



## April 2013 Report

Presented at the May 14, 2013 Library Board Meeting

### 1. STATISTICS

Circulation:	Adult	YA & Juv.	Total	Year to Date
2013	38,448	3,665 + 21,927	64,040	256,891
2012	37,623	25,657	63,280	260,147
2011	39,603	20,418	60,021	248,597
2010	39,609	24,432	64,069	262,860
(+/- 2012/13)			(+1.2%)	(-1.25%)

#### Self-Service checkouts:

	ITG	ITG#2	ITG #3	Total	% of total
2013	12,834	10,739	4,038	27,611	43.12%
2012	12,271	11,090	3,949	27,310	43.16%
2011	6,500	10,199	3,137	19,836	30.25%
2010	6,429	6,499	9,099	22,027	34%

Library cards issued:	Adult	Juv.	Sr.	Org.	Total
2013	67	17	3	0	87
2012	83	33	-	-	116
2011	63	18	-	-	81
2010	88	17	0	0	105

#### Resource Sharing:

	Loaned to other LINKcat	Borrowed from other LINKcat
2013	21,812	19,306
2012	17,887	17,925
2011	15,878	16,850
2010	19,164	20,537
(+/-2012/13)	(+22%)	(+7.7%)

Miscellaneous:	ILL	Visits	Study rooms use	Walk-in laptop WI-FI
2013	76	31,985	655 Hours / 424 Bookings	667
2012	79	30,853	559.5 Hours / 399 Bookings	776
2011	35*	30,319	596.25 Hours / 408 Bookings	996

## 2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Date	Program	Attendance
4/1/2013	<b>Travel to India Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	15
4/2/2013	<b>Toddler Storytime: Chicks</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	26
4/2/2013	<b>Tales and Tunes Storytime: Chickens</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	32
4/2/2013	<b>Lunch Bunch (Kromrey, 6th grade)</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca	5
4/3/2013	<b>Tiny Tots Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	40
4/3/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Spring</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	52
4/4/2013	<b>Baby Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	26
4/4/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Spring</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	22
4/5/2013	<b>Let's Talk About Texts - Cat's Cradle</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca L, Jim, Katherine (practicum student)	12
4/5/2013	<b>Techno Minutes</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca L	2
4/5/2013	<b>Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	24
4/6/2013	<b>Martial Arts/Self-Defense for teens</b> : Demonstrator, Luke, Infinity Martial Arts	0
4/8/2013	<b>Teen Advisory Committee</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca	4
4/8/2013	<b>Travel to India Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	24
4/9/2013	<b>Toddler Storytime: Alphabet</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	17
4/9/2013	<b>Tales and Tunes Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	48
4/9/2013	<b>'Tween Knitting Circle</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	7
4/10/2013	<b>Tiny Tots Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	48
4/10/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Eggs</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	40
4/11/2013	<b>Baby Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	32
4/11/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Eggs</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	24
4/11/2013	<b>Espanol por la tarde</b> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	7
4/11/2013	<b>Techno Minutes</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca L	1
4/11/2013	<b>UW-Redefined Performance</b> : Demonstrator, UW-Redefined, a co-ed a capella vocal group	87
4/12/2013	<b>Bilingual Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	31
4/15/2013	<b>Travel to India Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	28
4/16/2013	<b>Toddler Storytime: Farms</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	37
4/16/2013	<b>Tales and Tunes Storytime: Farms</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	49
4/16/2013	<b>'Tween Knitting Circle</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	6
4/16/2013	<b>Introduction to Twitter</b> : Demonstrator, Walker	9
4/17/2013	<b>Creative Writing Group</b> : Demonstrator, Kathy Steffen	10
4/17/2013	<b>Tiny Tots Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	38
4/17/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Libraries</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	42

