

The Voice of the Marquette 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

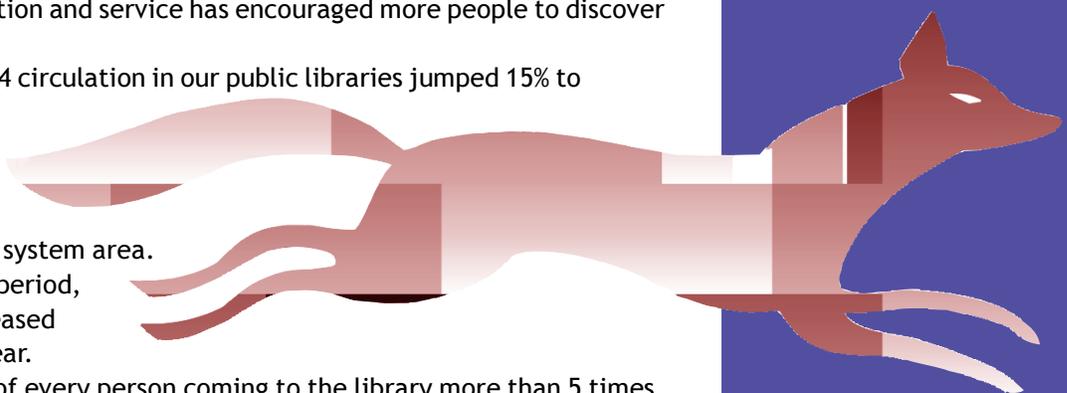
The most visible manifestation of the cooperation is WALS, the shared technology network that lets anyone in the area discover and reserve library materials owned by all participating libraries. Any person with Internet access, even at home, can search the WALS catalog, place reserves, and have the desired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

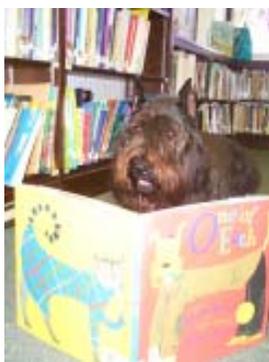
Winnefox Library System libraries have the 3rd highest circulation per capita of 17 public library systems in Wisconsin.

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

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WESTFIELD

R.E.A.D. program to start up again. After taking a couple months off this past summer, the Westfield Library's R.E.A.D. (reading educational assistance dogs) program will begin again on October 5. Going into its 3rd year, this successful program has seen over 100 students from the Westfield Grade school participate. Each week students from the grade school come to the library and get to read to a registered therapy dog. Reading to dogs at the Westfield Library is fun, and fun is a powerful motivating force for learning and improving reading skills.



R.E.A.D. with me for a Paw-sitive experience!

Friends of library make large donation. On Tuesday, September 13, the Ethel Everhard Memorial Library in Westfield received a large donation from the Friends of the Westfield Library in the form of a Scan-Pro 400- a **new microfilm reader and printer.**

The Friends of the Library had a successful silent auction and obtained matching funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. That, with the proceeds from their annual book and bake sale allowed them to purchase the new machine for the Library. Previously, the Westfield Library had a microfilm reader, but it did not print, it was complicated to use, and only a small portion of a newspaper page could be viewed at a time with the lens that was on it. In order to promote the library's valuable collection of historical Westfield newspapers on microfilm, the library needed a microfilm reader and printer that the public would be comfortable using. And so, after many months of hard work, the Westfield Library will welcome the new machine donated by the Friends of the Library. Anyone interested in learning more about the Scan-Pro 400, watching a demonstration, or sitting in on the free training session, can contact the Library at 296-2544.

MONTELO

On Monday, September 12, 2005, Montello Public Library celebrated the beginning of its **fifth year of Poet Tree**, an ongoing literary program which features Wisconsin poets and encourages local writers to read their own work during an open mic segment. Twenty-nine people attended to hear Richard Roe from Middleton. The Literacy Volunteers of Marquette County provide refreshments and drawings were held for three literacy quilts, fashioned from squares depicting readers' favorite book titles.

The readings are held on the first Monday of each month, or on the second Monday if there's a holiday on the first. The Friends of the Montello Public Library have sponsored the program since its inception on September 10, 2001. Poet Tree is coordinated by Bruce Dethlefsen, Montello Library director.

OXFORD

Now that children are back at school, it's been busy here at Oxford Library. Our **after school hours Chess Program** is ramping up again and we expect continuing success with it, along with some hard fought matches. Some of our young attendees are very good players and we have Internet resources to help them expand their games.

