287	12579	12741	13500	14061	15208	16150	17338
Total books	48202	54873	56949	59377	65646	68071	65143	75966	80106	83657	86161
Audiovisual	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008
DVD (adult)						483	1453	2417	3054	3757	4245
DVD (teen)							166	493	658	767	885
DVD (children)							356	1467	2550	3215	3791
CD-ROM software (adult)				27	42	58	66	70	63	56	50
CD-ROM software (teen)						35	67	99	111	130	151
CD-ROM software (children)				43	88	75	81	130	158	154	185
Compact discs (adult)	577	805	1089	1659	2144	2318	2349	2499	2838	3146	3444
Compact discs (teen)					85	388	558	762	766	740	793
Compact discs (children)		31	72	88	96	87	95	218	355	370	404
Books on cassette (adult)	735	1195	1651	2277	2593	2476	2355	1560	1218	991	884
Book on cassette (teen)				27	50	73	111	142	130	112	106
Books on CD (adult)						319	667	979	1136	1264	1374
Books on CD (teen)							11	48	71	93	93
Books on CD (children)							15	91	161	197	197
Book/AV kits	309	303	249	201	185	138	155	175	109	6	0
Foreign language kits	59	110	149	140	150	156	146	165	170	477	478
Playaway audiobooks											49
Discontinued formats											
Videocassettes (adult)	379	724	1124	1584	2213	2615	2610	2272	1674	225	0
Videocassettes (teen)					59	219	200	151	127	0	0
Videocassettes (children)	350	661	990	1142	1842	1831	1816	1862	1311	483	0
Audiocassettes (music)	950	901	946	877	836	464	486	486	425	0	0
Books on cassette (children)				203	177	210	177	188	179	111	0
Children's cassettes	349	428	364	241	115	73	43	34	31	0	0
Total audiovisual	3708	5158	6634	8509	10675	12018	13983	16308	17295	16330	17257
Total book and AV	51910	60031	63583	67886	76321	80089	79126	92274	97401	98908	103418

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont'd

Snapshot of Middleton Public Library Holdings: Observations

- In 2008, the library finally reached 100,000 in the total number of volumes owned.
- Audiovisual materials remain a changeable area of collection development. The tape format has just about played itself out, so to speak, with audiobooks still holding on. Videocassettes and music cassettes were dropped from the collection at the end of 2007.
- Paperback growth continues to be strong for children's titles. The number of adult paperbacks has been relatively stable during the past four years.
- The book/AV kit format, traditionally packaged in a hanging plastic bag, has become obsolete. Publishers now tuck a CD in a sleeve inside the book, which allows libraries to shelve this format with other books.

Circulation Comparison by Format (January to June 2007 vs. January to June 2008)

The next two tables show the ups and downs of library circulation by format.

Format	Jun-08	Jun-07	Jun-06	07-08	06-08	08 YTD	07 YTD	06 YTD	07-08	06-08
Juv hardcover fiction	3,652	3,586	3,887	2%	-6%	16,714	18,480	17,942	-10%	-7%
Juv nonfiction	2,009	1,681	1,345	20%	49%	12,444	10,551	8,134	18%	53%
Juv paperbacks	5,029	4,363	3,373	15%	49%	17,237	14,091	11,288	22%	53%
Easy readers	2,766	2,946	2,389	-6%	16%	13,054	11,562	10,828	13%	21%
Picture books	5,560	5,255	4,376	6%	27%	30,558	25,006	25,188	22%	21%
Teen fiction	1,647	1,464	1,204	13%	37%	6,565	5,832	5,117	13%	28%
Teen nonfiction	337	377	339	-11%	-1%	2,027	2,085	1,991	-3%	2%
Teen paperbacks	1,488	1,214	1,224	23%	22%	6,612	5,164	5,476	28%	21%
Adult fiction	5,237	4,898	5,079	7%	3%	29,531	27,898	26,357	6%	11%
Adult nonfiction	6,492	6,121	6,366	6%	2%	40,804	37,859	39,563	8%	3%
Adult paperbacks	3,142	3,251	3,300	-3%	-5%	17,267	16,497	16,906	5%	2%
New fiction	2,020	2,025	2,108	0%	-4%	11,698	11,542	11,308	1%	3%
New nonfiction	1,815	1,706	1,720	6%	6%	10,601	10,243	9,938	3%	7%
Large print	685	746	627	-8%	9%	4,061	4,261	3,640	-5%	12%
Magazines (adult)	1,127	1,147	1,072	-2%	5%	6,940	6,645	6,481	4%	7%
Magazines (teen)	109	145	195	-25%	-44%	457	514	671	-11%	-32%
Magazines (juv)	92	136	186	-32%	-51%	450	538	687	-16%	-34%
Total	43,207	41,061	38,790	5%	11%	227,020	208,768	201,515	9%	13%

