

The Voice of the Fond du Lac County Libraries

## Regionalism & Libraries Progress Report, 2005

### Cooperation & Collaboration

Winnefox Library System and the libraries we serve are a stellar example of the benefit that can be derived from working together. Libraries in Wisconsin provide an unmatched model of collaboration. They demonstrate that many communities working together can assure that library and information services will be available for everyone, at a surprisingly low cost: on average it costs less than \$35 per person per year for the public library service provided in our region. Public libraries, working with each other and with other types of libraries have made resources from around the state and country available to every resident. The 17 public library systems of Wisconsin created and continue to support a delivery structure that assures that needed items are received in a timely manner. The 30 public libraries, along with the many academic, school, and special libraries throughout the 5 county Winnefox service area remain committed to sharing resources so the information needs and desires of residents can be efficiently and effectively secured.

### WALS

The most visible manifestation of the cooperation is WALS, the shared technology network that lets anyone in the area discover and reserve library materials owned by all participating libraries. Any person with Internet access, even at home, can search the WALS catalog, place reserves, and have the desired item delivered to their local library, sometimes within just a couple of days.

- In 2004 over 177,000 items were loaned by one of the 26 WALS libraries to another.
- The remaining 4 Winnefox member libraries are at this time working towards full participation in the WALS system. We expect that this will be accomplished by the end of 2006

### Demand Keeps Growing

Our commitment to cooperation and service has encouraged more people to discover and use libraries.

- Between 2000 and 2004 circulation in our public libraries jumped 15% to 3,859,252 per year. That's the equivalent of over 12 items borrowed annually by every person in the system area.
- During the same time period, visits to libraries increased 9% to 1,674,550 per year. That's the equivalent of every person coming to the library more than 5 times per year.

### Winnefox Library System 2004

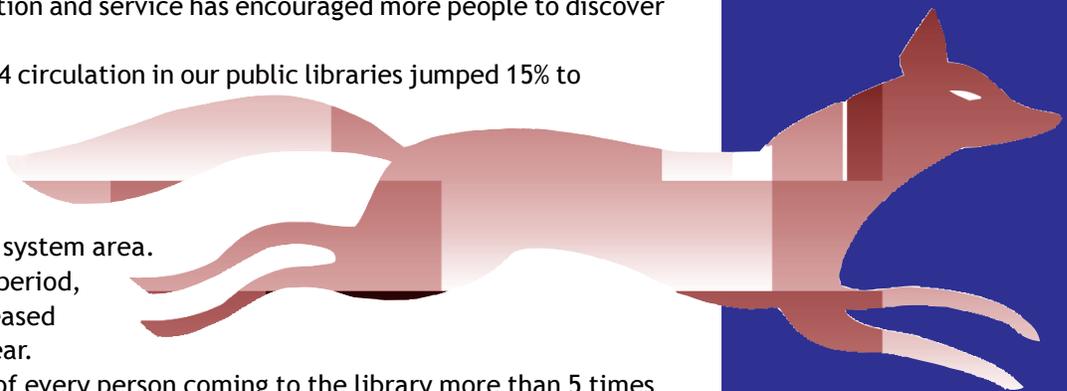
Population:  
317,557

Circulation:  
3,859,252

Circulation per capita:  
12.15

*Winnefox Library System libraries have the 3rd highest circulation per capita of 17 public library systems in Wisconsin.*

*There were 151,134 more items checked out than in 2003 - a 4% increase.*



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## OAKFIELD

As fall approaches and next year's budget is a major concern we realize what a blessing a library can be for a small town. Our August circulation was over 600 items higher than our previous record-breaking month and the number of patrons almost 500 higher. **Thank you to all our patrons for your strong support of our library.** And please, take time to thank the village board for recognizing the importance of a library as part of the municipal budget.

The Library Board has given the green light for an **outdoor sign in front of the building.** Posting special events, open hours, and any other significant news will be a great reminder to all passing by of what is happening at the library. Any contributions to this fund would be greatly appreciated.

**Butterflies in the library???** YOU BET!!! A butterfly pavilion was purchased and became the home for about 30 caterpillars and a lot of milkweed. After eating and eating each spun a beautiful chrysalis. After about a week the library was inhabited by beautiful monarch butterflies. Several of our younger patrons were here at the perfect time and thus were able to help release them. What an awesome experience!!! Young and old alike were intrigued by it.

**Interested in joining a book discussion group??** Once a month meetings are scheduled with the best times negotiated by the group. Call the library for more information—583-4552.

Stop in and browse our shelves—we think that you will be pleased with the selection of new DVD's, best sellers, magazines, etc..

HAPPY AUTUMN!!!

