



AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
Enhancing our Community through Learning, Leisure and Literacy

Chief Librarian's End of Year Report – 2017

Highlights:

- **January 10:** The library closed early and the scheduled Board meeting was postponed due to a winter storm
- **January 11, 17, 18 and 24:** The library was closed due to inclement weather.
- **February 14:** The library was closed due to inclement weather.
- **February 23:** Fran Wright and Angie Knights met with Bonnie Gaylord and Sandra Robertson to discuss publication and launch of “The Stones of Augusta” and the library’s grant application to the Brockville Community Foundation for Canada 150 funding.
- **March 1:** Our new router was installed by our amazing technology volunteers, the circulation system and internet was restored.
- **March 6:** There was no heat in the library. A service call was placed to Stinson. Just prior to the service technicians’ arrival the furnace came on and stayed on. The technicians could find nothing wrong with the furnace and suggested that the 11 degree setback on the programmable thermostat might cause the furnace to overheat on recovery. Gary Thornhill has reset the thermostat to recover in two stages. There have been no further problems.
- **March 14-15:** The library was closed due to inclement weather. Our March Break programs, Collage and pre-school storytime, were cancelled.
- **March 16:** Our craft program “Untied Tie-Dying” was enjoyed by 6 children and three adults. This technique was inexpensive, easy, fun and engaging. We plan to have another session in the summer.
- Our name the fish contest began. Names will be suggested by patrons and voted on in April. The patrons who suggest the winning names receive a \$20.00 gift card.

- **April 4:** The South Grenville Guild of Fine Arts presented the library with a copy of “Independent Spirit: Early Canadian Women Artists” by A.K. Prakash. A beautiful addition to our collection.
- **April 18:** A very productive planning meeting was held with Amy Mackie facilitating and Angie, Linda and Corwin attending. Programming and fundraising activities were planned for the balance of 2017. These include Tuesday Talks, Wednesday Storytime, Yard/Plant/Bake Sale, Fundraising dance and auction, Canada 150 celebration and book launch of “The Stones of Augusta”.
- **April 20:** Our name the fish contest was very popular. We received 84 suggestions for names. Patrons voted on their favourite names in the library and online. The winning name for the Black Fish is Gillbert, suggested by Wyatt Woodcock, and the winning name for the Orange Fish is Ginger, suggested by Jayden and Kyndal Vander Velde. Congratulations to our winners, who received \$20.00 Indigo gift cards, and thanks to all who took part in our contest.

Our Wednesday morning story time continues from 10:30 to 11:00 am drawing an average of 5 participants at each session in May. (May 3rd: 8 participating; May 10th: 2 attending, May 17th: 6 attending, May 24th: 0 attending, May 31st: 5 attending.

- **May 2:** 12 people attended our first ‘Tuesday Talk’ to hear a presentation by Gord Knights on “Container Gardening”.
- **May 3:** Angie Knights attended the Southern Ontario Library Service’s Small Library Committee meeting in Prescott. Subjects covered in the meeting included the Annual Survey, updates to the sample policies in the ‘Trillium Library’ and a presentation by Laura Lee MacDonald, the Counties Literacy Specialist on the Early Development Instrument, which measures the developmental health of children at school entry in Leeds Grenville.
- **May 9:** Fran Wright, Amy Mackie, Sandra Robertson, Bonnie Gaylord and Angie Knights attended the Brockville and Area Community Foundation’s presentation ceremony for the Community Fund for Canada’s 150th grants. The library received \$3,500.00 for the project “150 Years of the Stones of Augusta” The grant will be used to help publish, launch and promote the book “Stones of Augusta” in cooperation with the Grenville Historical Society.

Our Wednesday morning story time continues from 10:30 to 11:00 am drawing an average of 3 participants at each session in June. (June 7th: 0 participating; June 14th: 6 attending, June 21st: 6 attending, June 23rd: 0 attending,

- **May 25:** The new railing on the front walk bridge was created and installed by ‘Works of Iron’. Patrons and staff are very pleased with the appearance and enhanced safety.

