

## August Board Meeting – Bancroft Public Library

### Director's Report

#### News/Updates & Issues

- **Problems Ordering Large Type Books:** Karen can generally order books through Polaris from Gale Cengage. For the past six weeks (after Gale Cengage did an upgrade to their server), we have not been able to order through Polaris. We have called several times with no change. We are hoping to have the issue resolved soon. **Update for August – this problem is still ongoing, but JA has helped Karen figure out some of the issues this week after Gale Cengage sent a bit of information our way.**
- **Graduate Student:** a graduate student is working on a project to envision how the library could better serve a variety of community needs and create increase diversity. She met with Melissa twice in July, and will send her prepared report to us when it is finished (sometime this week).
- **Preparing to work on adding a few kits to the library in September** – Friends will provide up to \$500 for the kits.
- **Book Donation Bin Being Used** – The book bin has been filled approximately 17 times and emptied. We are currently on our 18<sup>th</sup> bin, which is fantastic.

#### Follow Up from Previous Meetings

#### Circulation Statistics

- See website for the July Circulation report.

#### Program Stats

- **Pre-Health Pathways** – 0, may do this again in the fall when students are back in school.
- **Drumming with World Awareness** – 11 people
- **Tromp Through the Swamp** – **65 people** (At courthouse for LLP and families)
- **Turkey Talk** – 22 people
- **Weekly/Monthly programs** – Book Groups, Scrabble, Tech Help, Book Club, Herbal Study Group, Homesteading Group, Mahjong, and Chess all have a consistent number of people who attend.

#### Upcoming Programs and Ideas

Upcoming Programs	Date	Details
<b>Compost Bucket Program with Community Garden</b>	Launch in July- delayed into August	As part of the Climate Smart Community Initiative of which Salem is a part, the library will begin composting food scraps and taking them to the community garden.
<b>Summer Reading Challenge</b>	All Summer	Kids Version and Adults Version
<b>Lunch, Learn and Play</b>	6 dates, July – August	Students from LLP will come throughout the summer to a program.
<b>USS Slater Talk – Senior Potluck</b>	August 27, 2025	USS Slater will give a talk after the Senior Potluck in August.

<b>Orienteering Workshop – Merck Forest</b>	August 16, 2025	Merck Forest returns with an orienteering workshop at the library. For ages 8 and above.
<b>Crayon Recycling Program</b>	Launch in August	We will install a crayon recycling bucket in the lobby for patrons to donate used crayons. Crayons will go to National Crayon Recycle Program.
Upcoming in September:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library Open and Available to those who want to take Hunter Safety Classes online</li> <li>• Craft Swap</li> </ul>

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

- **Climate Smart Initiative and Compost Buckets:** Continuing the conversation stemming from Melissa's meeting with Sue Clary about the Climate Smart Community initiative: We are now working with the Courthouse to have our library compost go the Community Garden compost. We will be adding two small compost buckets into the Library and Proudfit spaces.

### Financials and Donations

- **Printer replacement** – new printer has not arrived yet. We did purchase one after the last meeting, but it has yet to arrive.
- **Donations** – Donations and notes have been coming in in memory of Peg Culver. We are tracking so that each can be thanked accordingly.

### Staff & Volunteers

- Karen is away for a portion of August.

### Facility Update

- **The vacuum is finally functioning well** – thank you to Mark and Ed for helping to keep it running.

### Technology

- JA coming in August to update all our older computers to Windows 11

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