



Director's Report to Wilton Library Trustees May 2010

Our vision: *The center for discovery in the heart of our community.*

Our mission: *Informed and inspired minds, enriched and connected lives.*

Staff

- Krishna Wangneo resigned in May and was replaced as a shelver by Elaine Steele for the summer months. A permanent replacement will be found for the fall.
- Lauren McLaughlin, Melissa Baker, Susan Lauricella and Andrea Falkner attended Book Expo 2010 in NYC.
- Our reference staff attended a Booklist Webinar entitled *Interactive Online Reference Sources*.
- Stephanie, an intern from Ridgefield, worked on several "housecleaning" projects regarding our catalog and collections.
- Ryan Fisher announced that he will step back from his full-time position, but will continue to act as webmaster from his new home in Malaysia. Candidates submitted applications and resumes for two part-time technology positions.
- The Maintenance Department was able to trim hours from its schedule and anticipates a savings due to continued lower staffing in coming months.
- Andrea Falkner shadowed at Miller/Driscoll, discussing future plans for collaboration with the school librarians and teachers.
- Lesley Keogh and Andrea Falkner attended the Norwalk Tree Festival to publicize our programs.
- The Circulation Department held a meeting to share only positive stories about patrons, the Library and their coworkers – it was acclaimed by all as uplifting. This sort of meeting will take place a couple of times a year from now on.

Program & Service Highlights

- Our family of ducklings in the Northeast Courtyard provided hours of enjoyment for all during the month.
- May began with a bang as the first Wilton Go Green Festival took place in and around the Library. We hosted multiple presentations and exhibits and staff members (particularly Network Services Department, Program Manager and Rentals Manager) were quite instrumental in orchestrating the successful event.
- We began a new series to showcase local authors in a more casual and appropriate way (Area Author Affairs) and are drawing larger audiences. Michael Goodwin and Lyla Ward appeared in May.
- The annual Wilton Public Schools FAPA exhibit drew hundreds of children and parents to hear and see student work. Our Weir Farm Artist-in-Residence receptions continue to have 20 or so appreciative attendees.
- A session on Navigating the College Application Process for students with special needs drew 120 parents.
- A Red Cross Blood Drive took place in the Brubeck Room – this has become an annual community service.
- Teens went on a shopping trip with Susan Lauricella to select and purchase books for the Library's collection.
- Funding for next year's Poetry in Motion has been secured and a theme has been selected: *Bridging the Gap*.
- Janet Crystal designed a new What's Happening flyer (generated and edited from our Insight calendar) for print and electronic distribution.

Circulation and Usage Statistics

- Circulation for July through May was up 1.7% over last year for the same period, showing the slowing of pace in the large increases we have seen the past two years. Our teen collection led the way with a 9% increase, children's materials circulated about 1% less, and adult materials went out 2.5% more.
- Our website visits (713,419 year-to-date) are considerably above last year's total, up 16.4% from July-May this year over last.
- Library visits totaled 273,538 for July through May, up 6.8% over the same period last year.
- We had 597 drive-thru visits during April, an average of 21 per day.
- Other indications of increased year to date usage include in-house use of books/magazines – up 8%, reference

questions – up 11%, and computer use – up 9%.

- During May we had 52 adult programs (2,624 attendees), 2 teen programs (16 attendees), and 55 children's programs (778 attendees), for a total of 109 programs with 3,418 attending. Programs year-to-date are up 15% in number and 19% in attendance over the same period last year.
- Rental income from meeting rooms was \$3,298 and from study rooms was \$300 for the month.

Technology

- A glitch in Horizon concerning the unintended deletion of a critical table in the database was identified and rectified during the month.
- A Microsoft Surface was purchased and installed in the Children's Library, thanks to Doon and John Foster. We will be adding applications as possible and appropriate. It is hugely popular and engages kids (and adults) in collaborative and creative play and currently runs chess, checkers, puzzles and a few other activities.
- Planned purchases for FY'10 were ordered, including two new Horizon servers, 3 iPads, and replacement monitors, barcode scanners, receipt printers, and new antivirus protection.

Building & Grounds

- Our new site sign was delivered and installed.
- Landscaping cleanup took place in courtyards and around the building, including the removal of bricks from the bases of the trees on our western sidewalk and planting around the new sign.
- We passed our State elevator inspection.

Development

- The May benefit gala, Moonlight Magic, involved the efforts of many staff members – particularly our Development, Network Services, and Maintenance departments – and encompassing set up and clean up, audiovisual work, database entry and manipulation, design and production of communications, and publicity.