

Salado Public Library District President's Annual Report

October 26, 2015

Dear Friends and Patrons of the Salado Public Library:

In preparing this annual report, I reviewed the past 12 months of board minutes and library reports to give you a sense of what the library has done over the past year. I realize after reviewing it, so much has happened at the Salado Library I cannot give a report that would include everything. So, I will report to you about some of the services and program I found interesting, creative and innovative.

To begin, the Salado Public Library is proud to have such a great facility to work in, provide its services to readers of all ages and provide its varied programs. Thanks to the Friends for installing the new outdoor lighting to highlight the landscaping the volunteers maintain. The public meeting room continues to be used by organizations and the Library for classes both during and after hours, just as we envisioned. Adult, youth, and children's books and movies are added to the collection every month because this is what our patrons want. And, the number of patrons using the library is increasing. We are very pleased to see the Library being used by our community in so many ways. It indicates we are doing what we are supposed to do as a public library.

The Library continues to sponsored popular programs such as the computer classes, English-As-A-Second Language, children's story time (every Monday at 11:00 a.m.), adult crafts, Teen Book Club, Lego Club, Needle Working, Social Media classes and Mah Jongg. A monthly schedule of programs is published on the Library web site at www.saladolibrary.org.

The summer reading program for children was so popular, it had to be moved to Salado elementary school gym to accommodate everyone. A total of 388 children and 166 adults attended the four programs. We are pleased to see it has become such a popular program. Thanks to Rachael Gerik, children's librarian, for all her great programming for the children (and adults). And, thanks to SISD for letting us use the gym.

Our young adult librarian, Geri Neemidge, organized a Star Wars celebration in May. The Rebel Legion, Darth Vader and Storm Troopers were present. Snacks, costumes, movies and books were on the program. A photo booth was set up for pictures with favorite characters. There were 37 people in attendance. Thanks to

Geri for her creativity in organizing this unique program for our young library patrons.

The Library had a “Soup for Fines” month where canned goods were redeemed for overdue fines. This benefited the local Food Bank. A “Talking Book Program” was introduced for patrons who have visual, physical or reading disabilities. This is a free program supported by the Texas State Library and Archives. We are pleased to have it available to those patrons who have a love of reading but need special assistance. We have Jeanie Lively to thank for programs and services such as these that are the result of her organizational and creative efforts to expand what the library does for the community, and for all she does for the Library on a daily basis. Also, thanks to Manuela Smith at the circulation desk for all she does to make the library a wonderful place to visit.

In order to support the Library staff in their professional development, this year we sent Jeanie and Geri to the Texas Library Association’s annual meeting. It is at meetings such as this they get new ideas and learn of new services that can be implemented at the Library. The Library is the beneficiary of their attending this state-wide meeting of librarians.

Now for some statistics on our Library from the past year:

- Total items in the collection – 38,431
- Total items circulated - 43,826
- Total Library card holders – 6,996 (population served 7,659)
- Sales tax revenue comparison from last year - down 2%

In spite of the reduced sales tax revenue this year, the Library has sufficient funding to operate without any reduction in staff, services or programming. We have no debts and continue to add monthly to our savings. It has been another successful year for the Library.

Please take time to complete the Library Services and Program Survey to tell us how we are doing and if there is something else you would like to see. I hope you continue your patronage and volunteering in the coming year. Thank you for all your help and support of the Salado Public Library.

Bill Kinnison, President
Salado Public Library District
Board of Trustees