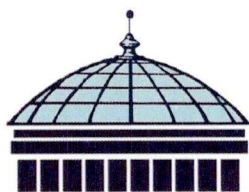
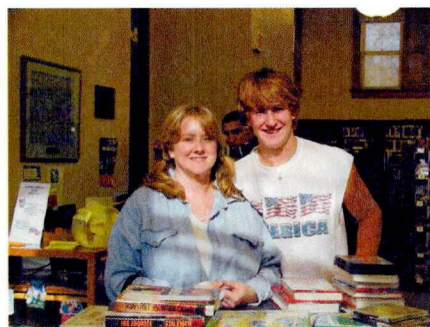
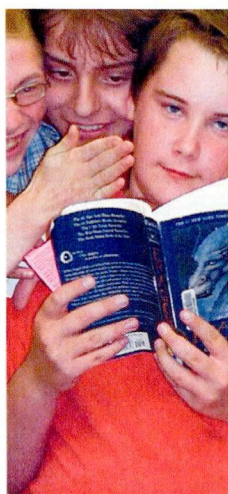


St. Joseph Public Library Annual Report 2006-2007

102nd Edition



St. Joseph Public Library

Board of Trustees, 2006 – 2007

Dr. Norma Bagnall	Term expires June 30, 2009
Mr. Drew H. Brown Vice President	Term expires June 30, 2007
Ms. Leila Hicks	Term expires June 30, 2008
Ms. Sherri Lilly Secretary	Term expires June 30, 2007
Dr. Carlos Moya	Term expires June 30, 2008
Ms. Marlys E. "Marcie" Thedinger	Term expires June 30, 2009
Ms. Bette L. Tolbert	Term expires June 30, 2008
Ms. Winifred J. "Winnie" Watts Treasurer	Term expires June 30, 2007
Dr. Deborah Weems President	Term expires June 30, 2009

St. Joseph Public Library

Staff Administrative Council

Mary Beth Revels, Director

Steven Olson, Projects Manager and Manager, East Hills Library

Deborah Gentry, Community Services and Promotions Coordinator

Carolyn Cunningham, Manager, Downtown Library

Audrey Sheets, Manager, Carnegie Library

Karen Schultz, Manager, Washington Park Library

Sue Horvath, Manager, Technical Services Department

Patti Barsch, Assistant Manager, East Hills Library

Sharon Canter, Assistant Manager for Reference Services, Downtown Library

Dee Zvolanek, Assistant Manager for Children's Services, Downtown Library

St. Joseph Public Library

Branches

CARNEGIE

316 Massachusetts Street816-238-0526
St. Joseph, MO 64504
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.;
Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Fax.....816-238-9438

DOWNTOWN

927 Felix Street.....816-232-7729
St. Joseph, MO 64501
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.;
Friday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.;
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Reference.....816-232-8151
TDD.....816-236-2160
Children's.....816-232-3812
Administrative Offices.....816-232-4038
Administrative Offices Fax.....816-279-3372

EAST HILLS

502 North Woodbine Road816-236-2136
Suite A
St. Joseph, MO 64506
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.;
Friday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.;
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Fax.....816-236-1429
Community Services.....816-236-2107

WASHINGTON PARK

1821 N. Third.....816-232-2052
St. Joseph, MO 64505
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.;
Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.
Fax.....816-236-2151

Introduction

The theme of the April 2007 National Library Week was “Come Together @ Your Library.” The cover of this year’s report features photographs of library patrons doing just that.

Thousands of people visit the library each year. Some to check out books or movies, some to use a computer, and others to attend one of the many programs offered at the library or in the community.

The St. Joseph Public Library is not just a place to check out a book. We also provide audiobooks, videos, DVDs, music CDs, newspapers and magazines for patrons to use in the library or check out and take home. In addition to a place where people can find reading, viewing or listening material for pleasure or education, we provide hundreds of programs throughout the year for people of all ages. Many of our library patrons rely on us to keep them connected in this digital age, and we do that by offering wireless Internet access in all libraries, along with 85 public access computers. The popularity of computers is shown in the number of patrons who utilize this service. During this fiscal year, 92,965 people used the Internet computers.

Public Services

A major goal of the library continues to be providing community members a variety of materials, programs, and services to assist in their personal growth and development. The Summer Reading Program reaches many young people and helps fulfill that goal. During the 2006 program entitled “Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales,” 96 programs were presented, with an attendance of 5,863 people. A total of 1,973 children were enrolled, which represents a 6.5% increase from the previous year. Teen enrollment was 215 in the “Creature Feature” summer program, also a 6.5% increase from the previous year.