## NORTH FOND DU LAC

The Summer Reading Program at the Spillman Library had a total of 542 attendance. But even more important than this number is the number of minutes that were read by the children who participated. This grand total equaled 41,580 minutes (693 or almost 29 full days!). That's a lot of reading done during summer vacation!

There will be an **Open House celebrating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the North Fond du Lac Public Library on Saturday, October 15th** from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the library at 719 Wisconsin Avenue. The public is cordially invited to come and see a display of the library's history. The new Reading Railroad mural on the story time room wall lends itself to a picture taking opportunity at this event. A wall designed by former children's librarian Inez Koechel depicts the variety and fun of the summer children's programs. The library will be offering canvas book bags with a 100th anniversary logo for sale at \$5.00. Winnie the Fox will be visiting and light refreshments will be offered.



*A group of Summer readers display the shields they made for "Dragons, Dreams & Daring Reads."*



*Noah with his Dad, Ken Giebel and brother Abe.*

*Noah, at the controls, was the Grand Prize Winner of a plane ride at the FDL Skyport, as part of the summer reading program.*



## RIPON

Join us for some great classic movies! **The Library will be presenting a Preston Sturges film series** on Wednesdays in October. "The Lady Eve" will be shown on October 5; "Sullivan's Travels" on October 12; and "Unfaithfully Yours" on October 19. The films will begin at 7:00pm and will be shown in the new meeting room on the lower level. Light refreshments will be provided.

Do you like reading and discussing books? **The library has created "Talk It Up," a monthly book club** where patrons can talk about their favorite books and gather new ideas. A staff member will briefly highlight 5-10 books at each meeting, choosing a different genre every month. The meetings will take place on the third Thursday of every month at 12 pm in the large meeting room on the lower level. Patrons are invited to bring a bag lunch and the library will provide beverages and dessert. Join us for our upcoming meetings: October 20, spotlighting notable mystery and suspense novels; November 17, spotlighting overlooked books; December 15, spotlighting holiday books.

**"Good to the Last Page,"** our first adult summer reading program was a huge success! Over 100 people signed up for the program and read at least one book during the seven weeks. We easily surpassed our goal of 500 books and finished with a grand total of 707 books read. Thanks to our patrons' efforts, the Friends of the Library donated \$70.70 to the Ripon Area Food Pantry.

## CAMPBELLSPORT

Jerry Apps, an award winning Wisconsin Author recently visited Campbellsport Public Library to share humorous stories about growing up on a farm in rural Wisconsin. A crowd of 44 people were entertained with stories about one room schools, finally getting electricity, and receiving advice from a long line of relatives.



The Campbellsport Public Library is excited to announce that we will start circulating our library material on the WALs system starting September 26. The staff and many volunteers have worked very diligently to add most of our library's material into the WALs catalog. The staff is very excited to start using the shared system; we know that we will benefit from operating the library with a high quality and up-to-date library technology. We also know that many of our patrons will enjoy the convenience of being able to access the shared catalog of 27 libraries from the convenience of their own home.

## BRANDON

The Brandon Public Library has a new collection of books for young people. Twenty titles on freedom were received through a "We the People Bookshelf" Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in cooperation with American Library Association. School age readers are invited to submit a brief paragraph about one of the Bookshelf books telling how the book related to the theme of freedom. All children who participate will receive a ribbon of recognition as a "Freedom Reader". The winning writer will receive a \$10.00 gift certificate for books at an area bookstore. This event ends October 15, 2005.

**Open House.** On Sunday 18 September the Brandon Public Library and the Brandon Historical Society treated area residents to an old-fashioned ice cream social in honor of the Brandon Thursday Club, those ladies who were so instrumental in starting the Brandon Library back in the 1900s. Four Bits of Fun, a barbershop quartet, was on hand to serenade, the Balloon Kid, aka Stacey Schumde, made balloon twist sculptures for the children and we hosted a Pie Contest. The Brandon Historical Society members helped serve and answered questions about their organization and the area 4-H had a quilt display at the library. This event was made possible through the generous contributions of area businesses and individuals.

## FOND DU LAC

It has been a record breaking summer at the Fond du Lac Public Library. The number of items checked out in the building and on the bookmobile hit an all time high for a single month of 68,074 in August. This was an increase of 21% over last year and a remarkable 31% over 2002, our last summer in the old building. With over 31,000 people passing through our doors, we broke the record for the number of people visiting the library in August as well. Attendance and registrations for the children's summer library program went over 4,000 for the first year ever.