- **May 27:** The library held our first Yard/Plant/Bake sale. Thanks to volunteers Merridy Marshall, Nora Jenkins, Jack Tennant, Amy Mackie, Barbara Dymont, Carl Knights, Alison Whitlock and Greg Morrison for set up and sales. Thanks to all who donated items, plants and baked goods, and to all who supported the library by purchasing items. The weather cooperated and the Sale raised \$664.65 for special projects.
- **May 29:** Angie Knights attended the Southern Ontario Library Service's Community Outreach meeting in Perth. A presentation by the Recreation Coordinator for North Grenville on Geo Caching was very interesting. The meeting was a great chance to network with other libraries about programming and community outreach initiatives.
- **June 6:** 20 people attended our 'Tuesday Talk' to hear a presentation by Scott Mackie on "Beekeeping".
- **June 6:** The light on the front of the building was replaced with a motion activated LED fixture by Four-O-One Electric
- **June 26:** Our TD Summer Reading Club began with 30 children registered.

Our Wednesday morning story time continues from 10:30 to 11:00 am drawing an average of 10 participants at each session in July. (July 5: 3 adults, 8 children/ July 12: 2 parents, 4 children/ July 19: 3 parents, 8 children/ July 26: 4 parents, 8 children.) Story time in July and August includes a craft.

- **July 4:** 10 people attended our 'Tuesday Talk' to hear a presentation by Gord Knights on "Organic Pest Control"

Our Wednesday morning story time continues from 10:30 to 11:00 am drawing an average of 10 participants at each session in August. (August 2: 4 adults, 7 children/ August 9: 7 adults, 11 children/August 16: 3 adults, 7 children/ August 23: 1 adult, 2 children.) Story time in July and August includes a craft. Thanks to Board Member/Volunteer Michelle Nel and Volunteer Merridy Marshel for hosting Storytime during Angie's vacation.

- **August 8:** 8 people attended our 'Tuesday Talk' to hear a presentation by Amy Mackie on "Preserving".
-
- **September 5:** 11 people attended our 'Tuesday Talk' to hear a presentation by Gord Knights on 'Saving Seeds'
-
- **September 16:** The library was proud to host the launch of the book "The Stones of Augusta" written by Sandra Robertson and edited by Bonnie Gaylord. With the assistance of a grant from the Community Fund for Canada's 150 and the Brockville and Area Community Foundation, the library was able to partner with the Grenville County Historical Society to

publish and promote this book which catalogues and describes the many stone structures in Augusta Township.

The launch included a reception which was followed by a chicken barbecue dinner.

Attending were Sandra Robertson, Bonnie Gaylord, MPP Steve Clark, Joyce Ferguson from the Brockville Community Foundation, Members of Council, Library Board Members, members of the Grenville County Historical Society, and members of the general public. 80 people purchased chicken dinners.

- **September 19:** Angie Knights attended the launch of the 2017/2018 Read To Every Kid Every Day initiative. Libraries in the counties are provided with a set of ten pre-selected picture books. Families can read the books and vote on their favourite. This program has been very popular with young families.
- **October 7:** 53 parents and children attended a demonstration by Little Ray's Reptile Zoo to celebrate the end of our TD Summer Reading Club program. 30 children registered for the program, reading a total of 234 books. 15 of our awesome readers earned 12 stars and a free book from our Treasure Box.
- **October 17:** The library hosted our annual Volunteer Appreciation evening. Pillars of Strength Awards were given to Carl Knights and Doreen Thornhill for 5 years volunteer service, Nora Jenkins, Don McDonald and Karlene McDonald were awarded certificates for 10 years, Tom Annabele, Marg Bolger, Crystal Letts and Terry Letts for 15 years, and Val Caithness, Fran Ruigrok, Gertrude Ruigrok, Clarrie Sarry and Nel Streekstra were recognized for 20 years of Volunteer service. Dreamers and Doers awards were presented to Colleen O'Connell and David Cybulski creators of Maitland Garden of Hope, and Mary Anne Van Berlo of Van Berlo Gardens for their contribution to the community.
- **October 20:** The library hosted a Dance and Silent Auction at the Roebuck Community Centre. Music for the dance was provided by Healy and Orr who played to an enthusiastic crowd of about 80 people. Silent Auction items were generously donated by local businesses and individuals. After expenses the Dance and Silent Auction raised \$1259.00 for library programs.