The library offered the 3rd annual adult reading program in July. This year’s program, entitled “Paws . . . to Read” offered weekly drawings for participants and incentives for staff. A total of 696 entries were received.

In January 2007, at the East Hills Library, thirty-two families enrolled and participated in the third annual “Cabin Reading Program.” Nineteen teens read 14,100 pages at the Downtown Library’s “Super Bowl of Reading” in January.

Children’s programming continues year-round, both within the libraries and in the community. Each library offered storytimes and programs throughout the year, in addition to providing monthly programs for daycares and special programs for schools and groups. Mark Twain Reader’s Club, Summer Fun Squad, Spy School, Tricky Tuesday’s, Time Warp Wednesdays, Art in the Library and Read Aloud programs of

“Tale of Despereaux,” “Dealing with Dragons” and “Peter and the Starcatchers” are just some of the many programs offered for children at the libraries during the year.

Teen programs this year included a Gateway Reader’s Club and Tea, Superbowl of Reading, Poetry Slam, Teen Movie Nights, a scavenger hunt and the 6th Annual Harry Potter Trivia Contest. The Downtown Library created an area and gaming center specifically for teens. The library offers two GameCubes and related equipment, along with several games for teens to use at the library. Staff also created a MySpace page on the Internet for teens.

In addition to children and teen programs, the library sponsored and co-sponsored several adult programs including weekly movies hosted by local movie critic Bob Shultz, author events, multiple film festivals, computer classes on several subjects, programs on gardening, the interurban railroad, local history and genealogy.

The library published a quarterly newsletter entitled “Library Matters.” The newsletter was available for pick up at each library facility and was mailed or emailed to Board members, Friends members, and others who requested it.

Library staff participated in several national and local literacy related events including the Salvation Army Back to School Fair, Jumpstart’s Read from the Start, and the community’s Annual Children’s Fair.

American Library Association events were celebrated during the year. National Library Card Sign-Up month was celebrated by offering free replacement library cards, presenting gift bags to children who received their first library card, giving mints to patrons who returned materials, and offering a free book to every 2nd grade student in the community. The program for 2nd grade students was a joint effort with the Rolling Hills Consolidated Library. Teen Read Week was celebrated with several special events for teens. Banned Books Week was commemorated with displays at all libraries. Children’s Book Week was celebrated with gift drawings and by giving children library related booklets they could complete with an adult. National Library Week was celebrated with events and drawings for all ages.

The Reference Department provides fee-based research for people living outside the library district. During the past year 186 requests were received. Those requests came from 117 cities in thirty-six states.

Collection Development

The library received two Library Services & Technology Act grants, administered by the Missouri State Library, involving collection development. The library participated for the fourth year in the LearningExpress Library database grant program, and in the NoveList database program for the third year. Both databases are popular with staff and patrons.

Monetary and material donations were made to the library throughout the year by library patrons and supporters. Mary M. Gaddy made a major donation to the Carnegie Library in memory of her late husband Oscar Gaddy, who often visited the library as a child. The donation included a \$1,000.00 check, books, videos, journals and a photographic print of Abraham Lincoln.

Each library weeded portions of their collections throughout the year. The libraries also completed labeling projects, such as the staff at the Washington Park Library labeling books in science fiction series. The project accomplished two goals, first staff was able to determine what books were missing in a series and order them for the collection and second it is now easier for patrons to locate the series books.

The Reference Department updated brochures on genealogy and local history materials available at the Downtown Library. The brochures are updated frequently to ensure the information provided is accurate and up-to-date.

Personnel, Trustees, Volunteers and Staff Development

Volunteers continue to be an integral part of providing library service and assisted the library this year in several ways. They assisted the Technical Services Department by unpacking library materials, covering, labeling, and filing. They assisted with the Summer Reading Program by counting attendance and handing out prizes. They helped shelve and straighten materials at the library. Volunteers also helped maintain the parks at the Washington Park and Carnegie libraries. Eighty-three volunteers were honored in April during National Volunteer Month.

The library, its staff and board members belong to several library related organizations including the Kansas City Metropolitan Library Information Network (KCMLIN), Grand Rivers Library Council, American Library Association, Public Library Association, Missouri Library Association, MOREnet, Missouri Library Network Corporation (MLNC), the Sirsi Midwest User's Group and the Ozarks SirsiDynix Users Group.

A staff day was held in January 2007. The library received an LSTA grant, administered by the Missouri State Library, to bring in nationally renowned speaker, Warren Graham. Mr. Graham wrote "Black Belt Librarians" and provided a full-day workshop to all staff on library safety and security.

