

## April Board Meeting – Bancroft Public Library

### Director's Report

#### News/Updates & Issues

- **After-School Coordinator candidate** was interviewed by Melissa and Karen on March 28. The person has a background working with students (specifically fourth and fifth graders), an upbeat attitude, good references, and Melissa has offered her the position pending board approval. If accepted by Board, staff would like her to start Wednesday, April 9, 2025.
- **Variety of activities through April** including a town-wide trash pick up, which is co-sponsored through the Town, Courthouse, and SAW (more below).
- **Bird Watcher's Club is Taking Off!** - John Loz of Southern Adirondack Audubon Society has taken a shine to Bancroft and is excited by the Bird Watcher's Club. He is working to bring a lot of programs to our library, which is wonderful.
- **Battenkill Inspired** learning station was provided to the library by Todd DeGarmo of the Folklife Center/Courthouse Board. It is now currently standing in the Proudfit hallway, and it is a resource for those who want to learn about the Battenkill and people and communities along the river.
- **Monthly Groups on the Rise!** Bancroft has seen five new regular programs come to the library this year: Herbal Study Group regrouped/restarted this year, Growth Collective Book Club, What's Up With That? Book Club, **Yoga at the Library** (new monthly program offered by Venus Jancek), and a Homesteading Group (may start meeting soon!)
- **Music by Caffe Lena** (Program with Courthouse and School) - Thanks to Herb Perkins and Gail Bearup for getting a grant to bring music to Salem seniors and students. The library hosted the first of these this spring while the Courthouse is being renovated. Next program is with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at Courthouse on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.
- **Review of Strategic Plan** – Melissa is working on a review of which strategic plan goals we have been able to move forward with this year. She'll send it out when finished.
- **Book Donation Bin Being Used** – The book bin has been filled seven times and emptied. We are currently on our eighth bin, which is fantastic.
- **Weeding of Collection** – We are still weeding the collection.
- **Melissa Away** – Melissa away on April 21. Melissa will be on vacation from May 24 – June 1.

#### Follow Up from Previous Meetings

#### Circulation Statistics

- See website for the March Circulation report.

#### Program Stats

- **VITA** – 15 people
- **Nutrition Series (Digestion)** - 14 people
- **Potluck** – 12+ people
- **Birding Program** - Window Collision – 5 people
- **Yoga** – 5 people
- **Farm – to – Library** – averages 15-20 people each week.
- **Weekly/Monthly programs** – Book Groups, Scrabble, Tech Help, Book Club, Mahjong, and Chess all have a consistent number of people who attend.

#### Upcoming Programs and Ideas

Upcoming Programs	Date	Details
Narcan Training	4/8/25	Kristin Hardy from the Washington County Sheriff's Office comes to do a NARCAN training.
Community-Wide Trash Clean Up	4/12/25	In conjunction with Town of Salem, Courthouse, SAW, Rotary, and various organizations, we are striving to make a town-wide trash clean up happen for April.
Crafternoon – Spring Break Week	4/14-18	Make an easter egg with wrapped yarn.
Choice Connections NY	4/23 and 4/24	Renee Birnbaum comes to talk about senior living options. Two classes, one after monthly senior potluck and one the next evening.

## Outreach in the Local Community (and Beyond!)

- Melissa met with Sue Clary about the Climate Smart Community initiative that Salem is a part of. There are ways for the library to take part in and help support the program, including hosting some of the educational events, adding in composting buckets to our library, and more.
- Melissa emailed with the new director, Jim Letts, at SAW to ask about possibly doing a storywalk or two there this summer. She is waiting to hear back on that.
- Marissa Perkins (Courthouse) and Melissa have been in regular communication about programs, which feels very positive!

## Financials and Donations

- \$50 donation from Bonnie Hoag, thank you to Bonnie!
- Karen is still working at inputting the monthly numbers into a spreadsheet that she created (thanks Rebecca for helping with that!).
- Rebecca finished the SALS Construction Grant information that was needed for SALS.

## Staff & Volunteers

- **Staff:** We are hoping the Board will approve the candidate for the After-School Coordinator position, so that we can start training her in the coming week.
- **Volunteers:**
  - We have had multiple people ask about volunteering at the library over the past few months, which has been fantastic, though we have taken only a very few number. It is possible that when the After-School Program Coordinator gets going, Melissa can dedicate more time to following up with potential volunteers.
  - Lori Stokem would like to step back from doing story time, and Melissa is searching for another volunteer.

## Facility Update

- Mark changed out the outlet that was faulty in the children's area, and he also replaced a light switch by the door.
- Gary Dunham came and replaced the filters on the air purifier units.

## Technology

- New computers and monitor were installed on March 15<sup>th</sup>! JA was wonderful as always to work with.

Submitted by: Melissa Carll, Library Director, April 4, 2025