4/17/2013	<b>Books &amp; Brownies: Space Between</b> : Demonstrator, Rebecca	5
4/18/2013	<b>Harlem Shake filming</b> : Demonstrator, Dickson as filmmaker, Rebecca V. as organizer 	15
4/18/2013	<b>Kids' 50th Anniversary Party</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	20
4/18/2013	<b>Pottery Making for teens</b> : Demonstrator, Kelly Rock	7
4/18/2013	<b>Tween Dungeons and Dragons</b> : Demonstrator, Kurt Ellison	6
4/18/2013	<b>Baby Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	28
4/18/2013	<b>All Ages Storytime - Libraries</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	36
4/18/2013	<b>Adult Book Discussion</b> : Demonstrator, Jenny Carr	12
4/19/2013	<b>Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	30
4/20/2013	<b>Lego Block Party</b> : Demonstrator, Sally Wood - Facilitator	25
4/22/2013	<b>Travel to India Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	21
4/22/2013	<b>Read It And Eat Book Club</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	18
4/23/2013	<b>Toddler Storytime: Colors</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	32
4/23/2013	<b>Tales and Tunes Storytime</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	53
4/23/2013	<b>Tween Cupcake Decorating / Middleton's 50th Birthday Party</b> : Demonstrator, Amanda, Tanya, Rebecca Light, Katherine 	51
4/23/2013	<b>YMCA After School Outreach</b> : Demonstrator, Alex Hinrichs	45
4/23/2013	<b>YMCA After School Outreach</b> : Demonstrator, Alex Hinrichs	35
4/23/2013	<b>YMCA After School Outreach</b> : Demonstrator, Alex Hinrichs	17

4/24/2013	<b><u>Tiny Tots Storytime</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	32
4/24/2013	<b><u>All Ages Storytime - Bunnies</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	40
4/24/2013	<b><u>Making Lemonade with Ben - Author Visit with Katherine Perreth</u></b> :  Demonstrator, Katherine Perreth	71
4/25/2013	<b><u>Pottery Making for Teens, part II</u></b> : Demonstrator, Kelly Rock	7
4/25/2013	<b><u>Tween Dungeons and Dragons</u></b> : Demonstrator, Kurt Ellison	6
4/25/2013	<b><u>Baby Storytime</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	38
4/25/2013	<b><u>All Ages Storytime - Bunnies</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	52
4/26/2013	<b><u>Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime</u></b> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	39
4/27/2013	<b><u>Dia de los ninos/Dia de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day)</u></b> :  Demonstrator, Amanda	13
4/29/2013	<b><u>Travel to India Storytime</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	26
4/30/2013	<b><u>Toddler Storytime: Favorites</u></b> : Demonstrator, Amanda, Katherine	26
4/30/2013	<b><u>Tales and Tunes Storytime</u></b> : Demonstrator, Amanda, Katherine	46
4/30/2013	<b><u>Tween Knitting Circle</u></b> : Demonstrator, Amanda	5
4/30/2013	<b><u>West Middleton Title I Night</u></b> : Demonstrator, Svetha	30
	<b>Number of Programs / Total Attendance</b>	
	Children's	50 / 1485
	Teens	7 / 43
	Adults	8 / 204
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>65 / 1732</b>