Staff at the St. Joseph Public Library and the Rolling Hills Consolidated Library participated together in an eight week course, *Spanish that Works in the Library*. The class was funded through an LSTA grant administered by the Missouri State Library.

The library encourages the development of staff members by participation in workshops, conferences, and courses related to the employee's job. In conjunction with

this, the staff took advantage of training provided by the Missouri State Library, MOREnet, the Missouri Library Association, the Missouri Library Network Corporation, the Kansas City Metropolitan Library and Information Network and the Grand Rivers Library Conference.

Two staff members attended the SirsiDynix SuperConference held in Colorado Springs in February 2007. One of the staff members received a Library Services Technology Act grant from the Missouri State Library that provided funding for 75% of the conference expenses.

Facilities and Equipment

Wireless Internet access was made available at the Carnegie and Washington Park libraries. All four branches of the system now offer wireless Internet access to patrons.

The library received e-rate discounts totaling \$8,333.86. The discounts were applied to telephone bills received from AT&T.

The East Hills Library is the only library building in the United States that also houses a Visitor's Center. The partnership with the Convention & Visitor's Center is flourishing and both organizations are pleased with the additional foot traffic each offers the other.

MOREnet provided an assessment of the library's computer network set-up courtesy of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The assessment showed the library's network is secure and well maintained.

The Downtown Library received an award at the 2006 Missouri Statewide Preservation Conference that honored notable preservation projects within the city of St. Joseph.

Community Relations

Mary Beth Revels attended Library Advocacy Day and Great Northwest Day in Jefferson City along with Director Barbara Read of the Rolling Hills Consolidated Library. The two met with all of the local legislators during the visit.

The library is represented by membership in several community groups including the Downtown Association, the Northtown Association, Lindbergh Family Resource Center Steering Committee, the Runcie Club, the St. Joseph Area Literacy Coalition, the St. Joseph Youth Alliance Community Partnership, the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, several United Way committees, Leadership St. Joseph, Sertoma Club, and Rotary International.

Community groups and organizations used space provided by the library to conduct meetings and events. One hundred forty-six organizations and groups reserved space in the library during the year. Many of the organizations used the meeting rooms and library space multiple times throughout the year.

Several tours were provided at each library for groups, classes, and organizations interested in learning more about the library system.

The library-by-mail and deposit site programs continue to flourish. By year end, there were nine deposit sites and 114 patrons signed up for library-by-mail.

The Friends of the St. Joseph Public Library sponsored monthly adult book clubs at the Downtown and East Hills libraries. They held a back to school book sale at the East Hills Library in August, the annual book sale at the East Hills Shopping Center in October, a holiday book sale at the Washington Park Library in December and January and perpetual sales at the libraries. They also maintained a volunteer crew to help sort the donated books received throughout the year. The Friends supported the library by underwriting Summer Reading Program expenses, donating funds to purchase prize books for Library Card Sign-up Month, and providing the funding for the purchase of 200 copies of *BookPage*, a popular monthly book review magazine.

The library participated in several community events including a St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce job fair, Pumpkinfest, Apple Blossom Parade, the Literacy Coalition's annual author visit, Literacy Volunteer Luncheon, a children's fair sponsored by the Mid-America Association for the Education of Young Children, Agency Days, St. Joseph Celebration of the Young Child, the Salvation Army School Supply Collection Drive and Back to School Fair, a canned food drive for America's Second Harvest, a Career Fair at Benton High School, the Mayor's Thanksgiving Dinner and the YWCA's Women of Excellence Luncheon.

Statistics

INCOME

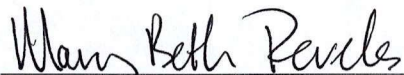
Local tax income	\$2,691,885
State aid	28,733
Athletes & Ent. funds	7,558
Grants	4,474
Other	<u>149,037</u>
Total	\$2,881,687

EXPENDITURES

Personnel	\$1,504,272
Collection	263,392
Operations	555,886
COP payment	<u>654,138</u>
Total	\$2,977,688

*Pre-audited figures. For audits of the St. Joseph Public Library, please contact the office of the director at 816-232-4038.

Population served:	69,252
Registered borrowers:	37,156
Total circulation:	445,725
Total library holdings:	272,837
Annual number of reference transactions:	16,797
Total internet sessions:	92,965
Annual program attendance:	22,155
Total number of programs:	711



Mary Beth Revels
Director
St. Joseph, MO