

L.E. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Condensed Annual Report for 1979

Library use jumped once again during 1979. The number of registered borrowers climbed 8% to 30,600, the number of items borrowed increased a full 9% to 427,000, the number of informational questions surged 15% to 29,500, and the number of children participating in the summer reading program increased an amazing 50% to 1,300.

As the figures show, the public is relying more and more on the library to fill their needs for information. The variety of questions the library handles is very broad. The following list of actual reference questions answered by the library is representative of the growing public demand for information from the library:

1. Has a law actually been passed making 70 the mandatory retirement age and, if so, when was it passed and when does it go into effect?
2. I'm giving a talk at my church and wondered how much material you might be able to supply me with on the practice of crucifixion as carried out in the Roman Empire during the time of Jesus Christ.
3. I need to see a survey of the leading companies in the office equipment field.
4. Do you have a book with the chemical formula for lipstick?
5. Do you have any materials that would help me to identify an old motorcycle?
6. Do you have any books on going to school overseas?
7. Is there any way of telling a boiled egg from a raw egg without cracking the shell?
8. What is the definition of orthomolecular?
9. What do the letters M.C.H. mean appearing after a name?
10. What is lightning and why don't we have any in winter?
11. Are there any set procedures for reporting orally or in written form to a Wisconsin state legislative committee?
12. Can I have the addresses to the newspapers in Malmo, Sweden?
13. If an automobile leaves eighteen foot skid marks, how fast was it going?
14. What is the current cost of producing a business letter for a business?
15. Can a mixture of muric acid crystals and water be safely stored in a plastic gallon milk container?
16. How do you get candle wax off a varnished wood surface without damaging the wood?
17. What causes leg cramps when one is pregnant?

18. I need the address for the Department of Mortuary Sciences or its equivalent in Utah.
19. How is Eau Claire's mill rate computed?

The Children's Department provided an array of lively activities and programs which are designed to get children to the library and to get children to feel that reading and the library are exciting things. There is in fact a very clear, actually observed correlation between good library programming for children and increases in the number of items borrowed from the library.

In addition to the summer reading club, which was hugely successful, the library (with the help of volunteers) provided story times for preschoolers, puppet plays, movies, a musical variety show, and a creative movement program. There were also television production classes, craft activities, a film animation class, and a "Junior Great Books" reading and discussion group.

During 1979 the library instituted a licensing program which trains children to use cassette players, two kinds of filmstrip equipment, and record players. The children view a videotaped demonstration, then study instruction manuals and practice before they are tested by the library staff for their licenses. Five hundred eighteen children were licensed, and the program has been extremely successful in preventing damage to the audiovisual equipment.

With the help of funds from the Eau Claire Area Jaycees and the University Theater Group, the library initiated services to the deaf. The library installed a telephone typewriter (TTY) which is used by the deaf to contact us from their homes for information. The library staff also uses the TTY to communicate with hearing impaired persons who want walk-in services. In addition, people come into the library to use the TTY to call deaf persons.

Several special events during 1979 contributed to making the library an active center of culture and art in the community. Six series of films were offered during the year and a number of art exhibits were mounted, including for the first time a juried show, which attracted 80 entrants from throughout the region. The library also sponsored trips to the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, which were completely funded by user fees. With the help of two federal grants from the Wisconsin Humanities Committee, the library set up two viewing and discussion series, one on the "Classic Theater" and one on the world's religions.

Mark Morse  
Library Director

## R E G I S T R A T I O N S

Borrowers' Cards in force January 1, 1979---	28,348
Cancelled or Expired Cards-----	-4,337
Registered or Re-registered-----	<u>+6,633</u>
Borrowers' Cards in force Dec. 31, 1979-----	<u>30,644</u>

## L I B R A R Y C O L L E C T I O N

Number of items January 1, 1979-----	142,827
Number of items added during year-----	+17,302
Number of items withdrawn during year-----	<u>- 6,377</u>
Number of items December 31, 1979-----	<u>153,752</u>

The library collection includes:

Books-----	146,358	8mm Films-----	159
Phonograph Records-	4,545	Framed Art Prints---	161
Cassettes-----	1,496	Juvenile Art Prints-	104
Periodical Titles--	455	Microfilm Titles---	114
16mm Films-----	222	Filmstrips-----	544

## C I R C U L A T I O N

Fiction Books-----	216,487
Non-Fiction Books-----	150,181
Phonograph Records-----	21,459
Periodicals-----	21,091
Cassettes-----	7,167
Films and Filmstrips-----	5,420
Pamphlets-----	2,635
Art Prints-----	1,305
Miscellaneous-----	985
Equipment Rental-----	<u>453</u>

TOTAL 427,183



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Financial Report for 1979

RECEIPTS

Beginning Balance 1979. . . . .	\$ 25,322.40	
City of Eau Claire. . . . .	854,398.00	
County of Eau Claire. . . . .	36,000.00	
Indianhead Federated Library System . .	51,167.00	
Fines and Fees. . . . .	12,258.91	
Federal CETA Funds. . . . .	18,015.23	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	<u>26,231.46</u>	\$1,023,393.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Regular Salaries. . . . .	\$325,896.95	
CETA Salaries . . . . .	16,520.87	
Regular Benefits. . . . .	70,537.16	
CETA Benefits . . . . .	1,337.03	
Purchased Services. . . . .	166,852.89	
Materials and Supplies. . . . .	120,374.51	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	4,688.36	
Debt Service. . . . .	<u>295,080.00</u>	<u>1,001,287.77</u>

Balance December 31, 1979 \$ 22,105.23

GIFTS RECEIVED (in excess of \$100) DURING 1979:

Dr. Cora Rust Owen----- (held in reserve for sculpture outside library)	\$2,000.00
Eau Claire Jaycees (purchase of TTY)-----	\$ 495.00
Friends of the Library (purchase of projector)-----	\$ 338.00
Patricia Cheney (memorial books for Elnora Siker)----	\$ 102.45