

# OCPL Director's Report      May, 2013

**1-Programs and Services:** Numerous programs were presented at OCPL libraries during March and April. Of special interest was the **Volunteer recognition event** on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at the Walhalla Library. **Susan Roberts** was awarded the **Lucille Bellotte Moore** award and **Ann Rogers** the **Sarah Mills Norton** award, both for volunteer service.

**2-Usage Statistics and narratives:** March - April, 2013 statistics and Bimonthly Reports are attached.

**3-Finance and Budget:** OCPL Budget for July 1, 2012 – May 13, 2013 is attached. You will note that we have transferred funds from line items with excess funds to line items needing more funds. Two line items that are in the red do not reflect the latest budget transfers. Oconee County has upgraded its accounting software, which has prevented updating of departmental budgets this last week.

**4-Policies and Procedures:** The new DVD policy adopted by Board went into effect on Monday, May 6, 2013.

**5-Personnel and Training:** The Management Team met on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 and Wednesday, May 8, 2013. **In-Service Day** for all staff was held on Friday, April 12, 2013, at the Walhalla Library. **Laura Isenstein** of **Providence Associates** discussed the LSTA project's recommended training program for staff. Six candidates for Technical Services Librarian were interviewed and one was selected. **Robena Barton's** first day will be Monday, June 3, 2013.

**6-Technology:** 4 new computers have been purchased: Walhalla has a new computer in the staff work room; Seneca has a new computer in the staff room; Westminster will have a new computer in the office and the Bookmobile has a new laptop. These computers will allow staff to have access to a computer with Windows 7 for training under the recommendations of **Laura Isenstein** of Providence Associates. OCPL has also subscribed to **Universal Class** to make courses available to the staff, which was also a recommendation by Ms. Isenstein. Equipment has been installed at the Salem Fire Station that will allow the

implementation of the fiber network. The library staff has used **Skype** on three separate occasions in the last three weeks. **K'Lani Green** and I interviewed two of the candidates for the Technical Services Librarian position and we also had a conversation with **Laura Isenstein** about the LSTA grant.

7- **Friends of the Library:** **Susan Roberts**, Vice President of the Friends of the Library, was awarded the **Lucile Belotte Moore** volunteer award for her work with the Friends' **Read To Me** project at the Volunteer recognition event on Tuesday, April 23, 2013.

8- **State Library:** Attended Legislative Day on **Wednesday, April 17, 2013** in support of the State Library's 2013/2014 budget. Board members **Bill Caster**, **Holly McPheeters**, **Becky Hetherington**, **Priscilla Taylor**, and staff members **K'Lani Green** and **Blair Hinson** were a part of the OCPL contingent. The group also toured the Richland Library's headquarters branch and dropped in for the State Library's open house.

9- **Community Involvement:** Attended **Oconee Alliance** meetings on Thursday, April 11 and Thursday, May 9, 2013. Attended a forum with Senator **Tim Scott** and Congressman **Jeff Duncan** sponsored by the **Oconee County Chamber** on Thursday, May 2, 2013 in Seneca. Staffed OCPL's booth at the **Mayberry Days Festival** in Westminster on Saturday, April 27, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Attended the opening of the **Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina** on Saturday, May 11, 2013 in Walhalla.

10- **Oconee County:** Prepared and submitted the **Capital Project Advisory Committee** Project Criteria Questionnaire after consultation with the Board. Presentation to the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

11- **Other:** Two sessions of training for the Board by **Denise Lyons** of the South Carolina State Library were held on Thursday, March 28 and Wednesday, April 3 at the Walhalla Library from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Eight of the nine Board members attended a session. The Strategic Plan's timetable is being carried out. Oconee Council members and **Mr. Moulder** have received an executive

summary. A press release has been sent out to the media. The Management Team discussed the Strategic Plan on Wednesday, May 8, 2013. **Chairman Day** and the director visited **Robert Rainey** on Friday, May 10, 2013 to discuss the possibility of setting up a Library Endowment Fund. Mr. Rainey is President of the **Foothills Community Foundation** in Anderson, SC. The Anderson County Library's endowment funds are managed by this foundation.

	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Change	Apr 2012	Apr 2013	Change
<b>Visits to Library</b>	24,603	24,817	0.9%	21,073	24,539	16.4%
Material Circulation - Adult	19,162	20,006	4.4%	17,869	19,237	7.7%
Material Circulation - Youth	2,613	2,262	-13.4%	2,243	2,365	5.4%
Material Circulation - Juvenile	9,643	9,172	-4.9%	8,649	9,531	10.2%
<b>Total Material Circulation</b>	31,418	31,440	0.1%	28,761	31,133	8.2%
<b>Internet Users</b>	1,860	4,413	134.7%	4,285	4,371	2.0%
Internet Hours of Use	1,433	3,002	109.5%	3,033	3,027	-0.2%
<b>New Cards Issued</b>	270	243	-10.0%	219	180	-17.8%
Programs - Adult	5	11	120.0%	6	14	133.3%
Programs Attendance - Adult	176	114	-35.2%	49	322	557.1%
Programs - Youth 12-18	4	0	100.0%	1	1	
Programs Att - Youth 12-18	60	0	100.0%	14	3	-78.6%
Programs - Juvenile 6-11	10	12	20.0%	11	9	-18.2%
Programs Att - Juv 6-11	180	225	25.0%	167	80	-52.1%
Programs - Children 0-5						
Programs - Att - Children 0-5						
Outreach Activities	12	2	-83.3%	17	6	-64.7%
Outreach Act. Attendance	57	29	-49.1%	882	697	-21.0%
Public Training Sessions	5	6	20.0%	2	4	100.0%
Public Training Participants	18	44	144.4%	8	16	100.0%
Public Training Hours	14	26	85.7%	24	8	-66.7%
Staff Training Sessions	18	8	-55.6%	29	10	-65.5%
Staff Training Participants	15	6	-60.0%	28	28	0.0%
Staff Training Hours	68	109	61.5%	208	227	8.8%
Number of Volunteers Added	28	4	-85.7%	27	5	-81.5%
Number of Vol Hours	456	296	-35.0%	579	287	-50.3%
Meeting Room Use	62	60	-3.2%	51	53	3.9%
Meeting Room Attendance	885	615	-30.5%	441	605	37.2%
Number of Web Site Hits		15,935			16,052	
Number of online PAC Hits					3,655	
Wi-Fi Users	2,718		100.0%	2,779		-100.0%

Wi-Fi Hours of Use						
E Book Downloads	880	985	11.9%	729	1,002	37.4%
Mango Adult Users		72			72	
Mango Children Users		3			1	
One Click Digital Downloads		71		24	90	275.0%
Interlibrary Loans	81	41	-32.8%	32	32	0.0%
<b>New Material Added</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>-63.4%</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>



## OCPL BUDGET FY13 - MAY 13, 2013

Account Number	DESCRIPTION	Budgeted	Spent	Percent	Balance
010-206-10110-00000	Full Time Salary	597,770	410,311	69%	187,459
010-206-10120-00000	Part-Time	119,954	95,984	80%	23,970
010-206-10121-00000	Courier	13,982	11,032	79%	2,950
010-206-30018	Travel	200	141	71%	59
010-206-30022-00081	Bldg Maint - Walhalla	5,605	4,605	82%	1,000
010-206-30022-00082	Bldg Maint - Seneca	4,400	3,592	82%	808
010-206-30022-00083	Bldg Maint - Westminster	1,900	1,397	74%	503
010-206-30022-00084	Bldg. Maint - Salem	1,220	1,039	85%	181
010-206-30024	Equip. Maintenance	7,800	7,197	92%	603
010-206-30037	Equipment Leased	8,000	6,972	87%	1,028
010-206-30041	Telecommunications	480	380	79%	100
010-206-30043-00081	Electricity - Walhalla	28,600	23,041	81%	5,559
010-206-30043-00082	Electricity - Seneca	14,800	12,248	83%	2,552
010-206-30043-00083	Electricity - Westminster	12,300	11,226	91%	1,074
010-206-30043-00084	Electricity - Salem	5,000	5,000	100%	0
010-206-30044-00081	Water - Walhalla	1,200	922	77%	278
010-206-30044-00082	Water - Seneca	1,000	790	79%	210
010-206-30044-00083	Water - Westminster	800	673	84%	127
010-206-30056	Data Processing	27,500	27,494	100%	6
010-206-30068	Advertising	1,300	953	73%	347
010-206-30080	Dues	850	765	90%	85
010-206-30084	School, Training, Sem.	3,300	3,453	105%	-153
010-206-30090	Honorarium	900	900	100%	0
010-206-40031	Sm Capital Equip (Loc)	8,360	3,282	39%	5,078
010-206-40032	Operational	11,200	11,194	100%	6
010-206-40032-A	Youth Services	2,000	1,950	98%	50
010-206-40033	Postage	700	623	89%	77
010-206-40034	Food	500	454	91%	46
010-206-40101	Books (Local)	120,115	96,463	80%	23,652
010-206-40102	Periodicals (Local)	16,000	15,611	98%	389
010-206-40103	AV (Local)	10,100	8,954	89%	1,146
010-206-80206	Automobile Maint - Library	1,300	1,280	98%	20
010-206-81206	Gasoline - Library	3,090	2,695	87%	395
010-206-82206	Diesel - Library	1,945	1,520	78%	425
<b>TOTAL LOCAL FUNDS</b>		<b>302,465</b>	<b>256,816</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>45,649</b>
012-206-50850-00000	Seneca Library Expense	21,514	0	0%	21,514
013-80-85-50206	Lib Const(Seneca)	1,021		0%	1,021
013-206-00805-90800	Dale Ayres (Westminster)	101		0%	101
013-206-60010	*Gifts, Donation (Loc)	28,765		0%	28,765
013-206-60206	Lottery	10,147	10,016	99%	131
013-206-30025-91058	LSTA Grant -Staff Training	15,000	7,500	50%	7,500
<b>TOTAL MISC. FUNDS</b>		<b>76,548</b>	<b>17,516</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>76,548</b>
240-206-30056-255	Data Processing (State)	9,673	9,646	100%	27
240-206-30084-255	Schools, Train.. (State)	2,360	2,359	100%	1
240-206-40031-255	Sm Capital (State)	601	421	70%	180
240-206-40032-255	Operational (State)	4,000	4,069	102%	-69
240-206-40045-00255	IT Equipment	13,189	4,280	32%	8,909
240-206-40111-255	Books (State)	3,885	3,883	100%	2
240-206-40112-255	Periodicals (State)	21,315	21,315	100%	0
240-206-40113-255	AV (State)	10,000	9,997	100%	3
240-206-80206-00000	Vehicle Maint (BKM Gen)	9,250	9,246	100%	4
<b>TOTAL STATE AID</b>		<b>74,273</b>	<b>65,217</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>9,056</b>

# Branch Services

Mar/Apr 2013

K'Lani Green, Branch Services Librarian

## Narrative

### Public Relations:

I was part of the caravan that traveled to Columbia on April 17 for Legislative Day. We visited Sen. Alexander, Reps. Whitmire and Sandifer and thanked them for supporting increasing state funding to the SC State Library.

I attended a stakeholder meeting for Oconee 9/11 memorial on April 24 at Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative office. The architectural firm presented the proposed final design and solicited feedback from attendees. An email survey was sent out later to attendees and another meeting is planned to incorporate input to the final design of the memorial.

I attended the *Volunteers Rock* celebration on April 23. The volunteer committee led by Janice Lovinggood did a fantastic job in putting on the event.

### Staff Development:

Brenda Lee and I attended the Outreach and Diversity Exchange at the State Library on March 1. The staff in-service was held on April 12 at Walhalla Library; more details are below.

### Manager's Project:

Laura Isenstein developed a technology assistance needs survey as part of the LSTA grant project and a link to access it online was posted on the library's website. It was opened from February 27 through March 29. Printed copies were out at the service desks at all branches and informative table top tents were placed at each public computer and around the libraries. A press release was also sent out and *The Seneca Journal* published an article about the survey. Answers from the printed copies were inputted at the end of March to the online survey.

Laura attended the in-service held April 12 at the Walhalla branch. She met first with non-supervisory staff to hear their concerns, questions, and suggestions on the LSTA grant project. She reported it was a constructive session and commended the staff. Later on, Laura gave a more in-depth presentation to all of the staff. This presentation touched on the background of the project, the information such as IMLS's 21st Century Skills that shapes its underpinning, its goals and objectives, and the activities and events of the project's progress. She also discussed the results of the staff assessment conducted in January and of the community technology assistance needs survey. The afternoon half of in-service was dedicated to two breakout training sessions. One session was taught by Meredith Wickham and it was about customer service and using the retail method of upselling to improve transactions with patrons. The other was self-directed training in which staff selected from a list of online tutorials (e.g. DISCUS databases search scavenger hunts) and other options and worked on them for an hour. Upcoming library events and recent library developments were covered the rest of day.

### Staff:

Interviews for the Technical Services Librarian opening were conducted in April over two weeks and Philip and I met with six candidates. Robena Barton was chosen as the final candidate; she comes from Lexington, SC and she formerly worked at the USC Thomas Cooper Library as the evening circulation supervisor. Her official start date hasn't been set yet.

# Outreach Services

Mar/Apr 2013

Brenda Lee,  
Bookmobile Manager

**Collections:** Manager continues to order materials based upon patron requests and needs. Use volunteers to help with office work and other bookmobile duties.

**Displays:** The bookmobile's sidewalk sandwich sign is allowing us to better inform the public of library events. Jean Snellings, volunteer, did another great job in making this very attractive for March and April!

**Public Relations:** Manager gave a short presentation to new Library Board members and Management Team in March utilizing the sign.

**Volunteers & Community Outreach:** Maria Macaulay and Charlotte McCoy returned as a volunteers. **Repeat from Jan/Feb report:** The change of location at Long Creek from the Fire Department to the Post Office parking lot has been a good move. The move from the Exxon station on South Highway 11 to the parking lot of the new Dollar General, also on South Hwy 11, has also been an excellent decision. I had phone calls from patrons who planned to start coming on the day the bookmobile could not run! Oh what fun was had by attending the Volunteers Rock Appreciation Dinner! Elvis was in the house!! ☺

**Manager's Projects:** Preparing Outreach items for Outreach delivery to four patrons. Trying to increase the adult music CD collection has been somewhat successful with other branch managers sharing some non-circulating material. I think it would be wise to allocate towards this need in the budget. One of two pending locations was approved for the May through August schedule. I will keep the other in my pending file awaiting an opening. I still plan to work on an email list of patrons, by routes, for easier notification if bookmobile is not able to run. New date schedules for May through August completed. Info posted on website reflecting a new subdivision stop at Bayshore.

**Issues:** Bookmobile patrons do not receive email notices. This needs to be addressed again and corrected. Due to all the heavy rains, we sprang a leak around a window but Motor Pool was able to repair it without missing any routes. However, there were mechanical problems that needed repair in April, therefore several stops had to be cancelled. Any cancellations hurt the statistics.

**Comment:** First time ever, I had to call Motor Pool to the rescue my volunteer (Jean) and me twice on the same day! If that wasn't enough, a terrible storm passed through the county, and when I tried to open the garage door, the power was off! Anyway, chain of authority was followed and I took the laptop and Jetpack home with me, leaving the bookmobile out in the parking lot. All ended well. It was intact the next day! Jean and I are still laughing about that day! ☺



# **Salem Library**

## **Mar./Apr. 2013**

### **Meredith Wickham, Manager**

**General News:** Salem Library continues to experience strong growth in both patron visits and circulation numbers. We are seeing a lot of new e-book readers and tablet users who come to us for assistance in accessing the library's electronic resources for themselves and their families. We continue to assist job seekers, G.E.D. students, and local seniors in gaining the basic computer skills necessary to get online, use email, participate in social media, and create documents for work and school. It is exciting to know we are helping to bridge the digital divide for so many of Oconee County's citizens.

**Staff:** Staff member Dan Polk has been splitting his hours between our branch and the Technical Services Department in Walhalla, where his expertise in cataloguing is needed at this time. We've been happy to welcome Salem native Wesley Ramey to the circulation desk here at Salem Branch on the days when Dan is in Walhalla. Our patrons have received him well, and he is a quick learner who enjoys working with the public. All Salem staff attended in-service training April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Walhalla Main Library.

**Collection:** As Branch Manager, I continue to order materials based on reviews, best-seller lists, to satisfy patron requests, and to flesh out areas of the non-fiction collection that need attention.

**Collaboration:** The Town of Salem's Earth Day celebration was held on April 19<sup>th</sup>, although unfortunately it was held indoors at the Salem Community Center due to the uncooperative weather. The library sponsored a concert by popular local bluegrass band Conservation Theory, with approximately 150 people in attendance.

**Outreach:** In March, Salem Library welcomed a local Cub Scout Troop who came to learn about the library as part of the process of earning their "Adventures in Books" badges. Many of the parents signed themselves and their children up for library cards as a result. Salem's Earth Day event provided excellent opportunities to talk about the OCPL, making citizens aware of our upcoming Summer Reading programs and other events and services. During the week of National Bookmobile Day, in April, Salem Library hosted a Bookmobile Open House in which visitors could tour the vehicle and experience this wonderful mobile library for themselves.

**Programs:** South Carolina children's author Peggy Parish's famed character Amelia Bedelia turns 50 in 2013, and local children celebrated her 50th Birthday at a party complete with costumes, crafts, and, of course, reading at the Salem Branch. Amelia Bedelia, herself, (a/k/a Youth Services Librarian Stacie Powell) was there to blow out the candles on her beautiful polka-dot cake. Additional programs during this period included basic computer skills classes, a container gardening workshop given by a local master gardener, and a class presented by the Salem Police Chief on how to avoid common scams, cons, and fraud. Over Spring Break, we held a special movie matinee showing of a teen movie selection and welcomed several therapy dogs into the library for the "I Read to Animals" program which helps reluctant readers establish reading fluency. We continued the regular meetings of the Better Than Therapy Book Club, Mother Goose on the Loose, and the Knit & Crochet Circle.

**Volunteers:** New volunteer Jennifer Moss has begun working Mondays at the Salem Branch. She has been a wonderful new addition to our team. Frances Tucker, our regular volunteer, was nominated for the Sarah Mills Norton award and was recognized for her contribution at the very successful "Volunteers Rock!" event at Walhalla Main Library.

**Issues:** Public computer number 2's hard drive failed in March, and I.T. has declared it an irreparable failure. It was an older hard drive and had been requiring a lot of troubleshooting and a couple of repairs in recent months just to keep it operational. Even so, it was miserably slow to load. With its absence, we've lost 20% of our public access capacity, since Salem Branch has a very limited number of computers. Many afternoons, this loss can be felt. Ideally, we'd like to replace that hard drive as soon as possible.

# **Seneca Library**

## **March/April 2013**

### **Blair Hinson, Manager**

#### **Narrative**

**Collection:** We have added a number of new items, and have gotten a number of replacements from our donations. We have completed our materials inventory. We will be working diligently to spend remaining funds for this fiscal year, so we should be adding even more in the coming two months. We have also shifted and weeded extensively in our juvenile non-fiction area and juvenile biography.

**Displays:** Displays for the cycle included a "poet tree" by Megan LaVere, a "green with envy" display, a spring books display, and a spring "look what just blew in" display by Lynn Owens.

**Staff Development:** The branch manager and the Branch Services Librarian, K'Lani Green, have been busily developing the Improved Staff Training program. After the spring In-Service, we have a clearer direction of how we will proceed. The library hosted Laura Eisenstein from Providence Associates at In-Service as well. The Seneca Branch lost Tiffany Tarrer to Westminster in February, but replaced her with Sarai Espino. Sarai is from Walhalla/West Union, and attends Clemson. The Seneca Branch Manager also completed Leadership Oconee County.

**Community Outreach:** We continue to improve our delivery of press releases, etc. to try to get folks into the library. We solicited public input for our Improved Staff Training program, and those results are helping Laura Eisenstein guide the development of our training program. Several Seneca staff also participated in Mayberry Days in Westminster. The Seneca Manager now has a monthly "slot" on Seneca radio station WSNW's "Coffee Time" program.

**Programs:** We hosted two Let's Talk About It book discussions in this period, both well attended, and a class on Kindles and e-books.

**Issues:** We are connected, but STILL not yet on, the new fiber optic broadband network (although we are told this will happen May 17, 2013). We continue to see some real slowness in our LS2 Staff, and our Public Access Catalog terminals (PACs) rarely function correctly. We also need improvements in our phone system (which is supposed to come with broadband, in the form of VoIP, or Voice over Internet Protocol).

**Notes:**

# Walhalla Library

Mar./Apr. 2013

Heidi Holmes, Manager

## Narrative

**Print Collections:** The Walhalla library branch manager continues to order materials based on professional reviews, patron requests, and "best sellers" lists.

**Overdrive Collection:** New Overdrive patrons decreased slightly and are down 25% from the previous period (January/February 2013) with 97 new registrations. Overdrive circulation increased 6% with 1,987 check-outs for March and April. A total of 72 new titles were purchased and added to the OCPL Overdrive collection during this period. Overdrive books can now be located in our library catalog.

**DVD Collection:** DVDs continue to be a very popular part of our collection with our "Who needs Redbox?" campaign as we promote the latest and greatest DVDs available.

**Donations:** The Walhalla Branch still receives a steady amount of donated materials from the public. The ones that are not selected to be added to the collection are sent to the Friends for their book sales.