Overall, circulation of print materials (books and magazines) is a healthy 9% so far this year compared to 2007 – and up 13% over 2006's figures. The biggest percentages are in the area of children's (i.e., Juv) and teen materials. The drop in use of the children's hardcover fiction is more than offset by the increase in the use of children's paperbacks. The magazine format for children and teens magazines, however, continues to slide. Circulation of the adult large-print collection has shown an unexpected decline.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont'd

Current formats	Jun-08	Jun-07	Jun-06	07-08	06-08	08 YTD	07 YTD	06 YTD	07-08	06-08
Juv book/AV kits	233	10	109	2230%	114%	614	301	610	101%	1%
Juv compact discs	710	541	408	31%	74%	4,071	3,043	2,213	34%	84%
Juv software	135	114	104	18%	30%	817	663	800	23%	2%
Juv DVD	6,119	5,225	2,779	17%	120%	33,902	26,940	14,409	26%	135%
Teen compact discs	392	390	503	1%	-22%	2,123	2,251	2,503	-6%	-15%
Teen DVD	1,237	941	686	31%	80%	6,300	5,254	3,344	20%	89%
Adult cassettes (books)	421	724	1,064	-42%	-60%	3,061	4,389	5,972	-30%	-49%
Compact discs (books)	1,760	1,584	1,392	11%	26%	9,600	8,854	7,666	8%	25%
Compact discs (music)	3,569	3,527	3,797	1%	-6%	23,073	22,847	23,893	1%	-3%
Adult DVD	8,964	8,581	6,735	4%	33%	54,891	48,108	37,307	14%	47%
SCIDs	387	438	380	-12%	2%	2,293	2,480	2,631	-8%	-12%
Subtotal	23,927	22,075	17,957	8%	33%	140,745	125,130	101,348	12%	39%
Discontinued formats										
Juv cassettes	20	130	215			282	543	648		
Juv video	44	1,634	2,095			616	9,027	12,774		
Teen cassettes	14	32	48			149	151	211		
Teen videos	24	94	150			34	467	764		
Adult cassettes (music)	9	26	48			37	196	324		
Adult video	353	1,451	2,016			2,674	9,436	13,903		
Subtotal	464	3,367	4,572			3,792	19,820	28,624		
Total AV	24,391	25,442	22,529	-4%	8%	144,537	144,950	129,972	0%	11%
Total Books & AV	67,598	66,503	61,319	2%	10%	371,557	353,718	331,487	5%	12%
% AV of Total	36.1%	38.3%	36.7%			38.9%	41.0%	39.2%		

The comparison of circulation of audiovisual materials is a bit skewed due to the number of formats that were discontinued at the end of 2007. The only tape format that remains in the Middleton collection is adult and teen audiobooks. The circulation of discontinued formats in 2008 represent those items requested from other LINK libraries.

6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS

Liz Dannenbaum, Head of Adult Services

A busy and successful month!

Sarah attended the annual WILSWorld conference. This conference focuses on technology and she attended sessions on technology that affects libraries, such as WorldCat Local and open source ILS software.

Three adult summer reading programs were very well attended. It's obvious that travel programs are very popular with adults: 46 people came to hear author Linda Godfrey talk about strange and haunted places in Wisconsin; 54 people came to hear travel expert Jennifer Peters talk about exploring Paris.

6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS, cont'd.

And our summer supper/book discussion went very well. 16 women came and the most exciting part of the evening was that several of them expressed real interest in an evening library book discussion this fall. Elizabeth and I are pursuing this possibility.

The statistics for the Adult Summer Reading Program are very pleasing. In 2007 112 adults came to programs; 90 picked up reading logs; and turned in 35 completed ones.

In comparison, this year 187 people attended programs; 123 picked up reading logs; and 60 turned completed logs in!

Svetha Hetzler, Head of Children's Services

July was a busy month for us as summer reading program activities were in full swing. 2 of our 4 special guest presenters, The Traveling Lantern Theatre Company and Mr. Billy, entertained our patrons. Both were very well received and we plan on inviting both of them back next summer.

Our drop-in format for storytimes worked very well and we will do the same next summer. Both sessions of Lori's 'Tweens Only Drama Club performed in July. Parents and kids enjoyed the experience. However, Lori feels this type of program limits the number of patrons she can accommodate so she is thinking of presenting a different series of programs for the 'tweens next summer. The same is true for my Book Bunch program. I plan on restructuring the format of Book Bunch so that it can be a drop-in program. I think flexible scheduling is appreciated in the summertime by our patrons.

One of the biggest challenges this summer was program registration and the frustration in having programs become full in less than 24 hours! We've already begun reformulating our sign-up procedures to alleviate this problem. Our weekly storytimes, book bunch and 'tween programs will be drop-ins – no sign up necessary. Our large programs (guest performers, krafty kids, etc.) will have a ticketing procedure just half an hour prior to the program as we found many patrons that signed up in advance did not show up for the program. Our book programs (book discussions, book bistro, etc.) will involve a more involved registration process of formally checking out and checking in books prior to the event and invitations/program reminders will be given when books are checked in. This procedure will eliminate the need for reminder phone calls and ensure that patrons who are picking up the books are committed to attending the program.

The 50-hour milestone Read posters certainly proved to be a huge motivator and involved many extra hours of work for Lori. 209 children were scheduled for a photo shoot, 204 showed up and of course 204 posters were generated. The posters are very eye-catching and several patrons commented on what a terrific "community builder" they were. If we plan on offering this reading incentive again next

6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS, cont'd.

year, Lori will definitely need to have more time off the desk and a less demanding programming schedule.

Our summer practicum student, Betsy Wermuth, completed her 120 hours and Allison Kaplan from SLIS came to observe her storytime and chat with all of us. Betsy did a phenomenal job with her storytime presentation, in fact, one of the best storytimes I've ever observed! We did mention to Allison that supervising practicum students over the summer is challenging but at the same time it's an invaluable experience for students. One of the largest challenges this summer was consistency. Betsy was involved with other classes and work this summer and it seemed to take its toll and things did feel rather disjointed. I would be happy to host a practicum student again over the summer if the student is able to commit to a regular schedule. If we are able to minimize scheduling conflicts, I think everyone would benefit.

Kathy did a great job in keeping the volunteer schedule updated and the treasure chest staffed. Our 3 dedicated summer youth services pages proved to be huge necessity due to the pace of the summer. Besides attending to the volume of patrons, they were able to keep all paperwork and inventory related to the summer reading program in good order and when time allowed, were able to straighten up the children's area and do a bit of shelving. We were happy with all 3 pages and will be in touch with them to check on their availability next summer.

Kathy continued to work on paperback cataloging/processing, mending projects and was invaluable in the much needed help desk support.

Our efforts in collection development paid off, we certainly had many patrons enter our library doors this summer and patrons seemed to always have a nice collection to browse through.

As a staff, we will take some time to discuss summer 2008 so that we can evaluate and anticipate needs for 2009.

This summer we enrolled 1,480 participants. Last year we enrolled 1,227 - a 20% increase in enrollment from 2007. I will have detailed statistics regarding the summer reading program ready by next week.

Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services

July was packed full of teen programs... The Teen Summer Reading Program officially broke the record in July with a final tally of 291 teens registered. Both the Writing Contest and the Art Contest gathered some impressive entries, which will be bound into a book and available for checkout.

6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS, cont'd.

Although my salsa dancing instructors failed to show for that program, I managed to teach the teens who came some rudimentary salsa steps & we had fun regardless. Battle of the Sexes was much anticipated & had a good turnout, though quite a few more girls than boys attended. The Pizza/Soda Taste Testing had a huge number of signups, though actual attendance wasn't quite so large. (If we do it again, I might need another method for signing up.) Culture Clash had some interesting people from the community attend and one teen might have a future in Ethiopian cooking. The Guessing Contest drew a record number of guesses this year as well, and the winning guess was only 5 candies off.

We didn't take any new teen volunteers in July, due to little time for training, but our regular volunteers were fantastic at keeping items on the shelf, keeping us stocked with prize slips, and helping us get ready for programs. Betsy, our practicum student, also helped a lot with desk shifts and assisted with a few teen programs.

Elizabeth Bauer, Head of Circulation Services

This is what Circulation staff and pages did for the month of July:

We searched our shelves, pulled 18,423 items, checked them in, and sent them on Delivery to other LINK libraries.

