

Olathe Public Library



2005 Annual Report

Message from the Director

Year 2005 started on what most might think of as an unusual “note” for a library. Since the main library location had passed its 25th year of serving the public, it was time to update the restrooms with new equipment and a new look. The facelift went well and the public has much nicer facilities to use. By late fall the library would finally have a storage building to house equipment and tools. The architect for the Indian Creek Branch designed an attractive and useful building that includes sorting and storage space for OPL’s Friends’ organization as well. Many of you are familiar with the Friends’ book sales and may even help out at the sales. Organizing for book sales requires storage and workspace. Now the Friends have plenty of space and ease in which to carry out their tasks!

Early 2005 also brought the launch of a completely new website for the library at www.olathelibrary.org. With the combined help of staff and a web designer, the library now has a more attractive and serviceable site. A helpful website greatly assists customers from work or home in a variety of ways with a calendar of programs, the library catalog, numerous databases and other helpful information.

During the summer the library hosted its annual Summer Reading Club offered to all ages. On kickoff day, May 31, the number of children signing up for SRC folders increased 15%! The library’s theme, “Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds”, attracted children to special programs and events. More emphasis was placed on reading, when library staff participated in the first “Kansas Reads to Preschoolers” by reading to preschoolers in and outside of the library during a special week in November. December carried through with reading emphasis when the library, the city and the school district officially began a cooperative effort, known as OLATHE READS, to promote literacy throughout the community.

By the end of the year, 1,319,971 checkouts of books, tapes and CDs were borrowed by 86,679 cardholders. June earned the designation of highest checkout month for 2005 with 130,442 materials loaned. Interlibrary loan between libraries increased 26.3%. Statistics continue to show that both the main library and the branch experience increased usage every year. The Olathe Public Library strives to meet the educational, informational and recreational needs of the community!



Emily Baker
Library Director

Board of Directors

Mike Rinke, President
Wes McCoy, Vice-President
Cathie Bennie, Secretary
Dana Campbell, Treasurer

Jack Hansen
Tom Hutcheson
Ray Morrison
Emily Baker, *Director*
Peggy Ingle, *Ex-Officio, President, Friends of OPL*
Clifford Tatham, *Ex-Officio, Chair, OPL Foundation*
Michael Copeland, *Ex-Officio, Mayor of Olathe*

2005 Highlights



The library originally launched its website in 1998. While that website served its purpose it was in need of a makeover which was accomplished in early 2005.



In late March of 2005, the library launched its new website. The new website offered an easier navigation scheme with a more consistent look and feel throughout the site.



In 2005, the Olathe Public Library became a free Wi-Fi spot, making free wireless access available in both Olathe Public Library locations. Anyone with a laptop, PDA or other portable device with a wireless network card was able to connect to the Internet free of charge.



The shelving was expanded and in March, the Indian Creek Branch's circulation desk was dismantled, enlarged and reinstalled. This project was funded by the Friends of the Olathe Public Library.

Children's Highlights



In 2005, the Children's Department conducted 530 story times with 6285 in attendance and held 102 programs with 4311 in attendance.

Some highlights for the year included Paul Mesner Puppets presenting Aesop's Fabulous Tales and returning a few weeks later for a puppet workshop.

Children's singer Dino O'Dell performed at both libraries.



The new Read to A Dog program was enjoyed by children who read aloud to trained registered therapy dogs to help improve literacy.

The newly introduced Family Game Night encouraged families to bring their own games or use the games provided during this event.



The Summer Reading Kick-Off in the park was a success with games, music, refreshments and the opportunity to sign up for the summer reading program. The theme this year was "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds."

Throughout the summer there were a variety of different programs where children listened to stories, enjoyed a magic show, and created art projects such as a dragon, knight's gear and the children



In the fall, there was a sleepover at the Main library where children arrived at the library after it closed on a Friday. Activities included relays, singing, reader's theatre, stories and pizza.

Teen's Highlights



A Chain Maille program was held in the spring. Teens learned about the art of chain maille and were given the opportunity to begin a project.

Workshops such as acting, jewelry making, juggling and magic were conducted throughout the year.

