

Baraboo Public Library



**Annual Report
2014**

GIFTS

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Baraboo National Bank
Baraboo News Republic
Baraboo Parks & Recreation
Baraboo Tours
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Arline Beagan
Karen Beardsway
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Coffee Bean Connection
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Rob Nelson
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Oak Park Place
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Wisconsin Holstein Association
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Vickie Wolff
Helen Ziegler
Merlin Zitzner
Sandy Zodrow
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TRIBUTES

from Anne Gallo
in honor of Josie Brescia
in honor of Sam Kappel
from Angella Holtz
in honor of Olivia Holtz
from Joan Litscher
in honor of Robin Whyte
from Kathryn Madson
in honor of Ella Madson

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Franceen Leatherberry
In memory of Brian Ellis
Bob & Gretchen Roltgen
Robin Whyte
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Carol Fleishauer
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Ed & Cherie Geick
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In memory of Dorothy Schult
Robert Dewel
In memory of Don Shook
Kiwanis Golden K Club
In memory of Al Zipsie
VFW Greenwood Post 987

Dear Friends,

It is an honor and a pleasure to reflect on the past year at the Baraboo Public Library. Our goals, rooted in our mission, are to:

- provide a community gathering space, a place for all ages to learn, create, and participate;
- collaborate with sponsors, donors, and partners;
- participate as an education stakeholder, a complement to the Baraboo School District and UW-Baraboo/Sauk County;
- contribute to the vitality of the downtown; and
- celebrate Baraboo's unique sense of place.



We presented over 700 programs in 2014 for nearly 17,000 children, teens, and adults, both in the library and on the road. Programs ranged from a kids' storytelling camp to a chocolate tasting to heirloom seed saving, with visits from Wisconsin authors David Rhodes, Victoria Houston, and Baraboo's own Ken Lange.

A record number of grants, sponsorships, and partnerships made it possible to undertake significant projects and launch new services. Generous donations and a Sauk County Arts, Humanities, and Historic Preservation grant provided the funding to digitize two local history resources written by Baraboo authors Joseph Ward and Dr. Robert C. "Bob" Dewel. A Big Dig Grant from ALM Charities/Gasser Construction provided the funding to redecorate our teen space. The Baraboo Elks Lodge sponsored our new early literacy initiative, "1000 Books Before Kindergarten." The Sauk County Master Gardeners provided the funding and expertise to launch an heirloom seed lending library. And our "Sing Along with the Muppet Movie" raised over \$3,200 for youth services.

The Baraboo Public Library is a learning center for all ages. We are proud of our partnerships with the Baraboo School District and the University of Wisconsin-Baraboo/Sauk County and strive to complement traditional K-12 and higher education. Young children often have their first literacy experience outside the home at a public library story time. We presented 175 programs just for children birth to 5 years old. The annual summer reading program helped nearly 700 kids maintain their reading level until the start of the new school year. After-school tutoring was offered to students of all ages in all subjects through a partnership with the UW-BSC Honor Society Phi Theta Kappa. We partnered with the Baraboo Area Literacy Council for one-on-one tutoring for adults.

The library also makes a significant contribution to Baraboo's downtown. In 2014 the library was visited more than 180,000 times: an average of 3,400 visits per week. The library is also a resource for job searches and regularly partners with local job training services. In 2014 we hosted six interns through state and federally funded programs.

Last year also saw steady progress on plans to expand and remodel the library. Working closely with our architects, the Library Board revised the project size and budget, reducing both by nearly 20%. The new conceptual design was nearing completion at year's end. We look forward to an improved facility that is both beautiful and affordable, retaining the charm of the original historic structure and updating the infrastructure to help us function as a 21st-century library.

With your tax dollars, the City of Baraboo provides two-thirds of the library's budget. Sauk County provides much of the remainder. Many generous donors, Friends of the Library, and volunteers help us do even more to enlighten, enrich, entertain, and inspire. This community-wide effort enables us to fulfill our mission to offer a safe and welcoming environment where every patron is treated with courtesy, dignity, and respect, and receives the outstanding public library service that is our time-honored tradition. On behalf of the Library Board and my colleagues on the library staff, thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meg Allen".

Meg Allen, Library Director

2014 Library Board of Trustees

Marc Boucher, John Ellington, Mary Grant, Nicol Knappen, Wayne Maffei, Rob Nelson, Chris Olson, Bekah Stelling, Lori Von Asten

2014 Library Staff

Katie Alexander, Mari Jo Burri, Brenda Carey-Schick, Greg De Santo, Mary Friesen, Jean Funcke, Keli Goodchild, Ley Guimaraes, Jennifer Hagar, Kathy Hoelter, Anne Horjus, Gail Johnson, Penny Johnson, Carey Kipp, Georgene Kunze, Barbara Lund, Zach Ott, Eileen Petters, Carol Reasa, Gretchen Roltgen, Nathan Rybarczyk, Joan Wheeler, Robin Whyte, Shirley Wight

The Baraboo Public Library: By the Numbers

	1994	2004	2014
Total Service Population: City and Towns	19,257*	20,254	18,509
Number of Books in Collection	59,426	61,266	72,306
Number of Audio and Video Items	2,147	6,437	10,191
E-books, E-audio, E-video Titles Available	0	6,811	152,544
Internet Personal Computer Uses	0	25,000	25,667
Wireless Uses	0	0	47,311
Checkouts	196,887	241,316	254,198
Library Visits	120,000	166,000	180,469
LINKcat Holds (Borrowed and Loaned)	28,145	116,135	170,612
Total Number of Programs	274	320	734
Total Program Attendance	5,399	8,447	16,846
City of Baraboo Funding	\$307,539	\$405,907	\$530,307
Sauk County Funding	\$37,687	\$200,381	\$234,826
Other Funding: Fees, Gifts, Grants, Etc.	\$12,633	\$50,900	\$130,278

* 1996 figure (1994 not available)

Sauk County Libraries	2013 City Funding for Library per Resident (latest figures available)
Wisconsin Dells	\$116.79
Plain	\$70.78
Prairie du Sac	\$64.91
Rock Springs	\$58.54
Spring Green	\$58.20
Sauk City	\$57.91
Reedsburg	\$42.46
Baraboo	\$42.02
North Freedom	\$36.34
La Valle	\$33.71

Highlights ...



We were one of only 15 libraries nationwide to receive a grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and the Association for Library Service to Children for a storytelling camp for students (photo at left).

We started offering patrons personal help with basic computer skills.

The popular Valentine Wish Tree returned!

We created a Mondrian-style mural in the lower-level hall.

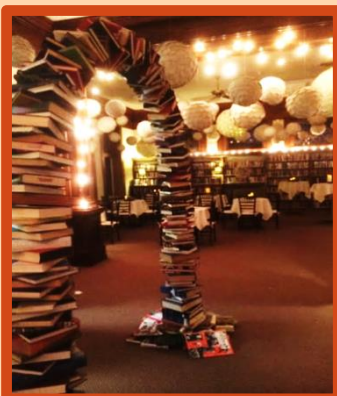
We set up new self-service hold pickup shelves for patrons.

Sauk County Master Gardeners helped us start an heirloom seed lending library in our old card catalog!

We added an in-library laptop checkout service.

With funding from the Baraboo Elks Lodge, we launched our new early literacy initiative, "1000 Books before Kindergarten," with a kick-off event in August at the Elephant House at Circus World (photo at right).

IBEX Puppetry packed the Al. Ringling Theatre in September for a "Sing Along with The Muppet Movie," raising more than \$3,200 for youth services. (See photo on cover. That's Greg DeSanto as the Swedish Chef!)



With funds from a Big Dig grant, the teens repainted the Teen Underground.

The Library Board financed a Minecraft station for teens using trust funds.

In October we transformed the library for A Novel Evening. Amy Sullivan's invitations were the talk of the town, and we raised more than \$8,000 (photo at left).