

# Annual Report



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[www.waynesboro.va.us/library](http://www.waynesboro.va.us/library)  
 Online catalog (OPAC)  
[www.valleylibraries.org](http://www.valleylibraries.org)

## Hours:

Monday-Friday  
 9:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.  
 Saturdays  
 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

## WPL affiliates:

### Board of Trustees:

Latane Long  
 Faison Dana  
 Edie Eckman  
 Phil Winter  
 Lowell Lemons

### Friends of the Library Board:

Velma Ryan, President  
 Jim Donnelly, Treasurer  
**WPL Foundation Board:**  
 Mark Santomieri, President  
 Barbara Reid, Secretary  
 Oliver Hunt, Treasurer

Population Served:  
 20,405  
 Library Visits:  
 224,540  
 Service Hours per  
 Week:  
 68

## Director's Report

Zahir Mahmoud

Waynesboro Public Library, like other public libraries across the nation, faced an unprecedented challenge. More people came into the library to use computers and learn how to submit job applications online while local and state funding went down. Attendance to programs and Internet usage went up; however, circulation statistics showed a slight decline. Multiple copies of best sellers had to be reduced due to state aid reduction. Actual expenditures dropped from \$946,124 in FY09 to \$851,806. This was due to a 11% reduction in state aid, freezing the position of Assistant Director, and a 5% reduction in local funding.

In September of 2009, BCWH Architects completed their study of library needs and made their recommendations to the Waynesboro City Council. The design options in front of the City Council were a choice between staying within the budget and meeting some of the needs or committing additional funds to reach all of the objectives. Waynesboro City Council gave its final approval of a master plan in three phases that included a stairwell to connect the two floors and maximize space utilization. Work on the project will start in the next fiscal year.

Waynesboro City Council did not allocate funding for the new furnishings estimated at \$350,000. The Friends of the Library and WPL Foundation were put to the task of raising money from private and corporate sources for the new furnishings. The Library Foundation's holiday and spring appeals generated small revenues. The Foundation's plan for a gala in April of 2010 did not materialize due to scheduling conflicts. Meanwhile, there seemed to be a competition and lack of a cohesive approach to fundraising activities between the two groups. A committee of the Friends and Foundation, after months of discussions and meetings, finally recommended that the two groups join forces. The WPL Foundation was merged with the Friends group. The Friends of the Library have already committed \$100,000 for the furnishings. Fundraising activities are underway.

## Director's Report

In October, Assistant Director, Teresa Gilliam, retired after 35 years of public service. The position remained unfilled until the end of FY10 and subsequently was not funded in the following year. This created a gap in handling acquisitions, technical services, staff development, and administrative duties. In order to run the operations of the library smoothly, redistributing tasks and assignments became essential which meant additional duties for staff members.

Waynesboro citizens enjoyed another successful year of quality services, great programs for children and adults, and free high-speed Internet access and WiFi. There was no reduction in library hours. Library patrons enjoyed access to a growing collection of books and audio visual materials.

## Adult Services

Diane Devoy, Adult Services Librarian

Programs	Number	Attendance
Music at the Library:	9	640
Friday Night Movies:	21	1,140
Book Club:	12	96
The Big Read: Fahrenheit 451	8	429
Summer Reading : George Washington (Mt. Vernon trip)		120
Homeschooler's Days:	2	60
Senior Day	1	80
Other programs:	3	170
Grand Total:		2,735

The highlight of the year was the bus trip to Mount Vernon, the historic home of George Washington. This third Adult Summer Reading Program involved 65 participants who read the book *George Washington, the Founding Father* by Paul Johnson. Dr. Holt Merchant from Washington & Lee University presented a talk and led a discussion about the book on August 15 to a full house.

A unique program was organized and presented in October of 2009 with an art display and program presented for Ray Yoder, a local and nationally known artist and educator. He was the founder of the art department at Waynesboro High School and taught in the school system for 30 years. Dr. William Wade, a collector, contributed about 25 of Ray Yoder's works to be hung in the library as a special display during the month of October to coincide with the Fall Foliage Art Show. Ray Yoder's son, Judge R. Yoder, came from the D.C. area to speak about his father. It was an enjoyable program.

In March, the Golden Duck Production actors were back for another Murder Mystery Theatre in support of The Big Read, which was *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. The play, entitled *Who Killed Moby Dick?*, highlighted the classics and characters from many different books. Stone Soup Books provided the desserts and we had about 50 patrons in attendance; everyone had a good time.



Adult Summer Reading bus trip to Mt. Vernon.

## Local History/Genealogy

Karen Vest, Archivist

The main objective for this year is preparing the historical collection for the move to the lower level of the library. Some items in the collection will be donated to the local museum in order to better serve their purpose. Historical and genealogy societies in our local area will also receive items that will better serve patrons of their facilities.

I have enlisted the help of several volunteers to assist with preparing the historical collection for the move downstairs. Their assistance is valuable in completing the task in a timely manner. The concentrated effort is on our local area and what will better serve our library patrons. Unneeded materials will be shared with other facilities or contributed to the Friends of the Library to sell at their annual book sale.

We have contacted local associations such as Woman's Club, AAUW, AARP, and others to pick up scrapbooks that have been housed at our facility for several years. These associations are thankful to the library for storing these items, but it would better serve the organization if kept within the organization itself. These items were stored in filing cabinets near the elevator. As we move toward making the elevator available for public use, we can better utilize the space by removing the filing cabinets.