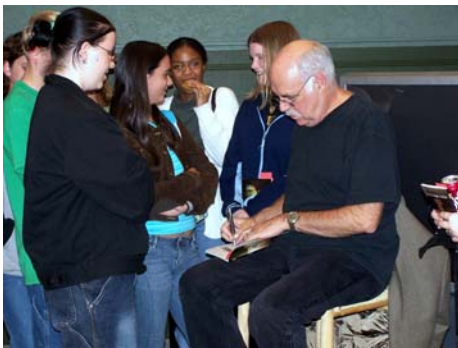


A teen lock-in was held in the fall as teens gathered at the library to eat pizza, play games and create art projects.

A duct tape workshop was conducted in the summer with a duct tape contest held at the end of the summer. There were many creative entries with the guitar receiving first prize.

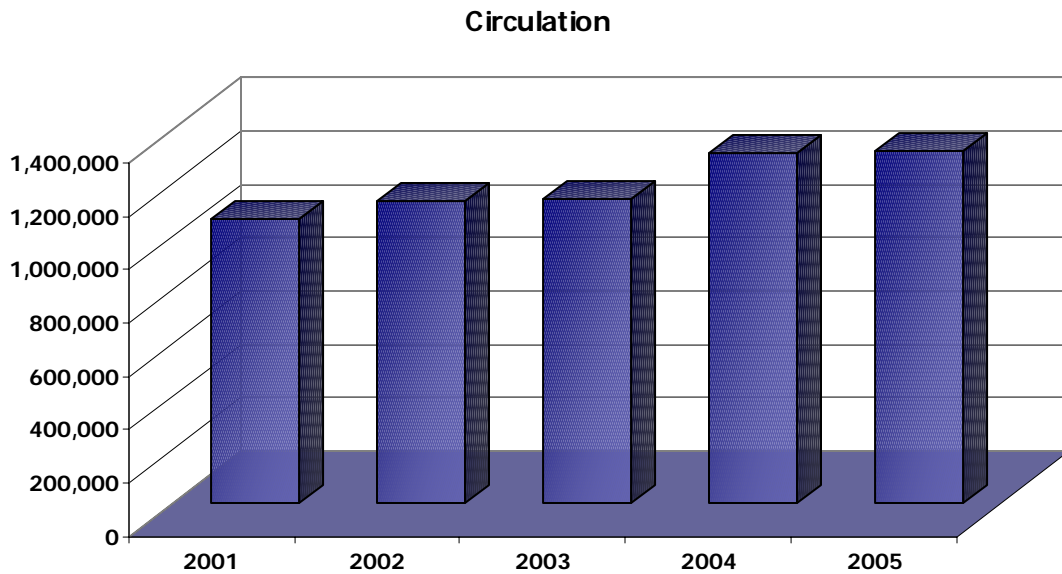


A poetry, short story and bookmark contest was held. At the end of the contest, a party was held at the Café for the Birds where entrants gathered for pizza and pop. The winners were announced at the party and given an opportunity to read their work.

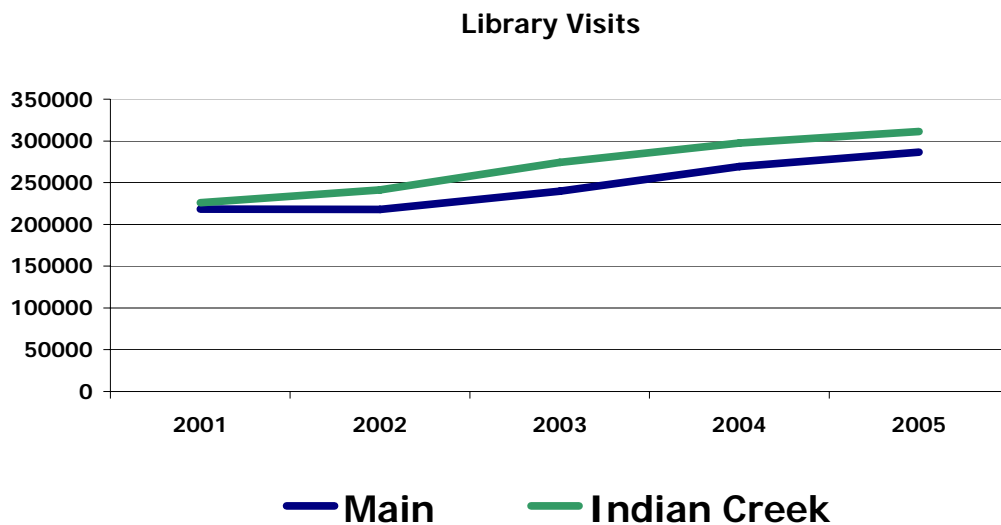


After the awards ceremony, young adult author Terry Trueman sat down with the teens for a question and answer session.