### 3. LIBRARY EXHIBITS

#### Art Railing:

Artist Nancy McGregor – *acrylic, watercolor & oil*



#### Exhibit Case



#### Larry Nix – Library Exhibit



#### Displays



#### 4. STAFF DEVELOPMENT: MEETINGS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Date	Staff	Title
4/2/2013	Amanda, Svetha, Brendan, Katie A., Katherine	<a href="#"><u>LinkCat for Teachers</u></a> : We visited Sunset Ridge Elementary School to talk with teachers about using LinkCat, placing multiple holds, and getting institutional cards. Our presentation was part of their monthly staff meeting.
4/2/2013	Amanda, Jim, Katherine Elchert (practicum student)	<a href="#"><u>SLIS Practicum Site Supervisor Visit</u></a> : Allison Kaplan from UW-Madison SLIS came for a site visit with Katherine Elchert. She observed Katherine on the desk, and we discussed Katherine's experience here at MID.
4/3/2013	Amanda, Svetha, Katie A.	<a href="#"><u>LinkCat for Teachers</u></a> : We visited Northside Elementary School to talk with teachers about using LinkCat, placing multiple holds, and getting institutional cards. Our presentation was part of their monthly staff meeting.
4/9/2013	Barbara	<a href="#"><u>Circulation Service Committee Meeting</u></a> : Circulation Manual, Guidelines, Procedures.
4/16/2013	Pamela	<a href="#"><u>Library Action Team Meeting</u></a> : Reviewed the calendar of humanities programs for Dane Co. Libraries, prospecting meetings are nearly completed. There are still several libraries who need to complete their fundraising.
4/16/2013	Pamela, Katherine (practicum & sub)	<a href="#"><u>Interview with Practicum</u></a> : We covered a variety of great topics related to the profession in general and specific to MID. Great interview! We are lucky to have Katherine here, even if it is only for a little while.
4/17/2013	Pamela	<a href="#"><u>City Council</u></a> : City will move ahead with a Storm Water Utility. Purchase Card Program was approved. Other business: Swearing in of newly elected officials: Miriam Share (new library board member), JoAnna Richard, Howard Teal and Hans Hilbert.
4/18/2013	Pamela	<a href="#"><u>City Department Head Mtg</u></a> : CVMIC Training, volunteer insurance coverage, mental health first aid training.
4/19/2013	Pamela	<a href="#"><u>WLA Board Meeting</u></a> : Filling the vacancy of Executive Director (PT or FT) and WiLS proposal; Leadership Taskforce - manual and updates; WLA conference plans; Unit news; and corporate partnerships.
4/22/2013	Amanda	<a href="#"><u>Music Together Observation</u></a> : I observed one of our regular patrons, Catherine Olson, teaching a Music Together class.
4/24/2013	Sarah H., Jason	<a href="#"><u>SCLS Linking Users' Group</u></a> : We discussed, as it pertains to linking, cataloging, and other Technical Services tasks, recent Koha development, upcoming development, bug fixes, other development projects, other development ideas, linking training and help, and an open discussion of problems/questions/demos/best practices.
4/24/2013	Barbara Henderson	<a href="#"><u>CEU-Support Staff Certification</u></a> : Working toward Library Support Staff Certification. I have completed half of the requirements. Library Science Fundamentals, Technology in Libraries, and Supervision and Management.

4/26/2013	Amanda	<b><u>WLA Youth Services Section Board Meeting</u></b> : WLA's Youth Services Section board met online. We discussed the WLA preconference, the statewide Culver's partnership, youth librarian guidelines, and several additional topics.
4/29/2013	Pamela	<b><u>Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy - Education Committee</u></b> : Reviewed the field trip, Falconry Days, WI Frog and Toad Survey, Firefly and Beetles programs, and Conservancy Day plans and evaluations. We also discussed the progress toward more partnerships with community entities (including a multigenerational event here at the library). This year's focus is programs targeted for seniors.
4/30/2013	Rebecca Van Dan	<b><u>All Dressed Up, Junior League collaboration</u></b> : Met with Junior League representative Kate Bahr to discuss collaboration on the "All Dressed Up" event that provides free prom dresses to lower income girls, along with makeovers, alterations, etc.
4/30/2013	Amanda, Katherine	<b><u>SLIS Practicum Student Poster Session</u></b> : Katherine's practicum class held a poster session to share their experiences with the SLIS community. I was very proud to see her share what she's done, and I was interested to talk with other students about their practicums.

## 5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Highlights of April 2013:

Middleton's April 2013 total circulation was 64,040 items, a slight increase of +1.2% compared to last year's April total of 63,280 items. Our year-to-date circulation of as of April 30th was 256,891 items, which puts Middleton in the number two ranking for circulation activity in the South Central Library System. The library's visitor tally was 31,985 visitors (up by 3.87% from last year's visitor count). Middleton's resource sharing counts of Loans To and Borrowed From other LINK libraries categories were at 21,812 and 19,306, respectively (up by 22% and up by 7.7%, respectively, when compared to last April's figures).

### Facility:

The upgrade to the furnace air control system (the library's 2012 capital outlay project) did not occur in April, so Mark and I have joined forces to work directly with the vendor.

Heavy rains caused a one-time leak in the Reading Room. Roofer says there are no visible signs of a compromised roof in that location.

We're off to a good start on this year's spring cleaning (including shampooing the carpets, buffing the tiled floors and washing the windows on the lower level).

Parks and Lands, Tourism and the Library are partnering on a planting project which includes property adjacent to the Library. To summarize, it is CDA/Tourism funded prairie planting along the railroad corridor near Middleton Depot. Mike Healy says, "We are using a prairie sod product, which will be short-statured and have a variety of color and interest throughout the year. Since it takes 12-16 week to grow out the sod, we are planning to plant the sod in mid-late June, weather and side conditions permitting. Due to drought conditions last year, we moved the start of this project to this spring."

We are working with the Middleton Police Department on a proposal for a security camera system to monitor key areas of the building including: entrances, stairwells and the meeting room hallway on the lower level. Monitoring would not include areas that could potentially compromise patron privacy (e.g., filming of spaces commonly used by patrons seeking or obtaining materials that would link a patron with specific titles or subject matters).

To commemorate Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, our gardener Linda Ronne began spring clean-up with weeding, clearing of debris and barking the flower beds.

**Furniture and Equipment:**

An additional customized shelving unit was ordered for AV (music CDs and audiobooks) from Embury.

**Staffing:**

With Head of Adult Services Jim Ramsey on paternity leave, staff pitched in to cover his many shifts at the Reference Desk, daily display tasks and programing duties.

IT Intern Dickson Kwatampora had an opportunity to get started with his graduate studies in May, so we bid him a sincere thank you and best wishes.

In keeping with this year's theme and as chair for the Conference Registration Table, I collected photos of public libraries from around the state to create a photo slideshow for viewing at the conference. Additionally, these photos will be archived on a public website by John Sarnowski. Patrick put together two viewing stations for me to use at the conference: one for the modern photos and the other for the historical photos of public libraries organized by Larry Nix.

A group of eight staff members gathered in the Archer Rooms to assemble the packets and logo buttons for the Spring WAPL Conference in Lake Geneva. We had the work done in less than three hours!



### **Policies:**

This month, I reviewed and updated the entire library staff Emergency Procedure Manual and the Circulation Policy, which we'll review at this meeting.

### **Programs:**

It's hard to ignore the spike in April 2013's programming statistics. Last year, we offered **51 programs** with **1,160 attendees**. In 2013, we offered **65 events** and hosted **1,732 attendees**.

The impact of library services does not only depend on the statistics. Anecdotally, library services and events make a difference in the lives of those in our community. Here are some recent supporting comments/emails:

"Thanks to Walker Evans and the Middleton Library for the intro. to Twitter last week. Walker did a great job, as usual, explaining the terminology and showing us how to use Twitter." – M

"Jenny: Just wanted to send a quick note and say thank you for all of your help over the last year. I know I have many odd requests so I really appreciate all of your efforts to get the materials for me. I never thought I'd be able to get the Nordhausen reels so thanks for helping with this."

One grandmother commented at the 'Tween Cupcake Decorating/Middleton's 50th Birthday Party, "This was a great event! We'll have to come to the library more often!"

**Friends:**

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Reading Room. Everyone is invited to attend.

**6. LIBRARIANS' REPORTS**

**Patrick Williams, Head of Information Technology**



A utility was created for the circulation stations during times when Koha is offline. Staff is able to check out items, collecting patron and item barcodes; storing them locally. When Koha is back online, staff can then easily send the data, session by session. This application was requested by the circulation staff, as the packaged offline solution provided with Koha did not allow for hold authorization pickups, and other oddities that crop up during checkout. This utility gives staff more control over such exceptions without having to use pen & paper, or even copying and pasting barcodes. The utility was given a successful 'trial by fire' during a 4 hour downtime this month.

Touchscreens were added to the circulation stations. They allow faster response when checking in and out items, given the multitude of onscreen button clicks needed during this process.