**Staff Development:** Staff participated in the in-service training on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Michael White is our newest Part-time Circulation Assistant at Walhalla. He joined the OCPL staff on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Volunteers:** The VIP Committee presented a volunteer recognition event on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at The Walhalla Library with 48 in attendance. All OCPL volunteers were recognized. Walhalla has a few new volunteers including James Head. Our longtime volunteers Ann Rogers, Aubrey Sawyer, Nia Johnson and Christy Doherty continue to be a wonderful asset on a weekly basis.

**Community Outreach:** The *Geek* Committee participated in Mayberry Days in Westminster on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Collaboration:** We continue to collaborate with the Goodwill Job Connection of Seneca. We have received a plethora of Groups that utilized the meeting room for their events including Beaver Lake Home Owners Association, Carolina Family Services, Tri-County Home Educators, The Lego Club, American Board, Southern Wesleyan University, The Tribble Center, Class of 1958 Reunion Committee, Guardian ad Litem, South Oak Point Home Owners Association, Tri-County Home Educators Graduation Committee, and AARP Safe Driver's Class.

**Programs:** We continue to provide *Tech Tuesday*, offering assistance to people needing help with their Ereaders. Our March Programs included Shade Gardening with 5 in attendance and our new monthly Walhalla book club, *Books and Chocolate* with 5 also in attendance. April's programs were *Gluten Free Cooking* with 3 participants, a movie showing in honor of Earth Day with 2 people and the monthly book club, *Books and Chocolate*, with 2 in attendance. We are expecting a much larger turn out for adult programs over the summer as we attempt new marketing ideas and enjoy the return of many seasonal residents.

**Manager's Projects:** Heidi continues to plan for the upcoming community festivals at which OCPL will be represented. Upcoming festivals include July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities in Salem, Apple Festival in Westminster in September and Oktoberfest in Walhalla. Walhalla has been working on inventory and will have that completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Heidi is also responsible for ordering all of the Ebooks.

**Facilities:** Basic upkeep and maintenance has taken place at the Walhalla branch library.

**Issues:** It was discovered in April that there was a severe leak from the drip pans of the AC unit which caused a significant leak that resulted in damage of some library materials. We are asking the Oconee County Maintenance Department to consider working with an outside AC specialist who can provide a complete flushing and check-up of the system before the hot summer months.

## March

**Staff Development:** We welcomed Tiffany Tarrer as full time circ staff this month. Her experiences of working at other branches has helped her fit right in. She has picked up on essential tasks and has been a great addition to the library. Staff filled out a questionnaire for the staff training grant. We have also been getting customers to fill out surveys to help with staff development. Tiffany also joined the Volunteer committee to help them plan the upcoming volunteer luncheon on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.



**Displays, Programs, and Community Outreach:** Displays for this month have included; Pi Day, Ides of March, Tax Forms, Easter, St. Patrick's Day, New E and J books, and green colored books. The programs this month were a great success. We started the month off with 50 people attending our Grab Your Hat and Read with the Cat, Dr. Seuss Party for Read Across America Day. Kids had lots of fun eating green eggs, playing Red Fish, Blue Fish, Fishing Game, and had messy fun playing with Oobleck. We also had a great turnout for our Family Movie Night showing of *Rise of the Guardians* with 28 people in attendance. For St. Patrick's Day, we had a drop-in craft that allowed kids to just drop by and do a quick craft. We had 10 kids come and create leprechaun bookmarks.

For our adult customers we had a Facebook for Seniors how-to class and a Craft it with Leah program where we used glue and food coloring to make colored glass. Both programs had 11 people attend which was just about right for those types of programs.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> I spoke at the Westminster Rotary meeting for lunch. It was a great opportunity to meet people of Westminster. I presented a PowerPoint presentation on all the digital and physical services the library offers. It was a good opportunity to show the community that we are not just about books anymore.

We also finalized approval for starting a Twitter account. People can follow us @MyOconeeLibrary to keep up with all the events and happenings at the libraries.

**Issues/Facilities:** After weeding non-fiction of outdated and damaged materials, we had room to move the overcrowded large print books into the main stacks, getting them off of lower shelving. After several complaints of inability to access or see the audio materials, we were also able to move those to the taller shelves allowing better accessibility for those. Those empty shelving units will be removed and repurposed, allowing us to have more room for future DVD shelving and study space.