Another accomplishment for this year was the completion of the Backroads Index. This project was initiated to help library patrons with Nelson County genealogy and local history research. Resources of Nelson County are limited and it has been one of the most requested counties from our library patrons since it is located in close proximity to our community.

An African American Genealogy Class was also offered this year. This is the first time that WPL has offered such a class and it was well received and beneficial to the attendees. It included two classes at our facility and a trip to the Augusta County court house in Staunton to learn how to use the local court records.

### By the numbers

June 2010

Visits to the Local History Room : 52

Visits to the Microfilm Room: 36

Local history/genealogy inquires: 30

July 2010

Visits to the Local History Room : 57

Visits to the Microfilm Room: 46

Local history/genealogy inquires: 40

Youth Program Attendance:  
12,485

Adult Program Attendance:  
2,735

Total Library Program Attendance:  
15,220

Families enjoy Breakfast  
with Santa.



## Children's Programming

Bethany Jones, Youth Services Librarian

During the 2009-2010 year, the children's department presented 509 programs, including the annual Winter Reading Program with over 100 participants and the Summer Reading Program with over 800 participants. Overall, participation increased 11% compared to last year. Noteworthy special programs included Fun Fest '09, Breakfast with Santa, the Iditarod Reading Challenge, and Oceans in Motion. Our outreach expanded to include regularly scheduled visits with the Waynesboro Boys and Girls Club and ARC, an adult daycare service.

Fun Fest '09, which concluded the Summer Reading Program, took place in August 2009. This large carnival-style event ultimately received a Virginia Public Library Director's Award for outstanding cooperative program. The library partnered with BB&T Bank and offered an evening of fun and community togetherness which included a petting zoo, karaoke, school supply and book giveaways, craft tables, hotdog roasting, and many other venues. Fun Fest turned out to be a wonderful way to increase the library's profile in the community.

In December 2009, we hired a local couple to dress up as Mr. & Mrs. Claus and offered families a "Breakfast with Santa." Thanks to some outstanding volunteer help, through two local high school key clubs and an area church, we were able to offer two large programs, each with about 100 participants, without a great monetary expenditure on the library's part. During the holidays we also encouraged families to read together with the Iditarod Reading Challenge. For the second year in a row, families organized themselves into teams and tracked their reading progress with fabricated dog sled icons on a large board in the library. All teams completing the challenge earned certificates or trophies and were invited to a special dinner and movie showing.

We kicked off the 2010 Summer Reading Program with a visit from the Virginia Science Museum. They brought a mobile aquarium and separate touch tank and presented a show entitled "Oceans in Motion." To supplement their activities, we at the library devised ocean themed games and craft activities to make an exciting, hands-on, educational start to the summer.

Programming for young adults included a murder mystery game, regular gamers' lounges (including Rock Band and new Wii gaming nights), numerous craft nights in which teens brought one large item such as flip flops or a discarded book to decorate, a cake decorating class, and a summer young adult reading club.



A petting zoo was a part of  
Fun Fest '09.

## Library Facts

Computer usage:  
39,727

OPAC searches:  
320,733

Library Website  
Page-Views  
36,140

Library Website  
Unique Page-views  
28,795

Total Circulation:  
318,703

Number of Card Holders  
Juvenile: 4,083  
Young Adult: 1,856  
Adult: 17,187  
Total: 23,126

## Information Technology

Dennis Sanders, IT Specialist

There were several projects tackled during the fiscal year. First, the Untangle hardware web filter was researched and implemented. It gave us greater control over the web content delivered not only to our public computer stations, but to any computer using our wireless Internet. We also installed the Phone Tree system which allows us to make automated calls to our patrons for overdue items and hold items. This system saves on staff time and materials, two great things in this economy. In addition to Untangle and Phone Tree, many smaller projects were accomplished, including the development of three new types of computer classes and a new projector for the multipurpose conference room.

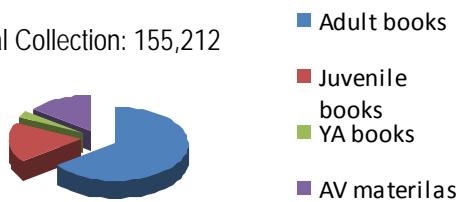
## Public Relations

Marta Grove, Publicity Coordinator

Overall, WPL enjoyed a good year with regular newspaper columns in *The News Virginian*, coverage by local news stations, and the first award from the Virginia Public Library Director's Association for Outstanding Public Relations Project. The project involved partnering with area businesses to give coupons to patrons who checked out six or more items. The goal was to increase circulation while providing an incentive for patrons and promoting local businesses.

Despite the positives, there were some downsides this fiscal year due to budget cuts. The budget for outside printing service was eliminated, requiring that WPL's quarterly calendar be printed in-house in limited quantities. This and the elimination of the advertizing budget restricted the amount of exposure that WPL has attained in the past. The lack of traditional publicity has been compensated for in some ways through the use of online tools such as WPL's website and the City of Waynesboro's e-notice service.

Total Collection: 155,212



Books and audio visuals added:  
6,796

Books and Audio visuals deleted:  
21,346

The library's budget comparison for the last five years:

