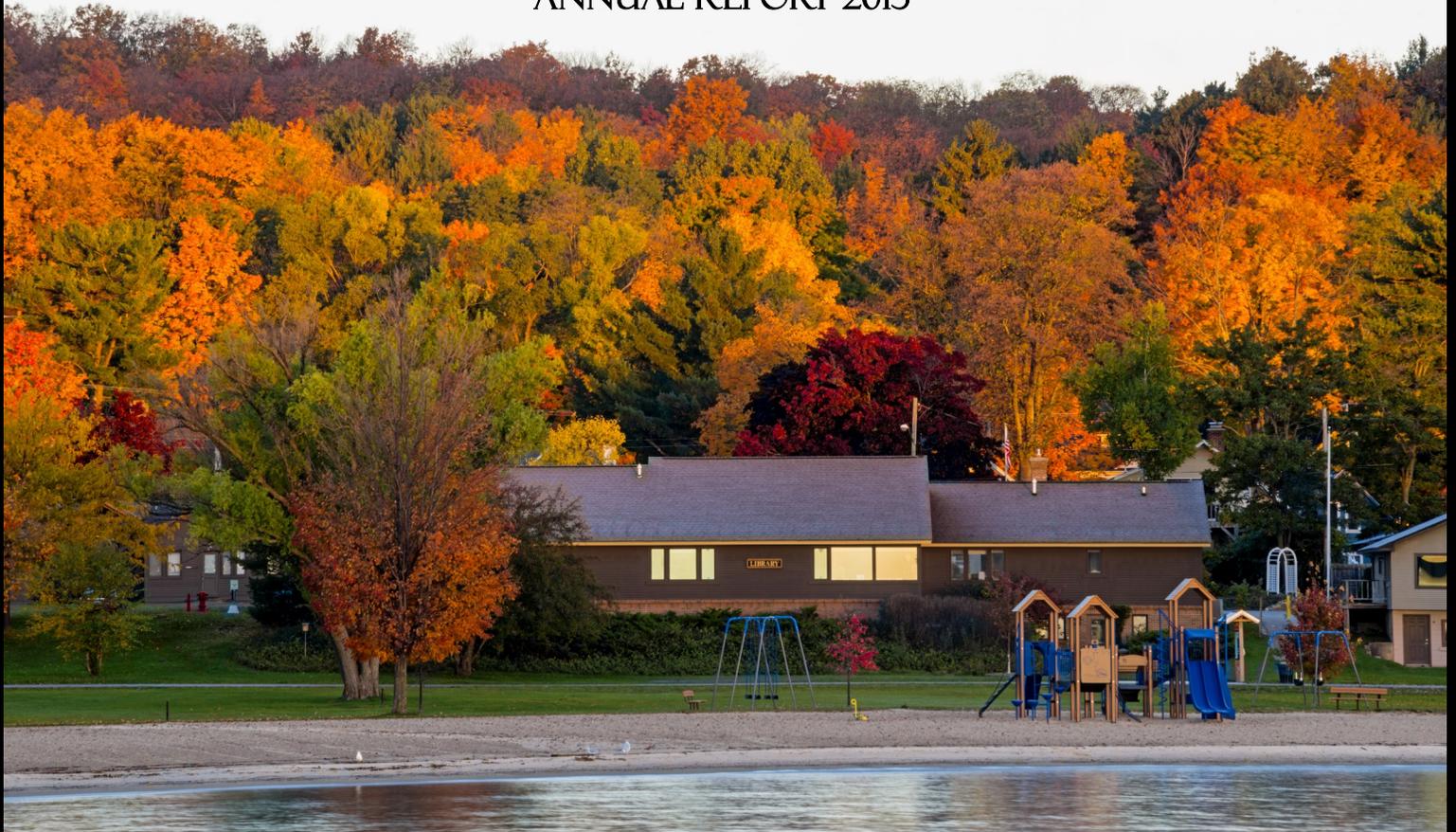


SUTTONS BAY ~ BINGHAM DISTRICT LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John Krug, Clix Heerema, Barbara Graves,
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INFORMATION



EDUCATION

RECREATION

CULTURE



COMMUNITY

“Who knew the library would be the go to place for technical support? I found out firsthand with great success when I got help with preparing a spreadsheet, learning about iCloud, and more.”

~ Peggy Schudlich, library user discussing monthly technology classes and one-on-one tech help.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION

The Library not only provides recreational reading materials but it also serves as a wealth of informational and educational resources including:

- ◆ Monthly computer/technology classes throughout the winter.
- ◆ Monthly Wigglers Story Time for toddlers promoting literacy and social skills.
- ◆ Monthly visits from Wilson the Therapy Dog promoting literacy and social skills.
- ◆ One - On - One technology help.
- ◆ CARES Backpacks (Children Acquiring Rich Educational Skills) filled with learning activities available for checkout.
- ◆ Summer Reading Program for kids promoting literacy and helping slow summer learning loss.
- ◆ Educational and informational programs like a poetry appreciation program, learn to bonsai program, bicycle maintenance classes and more.