September 3rd, a Saturday, was **Hawking Day in Oxford** and our Friends of the Library held a Book sale. They set up tables in front of the Library (a first) and also sold smoked turkey and chicken legs (another first). Both books and BBQ were a big hit, and they plan to expand the menu for next year.

In light of events on the Gulf Coast, and the essential need for clean potable water, we are developing a **series of programs to draw our patron's attention to a variety of water resource issues** including: the hydrologic cycle, conservation, purification, and disinfecting agents in emergency situations. We feel that this program is important to our community and highlights a libraries' function as clearing house for important possibly life saving information. Presentations will be made at our local school and here in the Library.

ENDEAVOR

The Endeavor Public Library is moving! The village has decided to close the school that has been our home for many years and we will be moving to a newly remodeled storefront at 125 Park Ave. later this fall.



Endeavor Public Library's current home at 413 Academy Blvd.

NESHKORO

Fall is upon the library and you can see the difference in what the patrons bring to the library. The gardens have been producing great this summer and the library has seen the bounty of the garden. Many patrons are bringing in the extra of their garden to share with those that don't have gardens. This has seen the cookbooks being looked at and checked out. Many patrons trying new recipes for the many zucchinis and tomatoes that seem to be plentiful.

The library is putting up fall related displays to make use of the pinecones, grasses and leaves, and gourds. The craft books are on display for all. We are also getting the Halloween books out and pumpkin carving books out and ready for checkout.

Many patrons have also requested the quilting books and books on last minute Christmas projects. Its hard to believe that we will be decorating for Christmas in a couple of months.

This is the time of year that we are looking at the library budget for the next year. Now is the time to let the librarian know the areas of interest that you have and nay thing you would like the library to offer. The Neshkoro Library is looking at being automated and as we begin the process we will be letting everyone the steps involved and how this will improve your library experience.

PACKWAUKEE

In its 35 year history the Packwaukee Library has become an important part of community life. Today the Packwaukee Library is located in the new Town Hall building and has gone high tech. It has computers and is linked to the internet and the Winnefox Library System. If you need something special, maybe four research or entertainment, ask Marty or Vi. They probably can find it for you.

The library of today is a wonderful benefit for the senior citizens and young people of the community. You can check out books, VHS videos, DVDs, and have access to a computer. The Packwaukee Library often has activities for kids too.

Sometimes life can be pretty dull around this part of the country, especially in the winter. So, if you are suffering from boredom, "go to the library". You might find something of interest.



Pictured above is the current Packwaukee Public Library staff with its Founders. (From left to right), Ann Olsen, Joyce Pischke, Nora Barton, founders and Vi Lloyd and Marty Kaszar, staff.

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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
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 920-236-5222 Email: arend@winnefox.org



Marquette County Libraries

ENDEAVOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

413 Academy Blvd. Endeavor, WI 53930
 608-587-2902 www.endeavorlibrary.org
 Monday 10-6:30
 Wednesday 10-6:30
 Thursday 9-6:30
 Saturday 9-12:30

ETHEL EVERHARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

117 East West Third Westfield, WI 53964
 608-296-2544 www.westfieldlibrary.org
 Monday 9-6
 Tuesday 9-6
 Wednesday 9-6
 Thursday 9-6
 Friday 9-12
 Saturday 9-12

MONTELLO PUBLIC LIBRARY

128 Lake Court Montello, WI 53949
 608-297-7544 www.montellolibrary.org
 Monday 10-7:30
 Wednesday 10-5
 Thursday 10-7:30
 Friday 9-2
 Saturday 10-1

NESHKORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

132 South Main Street Neshkoro, WI 54960
 920-293-4026 www.neshkorolibrary.org
 Monday 9-5
 Wednesday 9-5
 Friday 12-50

OXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

129 South Franklin Ave. Oxford, WI 53952
 608-586-4458 www.oxfordlibrary.org
 Monday 10-12 & 2-5:30
 Tuesday 2-7
 Wednesday 2-5:30
 Thursday 10-12 & 2-5:30
 Friday 2-5:30
 Saturday 9-12

PACKWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

N3511 State St. Packwaukee, WI 53953
 608-589-5202 www.packwaukeeelibrary.org
 Monday 10-6
 Tuesday 3-6
 Wednesday 1-6
 Thursday 10-6
 Saturday 10-3 (closed the 5th Saturday of each month)

Winnefox Library System
 106 Washington Avenue
 Oshkosh, WI 54901-4985
www.winnefox.org