We unpacked, checked in and shelved 19, 186 hold items for Middleton patrons.

Overall we checked out 74,202 items in the month of July, of which 74.3% was from Middleton's own collection.

We shelved an incredible amount of material as well.

Kudos to the circulation staff and the library pages who did all this very demanding, physical work and still kept their positive attitudes and welcoming smiles.

The fall brings new opportunities; a new director, a integration of the new self check machine on the circulation desk and training for a next generation system (hopefully!)

Pat Williams, Head of Information Technology

A DSL modem has been installed, and is in the process of being programmed. It will be used to alleviate Internet bandwidth issues with our current Charter connection; and work in tandem with it. Because DSL has a faster upload speed, the web server will be placed on it, as well as staff PCs and other key network hardware components.

A new PC has been set up in the children's area with educational games. This PC is also a prototype; having a new menu system, security structure, and auto-recover system. This prevents any

6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS, cont'd.

changes to the computer from becoming permanent, after a reboot. This setup will be deployed on all public use PCs after further testing and development.

7. STAFF MEETING SUMMARY REPORTS

No meetings in July.

8. AGENDA OVERVIEW

Report of the Nominating Committee

Kozich and Fulton will present a slate of officers for the 2008-2009 board term.

2009 Dane County Library Service Budget Proposal

The Dane County Library Service (DCLS) Board of Trustees adopted a 2009 budget proposal at its June 30 meeting. The next step in this budget process takes place when the DCLS Director and Library Board President meet with County Executive Kathleen Falk and her staff at an August 8th meeting.

The DCLS Library Board advocates that the county library tax be set at a rate to fund the two major elements of the county library service program at 100% of their actual costs. The two programs are the existing direct service programs and the reimbursement of municipal libraries for a portion of their operational and facilities costs for extending the same level of service to non-residents. The County Controller has estimated a conservative 2% growth in equalized value within the library tax base. To achieve full funding, this would require a 2008 library tax rate of 31.7 cents per thousand, vs. the 2007 library tax rate of 30.3 cents. It is important to note that all payments made to municipal libraries, both within and outside Dane County, are exempt from any levy limit. Should the Board's budget proposal be fully funded, \$3,461,000 of the total request of \$4,351,000 (nearly 80%) would be outside any levy limit calculations.

The County Executive's budget directive requires that departments offset unavoidable personnel cost increases in their operating budgets. These offsets are addressed in Decision Items 1 and 2 of the DCLS budget proposal, a total of \$38,400 in cuts. In addition to personnel costs, DCLS expects to see increases in the cost of its leased space, library delivery contract, and participation in the shared integrated library system, which are addressed in decision item 6. These reallocations require that

8. AGENDA OVERVIEW, cont'd.

deductions be made in the estimated payments to library from the operating and facility reimbursement programs. As a result, we are looking at a reimbursement rate of 90.7% of full funding in 2009, down from 97% in 2008.

Letters of support to County Executive Kathleen Falk for the goal of funding the 2009 DCLS budget at 100% of its actual costs will be distributed at Tuesday's meeting.

2009 Middleton Public Library Budget Proposal

General outline. I've attempted to maintain the same format for the latest budget proposal, which includes the following elements.

- Executive summary (preceding table of contents)
- Introduction: "The Economic Value of the Middleton Public Library"
- The Middleton Public Library: Then and Now (1990/2003/2008 comparative statistics of library's collection, use, and support, accompanied by a brief summary)
- The library's long range plan of service: Description of five goal areas.
- Summary of targeted objectives and decision items. (Table provides summary information for the four decision items under consideration.)
- The Dane County Library Service partnership. (Describes the operational and facility reimbursement programs and summarizes the 2009 Dane County Library Service budget proposal.)
- Justification for the two decision items requests
 - Books (most of request will be covered by anticipated increase in Dane County Library Service reimbursement payment)
 - Library Assistant II for Youth Services.
- Budget worksheet: expenditures
- Budget worksheet: summary of staff costs
- Budget worksheet: revenue
- Appendix A: budget notes. (These were included in the July library report.)
- Capital Budget: roof repair

8. AGENDA OVERVIEW, cont'd.

Library Director: Transition and Orientation

Pamela and I will meet on Monday, August 18, for an all-day orientation session. I have prepared an outline of topics that we will discuss during a library walk-through. We'll also spend a significant amount of time on budget issues.