Nick Wierzba of Suttons Bay Bikes demonstrates how to remove a bike tire during a series of free bicycle maintenance workshops.



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

It is always tempting in this report to brag about the things your library has accomplished during the past year. I could cite the new front door, much brightened foyer, and repaired windows throughout the building, but I won't go into that.

Instead, I want to let you know that if you have never heard Ryan read to the little ones (first Saturday of the month at 11:00 A.M.) you have missed out on one of the library's great experiences.

It's a lot more dramatic than I remember listening to former NY Mayor LaGuardia read the Sunday comics to tots on the radio. I think I was 6 or 7. We had a large library in Hackensack, New Jersey where my brother and I grew up. It had that familiar odor of old books and they told you to keep quiet. At least that's what I thought the SILENCE sign meant on the circulation desk. Forgive the reminiscence but there is a point to it --- We are not “Your Father's” Library.

To the contrary, we are small but well run and really good. No bad odors or quiet signs. New activities abound for adults and kids promoting fun and education. An abundance of other program improvements lends ample evidence that the library is our community living room.

Here patrons of all ages -- those comfortable with ink on paper and others preferring electronic forms of education and entertainment -- can find what they want in a safe, stimulating place where all comers are welcome and amazed at what we have to offer.

Take a few moments to visit and educate yourself. Learn why your Board of Trustees, staff, volunteer group and Friends Board regard the library as one of our area's most undiscovered treasures. You won't be disappointed.

~ John Krug

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Like the two years prior, my third year at the library was much hustle and bustle. New partnerships were formed, fantastic programs were offered, the building received necessary upgrades, and great materials and great conversations abounded.

Yet what struck me most deeply this past year, was the need for the library to shepherd community members across the digital divide. Or in other words, to help folks use technology to get things done.

This is not a new role, we have offered computers, internet access, and help navigating both for many years, but it is an *increasing* need.

Evidence of this comes most noticeably from the “can you help me with something on my computer, kindle, iPad etc.” questions we receive nearly every few minutes. And these questions have only increased as more forms cease to be available in paper and as more media is offered and enjoyed online.

Meeting this need is a challenge but we are accomplishing it in a myriad of ways including: Monthly technology classes; an iPad loaning program; visits from a technology coach for one-on-one help; and the most important step of all... staff members taking the time to be that shepherd helping patrons navigate a device, an online form, or solve whatever their digital information need may be.

That is just one role of a library of the 21st century and it is a role *your* library embraces.

~ Ryan Deery



Paleo Joe teaches a group of children and adults about dinosaurs and fossils during last year's summer reading program.

CULTURE & COMMUNITY

In addition to informational and educational resources, the library strives to be a bastion of culture and a builder and supporter of community. Some of the ways we achieved this last year include:

- ◆ Art Talks: a monthly conversational program interviewing and showcasing a local artist.
- ◆ Fall Harvest Festival and Carnival in conjunction with the Friendship Community Center.
- ◆ Guest Story Times at the Suttons Bay Schools.
- ◆ A Summer Visiting Author series showcasing local authors.
- ◆ A Family Film series.
- ◆ Showcasing student artwork during the Suttons Bay Art Walk.
- ◆ Offering a free community meeting room that hosts a multitude of formal and informal groups such as the Suttons Bay Chamber of Commerce, a Mahjong group, and many more.

“I tutor children in the summer and besides seeing an increase in their reading due to the summer reading program, I love that I hear them getting so excited to talk about their literary adventures. I even hear them telling their friends which books they *just have to* read next!”

~ Judy Packard, tutor, library user discussing the summer reading program

HOW DO WE COMPARE?

We are considered a Class 2 library by the State of Michigan meaning we serve a population of 4,000-6,999 individuals. There are 81 other Class 2 libraries in the state. How do we compare to the State averages for Class 2 libraries?

Average Hours Open Per Week: 40 Our Weekly Hours: 35	Average Population Served: 4,109 Our Service Population: 5,479		Average Amount of Programs Held: 97 Our Programs Held: 86	Average Total Attendance at Programs/Workshops: 1,825 Our Total Attendance at Programs/Workshops: 950
	Average Active Borrowers: 4,311 Our Active Borrowers: 4,379	Average Annual Visits: 24,832 Our Visits: 25,847	Average Annual Operating Income: \$154, 134 Our Operating Income for 2014/2015: \$159,714	
Average Number of items Checked out: 33,591 Our Total items Checked Out: 26,782	Average Digital Materials Checked Out: 1,229 Our Digital Materials Checked Out: 1,450		Average Volunteer Hours in Service to Library: No Data Our Volunteer's Annual Hours in Service to the Library: 1,900	Average Annual Operating Expense: \$144,604 Our Operating Expense for 2014/2015: \$160,700

The state averages are drawn from the Library of Michigan's 2013/2014 numbers whereas our numbers are based upon our fiscal year of July, 1st 2014 to June 30th, 2015. Our budget numbers below are from this same period.

Income



Expenses



THE SUTTONS BAY BINGHAM DISTRICT LIBRARY