Circulation



In 2004, the Olathe Public Library circulated 1,305,594 items. In 2005, the library circulated 1,319,971 an increase of 14,377 items over the previous year.



In 2005, there was a combined 598,070 library visits, marking a 6% increase over 2004. In the past five years, the libraries combined have realized a 35% increase in the number of library visits.

Friends of Olathe Public Library

The Friends of the Olathe Public Library continue to be a solid support group for the library. During 2005, the group provided funds to support the children's summer reading program – providing a free paperback book to each of the 825 children that completed the program. It boosted the library's collection by giving \$2,000 to enhance the documentary DVD and \$1,000 for the music CD collections. An additional \$2,770 was given to the library for furniture to house the growing music CD collection and the group once again gave \$2,000 to the OPL Foundation. A \$500 grant was given to the Young Adult Program and the Friends purchased new magazine binders for the main library. The Friends continued to pay for a subscription to the "Chapter a Day" online book club



Friends hosted five "mini" book sales at the Indian Creek Branch meeting room with proceeds totaling \$5000 and also organized two Ella Mae Memorial Book Sales in April and October, generating around \$10,000 in sales and membership dues. The sale of Friends book bags in-house generated over \$400 for the year.

The Friends-sponsored dinner in April drew a large crowd to enjoy a presentation, "Romance of the Road: Traveling Across Kansas," by Sue Suellentrop from the Kansas Humanities Council.



During 2005, 108 baby board books were given to Olathe parents of newborns. The Friends provide the books for this project.



A new Friends group, PALS (Parents Promoting Awareness of Library Services), was formed to support the activities and mission of Children's Services in the library. The Friends group awarded PALS a \$250 grant to get started.

Friends Board

Peggy Ingle, President
Tom Hutcheson, Secretary
Carlotta Belcher, Membership

Shirley Grove, Vice-President
Jeanne Becker, Treasurer
Cindy Miller, Newsletter

Volunteers

	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours
2001	341	6316
2002	438	6625
2003	609	8540
2004	538	9358
2005	426	7589

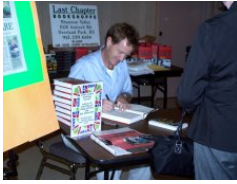


In April, eighty volunteers, guests and library staff members gathered at the Deaf Cultural Center for the annual Volunteer Recognition Reception. Attendees enjoyed a light supper, followed by a prize drawing and awarding of certificates to the youth volunteers.

This year, three outstanding volunteers were recipients of the Nancy Quinlisk Chandler Award. Clarence (A.D.) Admire, a volunteer since 1985, presently sorts and prices the book sale materials. Mike Foubert works with Admire and has been a volunteer for eleven years. The final recipient was Ray Morrison, who has been a member of the Olathe Public Library Board of Directors since 1995, serving as secretary and president.



Olathe Public Library Foundation



In 2005, people flocked to the third annual Lobster Fest. Whitney Terrell, author of *The King of Kings County* and *The Huntsman* was the speaker.

During the evening, grants were awarded to the children's department —\$2,000 for easy DVDs and books on CD as well as \$1,000 for children's furniture & \$1,000 for Young Adult Programming.



In addition, the foundation gave grants of \$2160 for movie performance rights, \$250 for juvenile books and \$500 for KLTA continuing education for trustees.

The foundation hosted its first ice cream social in conjunction with the Friends Book Sale. The endeavor raised \$284.

Foundation Board

Cliff Tatham (Chair)
Dana Campbell
Micki Holliday
Sandy Waters

Emily Baker
Diane Costello
Peggy Ingle
Pam Wilkinson

Financial Summary

Personnel	\$2,186,330
Books & Materials	489,059
Utilities	56,517
Supplies	73,818
Building	108,827
Automation	187,955
Copiers	8,264
Insurance	32,589
Equipment	24,929
Staff Development	17,025
Library Vehicle	2,184
Printing	3,079
Professional Services	18,132
Miscellaneous	23,104
Programming	12,898
Capital Improvement	215,134

Total Expenses **\$3,459,844**

Income Received

Tax Revenue	\$3,319,281
Interest Income	46,080
Fines, Copier, Misc.	134,698
Contributions	29,159
Total	\$3,529,218

State Aid Received and Expended

State Aid	\$73,372
Interlibrary Loan	8,226
Development Grant	
Total	\$81,598