The upper and lower level express stations have been re-imaged with a new Windows 7 system. The menu application has also been remade. The screens have the same events and information slideshow as the lobby display. There is a 10 minute web browser selection, as well as a no-

time-limit LINKcat online catalog selection. There is always a clean LINKcat browser session loaded in memory for a speedy launching time. They log use time and printing as well. The stations have a fast hybrid reset which clears any and all patron changes or saved information – for both security and privacy.

**Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services**



April was a whirlwind month as we started to prepare for school visits, worked on publicity measures, and began to order summer program materials and prizes. Booktalk preparation includes choosing high quality titles in a variety of genres that will appeal equally to boys and girls, writing a “hook” for each to pique interest, and memorization of the booktalks. Scheduling visits with the middle schools has gone well and May should be a busy month in terms of school visits.

The Lunch Bunch group at Kromrey has proved popular with 6<sup>th</sup> graders especially, and we will try to incorporate this as a monthly activity during the school year. We had more teen programs than usual this month to allow for a second stage in pottery making and to honor a request from Teen Advisory that we make a library version of the Harlem Shake. With our IT intern, Dickson, leaving soon, we quickly put out as much publicity as possible to let the public know they were welcome to join us. Dickson also answered many website design questions for us as we adjusted to the new software. Youth Services staff met with Pamela and Dickson this month to review the new Teen and Children’s websites to fine tune all the details.

We trained three new volunteers this month, updated our Teen Volunteer database, and put out a spring volunteer schedule. We also worked with Technical Services to update a mending procedure guideline document for staff. Kathy worked on weeding the Humor collection and updating our teen video games folder this month, and we worked together to better understand the Paychex system and notify others of discrepancies in its subtracting function.

A high school student contacted us this month about doing a display about Sexual Assault

Awareness Month, and we gladly worked with him to create a teen display. We also met with a Junior League of Madison representative about partnering for a prom dress giveaway event and are working with a former science teacher to create a better catapult for an upcoming summer program. In addition, we received a response from Maggie Stiefvater's agent about a request for an author visit we had submitted a few months ago. A proposal to fund her visit was written up this month, and we are hoping to set up a visit for the fall.

Publicity was a major focus this month as we broadened our scope to include sending program announcements to additional schools, added event files to our facebook page, began using and trying to regularly update our new Twitter account, added relevant summer events to the Beyond the Page calendar, and started creating PowerPoint slides for summer events for the lobby and individual program publicity fliers. In addition, we created a new teen program survey both as paper surveys and through Survey Monkey (published on the new teen website, through social media, and sent through Notify Me) to better gauge which programs will be of most interest to teens, which will help as we begin to plan events for fall.

Displays: Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Humor, Fashionistas, Teen Books that Adults May Love

**Sarah Hartman, Head of Technical Services**



This month we started a new bi-weekly ordering schedule. Instead of placing an AV order once per month, for example, we now place an AV order every other week. We've already seen some positives from this: smoother workflow in Acquisitions and Technical Services, new items entered into the catalog and on the shelf sooner, and ability to fill holds on high-demand items more quickly. Having items entered into the catalog instead of sitting in a virtual shopping cart for weeks also helps our selectors know what has already been ordered, preventing duplicate orders. In addition, a steadier flow of all materials (versus a flood of a certain type once per

month) helps keep our new shelves continually fresh for our patrons. We can be much more responsive to patron needs. I'm very pleased with how this has worked out.

**Svetha Hetzler, Head of Children's Services**



We began our spring storytime session this month and offered a few special events, including Spanish in the Afternoon, Library Lego Block Party, Chess Club, and a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party for the City of Middleton. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party included a celebration for "Amelia Bedelia" by Peggy Parish and "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak, also celebrating 50 years.

I arranged for school visits to the Middleton Elementary Schools. Amanda Struckmeyer and I will be going out to the school to promote our Summer Reading Program next month. I made an additional visit to West Middleton Elementary School this month to meet with Title I students and parents. This is an annual spring visit in collaboration with Cross Plains and the Madison Public Library and provides an additional opportunity to connect with at-risk students.

The SABA committee met this month to select winners and honor book for the 2013 Award. It's been a rewarding experience and the process of selecting winners through reading and discussion is very exciting. I've learned a lot during my first year as chair and am looking forward to chairing again for the 2013-14 awards.

Our summer brochures are ready for distribution. It's great to have all events for 0-12 year olds on one document. I've also had a chance to make a few updates to our newly designed webpage. We really appreciate the skill and talent Dickson put into this project.

Sarah Goebel and Sally Wood continue to support the department in many ways; providing reference and readers' advisory services at the help desk, profiling professional journals, creating eye-catching posters for upcoming programs, assisting with collection development and

management tasks, creating book displays, and setting up activities at our “DIY” station. I appreciate their collaborative and independent work. This month’s DIY table featured poetry activities the book displays highlighted chickens and frogs. Sally also offered a Saturday afternoon Lego Block Party, which continues to draw in families and a wide age range. We also set out drawing and coloring pages for National Library Week, an annual celebration sponsored by Culver’s.

**Amanda Struckmeyer, Head of Youth Services**



Our spring programming continues to be popular; this month, we held a cupcake decorating event to celebrate Middleton’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a Dia de los niños/Dia de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) program, Dungeons and Dragons, Read It and Eat book club, and more. We’re gearing up for summer by generating promotional materials, preparing for programs, scheduling school visits, gathering prizes, creating reading logs, and spreading the word about our fantastic summer events. This year, we are pleased to offer one brochure for ‘tweens and children. We believe that this format will be easier for families to work with, and it is more environmentally friendly than printing separate brochures. We hope that having all of our events for children, ‘tweens, and families in one place will be beneficial for all parties involved!

A spring practicum student, Katherine Elchert, finished her experience at the Middleton Public Library. She split her time between Reference and Youth Services and did an outstanding job. Katherine will join our team of substitutes in May.

In April, I focused my collection development efforts on weeding and updating our juvenile fiction collection (both hardcover and paperback). The items in these collections circulate frequently, and our very limited shelf space necessitates aggressive weeding of this area.

This month, I organized a team from the City of Middleton to volunteer at the Wisconsin Public Television auction in May. I also wrote and submitted my biweekly newspaper column, *Booking*

*It*, for the Middleton Times-Tribune.

I met with the WLA Youth Services board in an online meeting. As a director-at-large, I am assisting with program coordination for the association's two annual conferences. On the national level this month, I continued my work as a member of the ALSC Advocacy and Legislation Committee, and I reviewed two books for *School Library Journal*.



**Jim Ramsey, Head of Adult Services**

April was another very successful month in terms of programming for the Adult Services Department. Two of our programs—a musical performance and an author visit—drew very large crowds, making April one of our best months for programming in a long time. All of the programs for this summer, including the Adult Summer Reading Program, are finalized and ready to go. At this point, I am continuing to pursue program ideas for the fall. I have several good leads on possible events, including more author visits, a musical performance by a local folk duo, and a live theater event to be funded by the Beyond the Page Endowment.

This month, Rebecca Light and I held the first meeting of our new bi-monthly book group, Let's Talk About Texts. The group was a huge success, with 13 people attending the first meeting. Rebecca deserves all of the credit for organizing and publicizing this group. I was particularly impressed by the wide variety of publicity channels through which people learned of the group. Rebecca did a great job distributing flyers, sending announcements to various email listservs, and just getting the word out. She also set up a Facebook page for the group which will allow us to keep in touch with patrons and promote upcoming events. As mentioned in previous reports, Rebecca and I see this book group as laying the foundation for more adult programming for patrons in their 20s and 30s, and we hope to offer additional programs targeting this demographic in the years to come.

We are also continuing with several small-scale weeding and collection development projects

this month, including a weed of the 610s (Medicine) and 900s (History). In the coming months, Sarah in Technical Services will be undertaking a large-scale reorganization and relabeling of the adult CD and DVD collections. Adult Services staff will be assisting with this project as needed.