We are now gearing up for just as busy a fall schedule with a full line up of **children's and adult programming**. Preschool storytimes are available for children ages one to five years old beginning September 27. In October families are invited to a drop-in storytime for all ages the first Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month on Saturday, October 8 at 2:00 p.m. and be entertained by Clare Norelle with stories and songs in Spanish and English. On Wednesday evening, October 26 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. D. Light will present spooky stories and songs for a ghoulish good time. For more information call (920) 929-7080, ext. 127 or check the library's website: [www.fdlpl.org](http://www.fdlpl.org)

In September the library celebrated **Very Important Parents Month**. An exhibit of parenting books and child care handouts were on display in the library. Two popular programs were presented at the library for parents, "Healthy & Fun Snacks for Kids," and "Dealing with Kids' Feelings."



The library is also helping interested readers organize one or two book clubs that would meet in the library. The groups will be self-directed with the library providing a meeting room and light refreshments.

In October, the library will be hosting a **Wisconsin Regional Art Exhibit in the Langdon Divers Gallery**. The program, sponsored by UW-Madison, encourages the creative growth of nonprofessional Wisconsin artists. Over 30 artists will be exhibiting painting, wood, photography and more.

**The BookCellar**, the used bookstore operated by the Friends of the Library, will be open the first Monday and third Saturday of the month. So stock up on your winter reading! For more information call (920)929-7080.

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Though funding for libraries and library systems has not always kept pace with demand residents continue to express their confidence in libraries by walking in the physical and virtual doors to grab all the service they can find.

- Winnefox member libraries were open 63,194 hours in 2004; that's 1,215 hours per week, 174 hours per day.
- Winnefox member libraries offer 1,321,525 items and 262 internet stations for public use.
- Winnefox member libraries offer over 35 electronic databases and 8,000 ebooks that can be accessed from home, office, school, or any other place with Internet access.

### Our Tradition and Future

- Commitment to unbeatable service
- Guaranteed access to information so that each individual can improve themselves, then share the benefits with others.
- Awareness that an informed citizenry with access to information is the foundation of our democratic system.
- Devotion to building a community of residents who know that their strength comes from each other and that they don't each stand alone.
- Efficient use of tax support to strengthen the constructive role of our government, while we help build a better place for all to live!

Winnefox Library System and its partners have worked for almost 30 years to bring opportunity to all in Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara, and Winnebago Counties. We look forward to continue to helping make Wisconsin the best state in the nation.

Shhhout! is published quarterly by the Winnefox Library System to provide news for and about its member libraries in Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago counties. Direct comments and inquiries to:

Winnefox Library System  
Attn: Mark Arend  
106 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901  
920-236-5222 Email: arend@winnefox.org



## Fond du Lac County Libraries

### BRANDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

117 E. Main Street Brandon, WI 53919  
920-346-2350 [www.brandonlibrary.net](http://www.brandonlibrary.net)  
Monday 2-7  
Tuesday 2-7  
Wednesday 2-7  
Friday 10-5  
Saturday 9-12

### CAMPBELLSPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

220 North Helena Street  
Campbellsport, WI 53010  
920-533-8534  
[www.campbellsportlibrary.org](http://www.campbellsportlibrary.org)  
Monday 12-8  
Tuesday 12-8  
Wednesday 10-6  
Thursday 12-8  
Friday 10-5

### FOND DU LAC PUBLIC LIBRARY

32 Sheboygan Street Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
920-929-7080 [www.fdlpl.org](http://www.fdlpl.org)  
Monday 9-8  
Tuesday 9-8  
Wednesday 9-8  
Thursday 9-8  
Friday 9-6  
Saturday 9-5 (Summer 9-1)  
Sunday 12-4 (Summer-closed)

### SPILLMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

719 Wisconsin Avenue North Fond du Lac, WI 54937  
920-929-3771  
[www.northfonddulaclibrary.org](http://www.northfonddulaclibrary.org)  
Monday 12-8  
Tuesday 10-5  
Wednesday 10-5  
Thursday 12-8  
Friday 10-5  
Saturday 10-1 (Summer-closed)

### OAKFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

130 North Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065  
920-583-4552 [www.oakfieldlibrary.com](http://www.oakfieldlibrary.com)  
Monday 1-8  
Tuesday 9-2  
Wednesday 1-8  
Thursday 1-8  
Friday 1-5

### RIPON PUBLIC LIBRARY

120 Jefferson Street Ripon, WI 54971  
920-748-6160 [www.riponlibrary.org](http://www.riponlibrary.org)  
Monday 10-8  
Tuesday 10-8  
Wednesday 10-8  
Thursday 10-8  
Friday 10-8 (Summer 10-6)  
Saturday 10-4 (Summer 10-1)  
Sunday 1-4 (Summer-closed)

Winnefox Library System  
106 Washington Avenue  
Oshkosh, WI 54901-4985  
[www.winnefox.org](http://www.winnefox.org)