

March Board Meeting – Bancroft Public Library

Director's Report

News/Updates & Issues

- **SALS INFO:**
 - **Annual Report** – Annual Report – Due April 14 to SALS. Melissa finished it a week ago. The new portal is a bit different to use, and maybe not as intuitive as the old portal. Hopefully, we have done our part fully. SALS definitely put in a lot of legwork to make sure that we all knew what to expect.
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- **New Carpet Project** – Melissa and Ed met with both Bennington House of Tile and Carpet and Kellogg Karpet (S. Glens Falls) to get estimates for redoing the carpet. We are still waiting to hear back from both of them with the estimates. There are places in Ballston Spa and Albany to reach out to as well, if needed.
- **Stewart's Grant** – We received \$375.00 from Stewart's (we had asked for \$600). They are experiencing much of the same challenge that they had last year: donations to them are down, and subsequently, they have less money to send out.
- **Computers:** See Technology notes below.
- **Facility Concerns:** See notes in Facility and Building Report
- **Photo Release:** Melissa began work on the photo release form, which then prompted changes to policies. We will discuss later in the agenda.
- **Book Donation Bin Being Used** – The book bin has been filled approximately 28 times and emptied. We are currently on our 29th bin.

Follow Up from Previous Meetings

- **Building Signs** – Melissa and Kim need to meet to work on this further.

Circulation Statistics

- See website for the March Circulation report.

Program Stats

- **Saving Family Mementoes – Part Three:** 3 participants
- **Natural Disaster Preparedness** – 10 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
Sewing Classes with Bev Kratzert	April 16 and 130	Two part class on using a sewing machine.

Poetry Tree (Poet Tree)	April	Patrons can come to the library and put a poem on the poet-tree. Thanks to volunteer Beth Dellarocco and the Shel Silverstein Poetry Month Program for making this happen.
Poetry Magnet Board	April	Our magnetic poetry board is ready to host a variety of poems. Thanks again to Beth Dellarocco for creating the magnetic words for us!
Taylor Swift or Robert Frost?	April	Lori Stokem has created the window display with "Taylor Swift or Robert Frost" There are quotes on the window and patrons can come and play a game to see which quote was said by whom. Those who enter will be entered into a drawing for a gift card to Battenkill Books!
Caffe Lena: On the Road	April and May	Caffe Lena returns for its On the Road series..
Seed Library	All Spring	Courtesy of Cornell Cooperative Extension, we will have a variety of seed packets for this spring and summer.
I Bird NY Challenge	May through November 2026	Bancroft Library will support patrons interested in completing the 2026 I BIRD NY Challenge by helping patrons get the correct forms, and loaning out the Birding Backpack from SAAS. The annual I BIRD NY Challenge is back! Use your observation skills and take the Challenge by identifying any 10 bird species of your choosing in New York State. Participants who successfully complete this fun challenge will be awarded a commemorative patch, completion certificate, and be entered into a drawing for great birding prizes!*
It's Revolutionary!	May 15, 2026	Debi Craig and Dorothea Craig Casey are back to host this program again! This is a reschedule from the program in January.
Learn to Watercolor	June	Working on program details now...
Homeschool Swap!	June	Same as last year, Bancroft will host a homeschool swap.
Kids' Clothing Swap!	June	Kids' clothing swap will take place

Outreach in the Local Community (and Beyond!)

- n/a

Professional Development

- Melissa is attending the Director's Handbook Book Club series presented by the Mid-Hudson Library System. There are four virtual courses this year.

Financials and Donations

- **Glens Falls Account for Donations:** \$989.85 (Last month was \$941.79)
- \$150.00 donation from John and Barbara Beverly
- \$50.00 – Steven Abrams
- \$375.00 - Stewart's Holiday match

Staff & Volunteers

We were able to fill the CFC position that opened up—Thank you to Barry Richman and family for picking up the food delivery on the 4th Thursdays.

Facility Update

- Two companies came out to measure the library for estimates for new carpeting at the library. Kellogg Carpet (S. Glens Falls) and Bennington House of Tile and Carpet (Bennington). We are still waiting on both quotes to come through.
- Mold issues in the basement.
- -Vacuum for Proudfit??

Technology

- The six new computers should be coming soon (these were ordered in Fall of 2025). They will replace five of the public computers, and one of the staff computers
- Melissa is looking into pricing for a new staff/board laptop that can be used. See quotes, attached.

Submitted by: Melissa Carll, Library Director, April 2026