Finally, I wanted to give a brief update on database usage statistics. In July of 2012, I reported on an increase in online database usage as result of our efforts to promote these resources to the public. At the time, only statistics from January through June of 2012 were available; recently, however, SCLS has released to its member libraries the usage statistics for the entire year of 2012. As expected, we saw dramatic increases in the usage of several databases that we've been heavily promoting. One of the goals I set for our department when I took over as Head of Adult Services in January of 2012 was to more aggressively promote the use of our online reference databases, both in the library and remotely. Every year, libraries spend thousands of dollars on these valuable resources. Yet many of them are under-utilized by a public unaware of the wealth of information contained therein. As the table below demonstrates, usage of both Consumer Reports and Value Line more than doubled from 2011 to 2012. Beginning this month, SCLS will begin reporting database statistics on a monthly basis (rather than only annually) which will allow us to better track usage statistics.

Remote and In-library Use	2011	2012
Consumer Reports	659	1391
Learning Express	173	285
Mango Languages	360	483
Value Line	308	657

**Brendan Faherty, Head of Circulation Services**



As the library takes a breath before the busy summer season, the Circulation Desk has remained busy throughout the month of April. With the assistance of Patrick Williams, we have added five new touch-screen monitors to our Circulation computers—two in the staff work area

for the Pages and three at the main Circulation Desk. These new monitors have improved the efficiency of many of our oft-repeated button-clicking tasks and workflows.

Patrick has also created a new piece of software to make ILS downtimes easier to bear. The application scans and “checks out” items for patrons and saves the data in a spreadsheet until we are able to once again access the Koha ILS software and upload the information. Patrick’s program is actually more efficient and user-friendly than the standard Koha Offline Circulation application provided by SCLS. Everyone who has had a chance to use the new program has been very pleased.

I am early anticipating a different type of software upgrade for our three Self-check machines. I had the opportunity to see Bibliotheca’s newest software, liber8, at a symposium last fall, and am excited about the efficiency and flexibility it will offer when loaded on to our current self-check machines. Upgrading to this new software is considered part of our maintenance agreement with Bibliotheca (so it costs us nothing), and will become even more important in the future if/when we decide to add more self-check machines or other new circulation devices—all their new technology only runs on the new software.

Barbara Henderson and Katie Adkins are both busy reconfiguring the Circulation staff schedules to adjust for the busy summer season, and to account for the library closing Sundays for the summer.

Lastly, I have finalized (and had printed) a new “New Patron” or Welcome Brochure for the library. As mentioned before, the goal here was to create something that people are not simply going to throw away as soon as they walk away from the desk. By reducing it to a single, bookmark-sized document, the hope is that people will be more likely to use it as such, or at least magnet it to their refrigerators at home.

## **7. AGENDA OVERVIEW**

### **Circulation Policy:**

See the attached document.

**Author Event Proposal from Head of Young Adult Services Librarian Rebecca Van Dan:**

We would like to invite Maggie Stiefvater, a bestselling teen author, for a visit to the Middleton Public Library in the fall. (possibly November, depending on her schedule.) The library program would include a speech by the author and time for questions, signing, and mingling afterwards.

Maggie Stiefvater has written a number of popular teen books. Her most popular series is the *Shiver* trilogy, though she is also well-known for *The Raven Boys* and *Scorpio Races*. Her books have been on the New York Times bestseller lists, ALA Best Books for YAs, Amazon's Top Ten books for Teens, and Publishers Weekly Bestseller List. *The Scorpio Races* also won a Printz Honor for 2012. (The Printz Award is considered the most prestigious award for YA literature.) It is difficult to book authors of this caliber, so we are very excited she is considering a trip to Middleton.

**Costs would include:**

\$2,000 author honorarium  
\$450 flight (Richmond, VA to Madison, WI)  
\$160 hotel  
\$50 author/meals (1 day)  
\$30 refreshments at the event  
\$2,690 total

**Request to sponsor the program using Library Gift Fund account.**