## April

**Staff Development:** On April 12<sup>th</sup> staff spent the day at the Walhalla Library for staff training. We learned how the library is moving forward with preparing a training program through a grant and Providence Associates. We got to be trained on many tools we use every day. Staff are also getting revved up and trained on the upcoming summer reading programs. Tiffany Tarrer represented Westminster and helped with the volunteer appreciation dinner, "Volunteers Rock."

**Programs, Displays, and community Outreach:** We had an okay turn out for our Spring Break Movie Madness where we showed one movie every day. The total of attendance was 43. We had 21 in attendance for our Bingo

for Books program. This was exactly has the title says; people played rounds of bingo to win gently used books. Everyone had a great time. We had 9 people come to Craft it with Leah: Magnets and repurposed board. This was a good size crowd to have for a craft that involved paint and glue guns. We all learned that you can repurpose every day and not so everyday items like baking pans. We had a Pinterest for Beginners class but people must not be ready for it yet because no one showed. We will try having one again later.

The city of Westminster hosted Mayberry Days on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. This was a great opportunity for the library to get our name out to the locals (and not so local) and to show them that they library is not just about books anymore.

April was also a good month for MGOL with a steady attendance each week. As of April 15<sup>th</sup> we no longer carry the tax forms (but they can still be printed for cost). Book displays for April included; Earth Day, LOL, Classics of Television, Spring, Hey Y'all! Read These (South Carolina authors and settings), new audios, I don't remember the title but the cover was red (all the books on display have a red cover), and a Memorial Day display.

During National Library week we also collected over 100 nonperishable items for local food banks. It's a win-win situation for all involved.

**Issues/Facilities:** We have been able to move some items around to increase customer satisfaction with accessibility to items on the shelves. We are currently in the process of rearranging furniture to make things more comfortable and flow better. We did have an issue with a piece of the dormer on the roof coming loose. Luckily the cement piece did not injure the roof or fall onto the ground. Facilities maintenance came and repaired the area so we are good as new.

# **Youth Services**

## **Mar/April 2013**

### **Stacie Powell, Youth Services Librarian**

**Collection:** Collection development and weeding is going smoothly. I am on track to expend my allotted materials funds by the end of the fiscal year. Weeding and shifting has taken place at Walhalla thanks to the help of Walhalla circulation assistant Leah Kelley.

**Displays:** We are working on creating a display for the upcoming summer reading program at Walhalla. The theme this year is "Dig into Reading" for kids and "Beneath the Surface" for teens.

**Staff Development:** I took a webinar in March about the South Carolina Summer Reader program that all public librarians in the state are required to use this year in order to track summer reading participation. In April, the library held one of its biannual in-service staff days. This day was centered on staff training. A lot of useful library and customer-service techniques and skills were learned at this event.

**Community Outreach:** A special needs class from West-Oak High School visited the library in March. We gave them a tour of the library and had them do several activities associated with literacy. In April, I visited the city of Salem's Earth Day celebration and gave a brief speech plugging the upcoming summer reading programs being offered at the library this year. The Youth Services Librarian also participated in James M. Brown Elementary's dia de los ninos y libros (day of the child / book) event. I drove the Bookmobile to this cross-cultural event and held an open house and promoted our summer reading program there. The estimated total number of visitors at this event was over 500.

#### **Programs:**

- Every Friday in March we held our American Girl Club meetings. The final meeting was held at the Ballroom at the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. The 15 girls who participated in this seven week program were awarded with a colonial-style tea party and ballroom dancing lessons. We received excellent feedback from the parents of the participants of this program and have been encouraged to offer more like it. We plan to offer more American Girl programs starting in the fall and spreading out to the other branches.
- Dr. Seuss' Birthday Party / Read Across America Day – we celebrated this nationwide event at the Seneca Library in March. The event was covered by the Journal Tribune the following weekend. Seneca employees Jonathan Hunter and Megan LaVerre helped with the program. Jonathan dressed up as the Cat in the Hat and read a story to the children.
- Amelia Bedelia party – to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Amelia Bedelia book we held a party at the Salem branch in April. The author of the Amelia Bedelia books was from South Carolina and we had many people remark about how she was one of their favorite book characters growing up.

**Projects:** The Youth Services department is busy preparing for our summer reading programs. We have some exciting things planned and we are hoping this will be our biggest ever. Our department manages three phases (Early Literacy, Elementary, and Teens) of the summer reading program and that will definitely keep us busy.



Issues: None