Angie Knights was on vacation from November 5th to 18th. Linda Parrott was on vacation from November 20th to December 2nd..

Overdrive has been renewed for 2018.

E-Resources have been ordered for 2018 and include Ancestry Library, Britannica Library, Global Road Warrior, Novalist Select, Novalist Plus, Novalist K-8, Canadian Reference centre, MasterFile Premier, Primary Search, Canadian Points of View Reference Centre, Consumer Health Complete, and Auto Repair. These resources will be highlighted on our WebPage in the coming months.

The library continued the Needles and Pins needlework group. Participants meet in the Schoolhouse on Monday afternoons to work on projects and share advice and expertise.

The Healthy Kids Community Challenge of Leeds Grenville provided the library with two “Mapsacks” which can be loaned to Patrons. The Mapsack program aims to provide children with opportunities for healthy outdoor activity. Each Mapsack contains items such as bug jars, binoculars, digging tools, reference and picture books, journals etc. to encourage outdoor activity. The Mapsacks rotate between local libraries.

The Library joined the Augusta Township Joint Recreation Committee formed by the Township to improve and promote recreational and cultural activities in the township.

Circulation:

Total 20,664

(Library was open 1,326 hours on 255 days)

- Books.....12677
- Magazines.....458
- Inter-library loans.....147
- Museum Passes.....95
- Audio-Visual.....1190
- Overdrive (e-books).....6111

Membership:

86 new members

Material Available:

- 24,736 books: 12,323 juvenile, 12,282 adult, 134 reference plus 400 titles per year from The Large Print Pool.
- 30 periodical subscriptions
- Brockville Recorder and Times daily newspaper
- 494 talking books and read-along kits
- 272 DVDs plus 500 DVD titles per year from the SOLS DVD Pool
- local history collection
- five computers for patron use – all with internet access, one with voice recognition software.
- WIFI available
- two early literacy stations
- three printers, one colour
- Copier, scanner, fax machine
- Telephone directories for Ottawa, Kingston, Cornwall, Brockville and the Laurentians

New Additions:

- 1160 books added
- 386 discarded
- 65 audio-visuals added

- 0 audio visual discarded

Programs:

- TD Summer Reading Program – 12 years and under – 30 children registered. A total of 234 books were read by program participants.
- Every Child Ready to Read
- Read to Every Kid Every Day
- Lego Club
- Mapsack
- Needles and Pins needlework group

Miscellaneous Funds Collected:

- Overdue fines:.....\$425.45
- Copies, faxes and printouts.....\$239.40
- Used Books.....\$290.35
- Donations.....\$732.95
- Replacements.....\$236.00
- Membership fees..... \$0.00
- Misc.....\$0 (Bag sales)
- Programming.....\$0
- Silent Auction/Dance/Yard Sale..\$3951.65
- Rental.....\$1295.00 (77 Bookings)

Miscellaneous:

- Total In-Library Volunteer Hours – 774. An average of 15 volunteer hours per week.
- Total Number of Sessions using the Public Access Computers – 526
- Total Number of Sessions using Early Learning Stations – 411

Location: 4500 County Road 15 (in Algonquin) *Mailing address:* 4500 County Road 15, RR 2, Brockville, Ontario K6V 5T2
Website: www.augustalibrary.com *Email:* augusta@augustalibrary.com *Phone:* (613) 926-2449