

# Library Director's Report (November)

**Meeting Date: December 13, 2022**

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

**November Monthly Statistics:** Statistical summaries for the month of November 2022 will be available at our meeting.

## Financial/Donations:

\*Donations:     \$1,500

                   \$50

## News/Issues:

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings. We are meeting monthly.
- Farm-2-Library Program Update: Last month we had at least 55 community members take a food item from our pantry (Most likely more as people come and go that we don't see). Every month I have people tell me how much they appreciate the Farm-2-Library program. As there wasn't a delivery the week of Thanksgiving, our numbers for the month of November are a little lower than usual.
- On Monday the members of the Salem Rotary Club came to visit the library for their weekly program. I gave them a tour of the library and spoke about all the things the library has to offer and showed them our improvements from the building project.
- The Friends of the Bancroft Library have purchased a Cricut machine (A computer controlled cutting machine used for crafting) for the library. We are very excited about being able to make things for the library with it.

- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books, games, and DVDs to our shelves that are available for our patrons. We are very excited about having added quite a few books in Spanish to our lending library (children and adult books).
- In November the library participated in the Chamber's Elf Scavenger Hunt where kids searched through town for businesses that had an elf hidden inside. We also joined the Chamber in lighting the holiday tree outside and lent a hand to the judges and judging area outside the library the day of the parade.
- The Amazon Wish List is up and running. We've received our first item!
- We continue to keep our patrons informed of new books and library news through the use of the library's Facebook page, our webpage, newspaper articles, and our newsletter. A New Year/Winter newsletter will be going out in January.
- The Friends of the Bancroft Library wreath/kissing ball sale was a huge success again this year! We truly appreciate the hard work and time commitment of the Friends group and the Winslow family. Many thanks to all of them!
- SALS requested an additional amount from each library to cover the cost of E-books for the rest of this year (They didn't receive \$35,000 they usually do from Saratoga County). The amount for us is \$96.71 (Based on the number of checkouts in 2022/percentage of total). In 2023 SALS is hoping to get the money from Saratoga County and will continue that same funding model as this year. However, in 2024 a new funding model will most likely be put in place. Going to the new model next year without that Saratoga County money would have resulted in a big increase for some of the libraries (especially small ones) so it was decided to keep the current model and adopt a new one in 2024. Either way, what we pay will most likely increase.
- The Battenkill Storytellers (Siri Allison) will begin meeting here and their meetings are open to anyone who'd like to join.

- We have applied for an ARSL Grant (Grants for Rural and Small Libraries). They only award a certain number of grants, but we're hoping ours may be one of them. With the grant money we would be able to offer Hoopla for a year and see how much it would cost us and if many people would use it

### Looking Ahead:

- We've been working with the Tri-County Literacy Center to set up a program here at the library where tutors are partnered with learners who would like to learn English. They have set up people to tutor and people interested in being tutored along with finding transportation to the library for them. We are going to start out small and try to build the program. They are almost ready to start.
- There will be an Office of the Aging Pop-up Luncheon on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Since there is a small fee for each luncheon participant, I have talked to Wendy about the possibility of the Friends of Bancroft Library paying for their meal. They have agreed to do that for December and at their next meeting they will discuss maybe continuing to do it in the future.
- During December kids can come into the library and search for ornaments on our Christmas tree. The cute ornaments were donated by my cousin, Janet Muzal, and are different animals holding a book and reading. If kids find all 8 ornaments, they can choose a free book from under the tree.
- Our holiday celebration was this past Wednesday. At this gathering we honor all the people that help out the library in so many different ways. We are so grateful for their help! Thank you to Rachael and Alesa for planning a great evening at the library.
- Fine free - on our agenda.

## Programs:

- Bancroft Classics, our weekly social hour for our "vintage" patrons, met several times in November and will meet a few times in December. In January we are planning to have a pot-luck lunch and personally invite as many seniors as we can. We'd like to meet with them and see what sort of programs they would be interested in having here at the library. We'll also see what days and times work best for everyone.
- All of our regular programs continued throughout the month of November--- Scrabble Club, Chess Club, Bancroft Classics, Mahjong, Book Club, Kickin' Knitters, and Tech Help with Noah.
- We have made available weekly "Take Away" craft bags for the children in our community. All the grab and go craft bags are usually gone by Friday. These have been very popular and we have people asking for them each week now. We have received a lot of positive feedback. A big thank you to Gayle Shaw who has volunteered to make many of these crafts for the library.