

Library Director's report

Prepared by Director Susan Getty

October 1, 2019

Monthly statistics: statistical summaries for the month of September 2019 will be available at our meeting.

Financial/Donations:

- As the Board is already aware, we have received a check from the State Education Dept. in partial payment of the State Aid for Library Construction Grant (amount = \$81,359.00). I have given this check to Kathy Chambers for deposit.

News/Issues:

- Melissa has resumed working on Thursday evenings from 5 - 8 PM, as well as leading Story Time on Wednesday mornings.
- We will need to order a new staff computer in the SALS group order that is coming up, due 10/14. The staff computer which manages all of our public computers is just about out of date (meaning that by the end of this year, it will have been in service for over 4 years and out of manufacturer warranty for over a year). SALS will not be able to help us if there is a problem with this computer after that point, and it becomes a security risk. I have the price list to share at our meeting.
- Our new website is ready to go. I will share it with the Board at our meeting for feedback. Provided there are no major objections, we will make this new site the active site as soon as possible.

Programs:

- Our Teen Takeover nights seem to have a steady following, and we are hoping to attract at least a few more kids. Our next event is on Oct. 4th and it will be a Sherlock-themed night, including an escape room. Karen has been doing lots of planning!
- Our September Adult Craft Night was led by Sue Morrison, and our October Craft Night will be led by Michele Bardwell. October's craft will be the kick-off of what we hope will be a community art project. Michele is pulling together supplies for a weaving craft which uses old CDs as the base. The Craft Night, which is scheduled for Oct. 17th, will be the beginning of the project, but we will also have a basket of supplies and instructions available after that point so any community members can come in to the library and make one or more. We would like to create a mural of sorts with the weavings that people are willing to leave with us. We're not certain yet where we can hang the result, but we're hoping to sort that out once we see how things go. (I can share a picture with the board to give you an example of what this project could look like.)

- Bonnie Hoag's presentation of the film "Under Our Skin" and discussion of tick-borne illnesses drew a very respectable crowd. We are hoping to show some other films which will generate discussion in the future.
- I've been talking with Amy Maxwell (Ag teacher and FFA leader at Salem CSD) about offering a program called "Dairy Dialogues", likely on the evening of Thursday, November 7th. This would be a discussion of modern dairy farming, featuring a short documentary film and a Q & A session involving FFA members.