

Salado Public Library District President's Annual Report

October 28, 2013

Dear Friends and Patrons of the Salado Public Library:

Has this been an exciting year for the Salado Public Library or what? Our expansion project enabled us to add 3,200 square feet of space, and was completely paid for with our savings, that is: the library has incurred no debts whatsoever! We have a new look throughout the inside, due to the remodeling of the old space, and a new look outside, due to the landscaping committee's work. In this annual report on the library's status, I am pleased to report that the library has indeed grown during the past fiscal year (September 2012 through August 2013) due primarily to the major construction project.

From ground breaking on September 14, 2012 to the May 19, 2013 opening reception, the library expansion enabled the Children's Section to add the much needed space for books, computers and activities. We created a new Teen Area exclusively for this age group. And, we gave back to the community a classroom/meeting room, with a state of the art presentation board, that can seat 35 people, and is available for public use, even after library hours. And, the library has increased the adult seating area and added more book shelves that enables us to continue to expand our collection.

Because of the generosity of Salado donors, in the amount of \$20,000 and a \$50,000 Tocker Foundation grant for furniture and shelving, the furnishings throughout were completed without incurring any debt. Thanks to our Very Special Patrons for their contributions to the library expansion and to Jeanie Lively for securing the grant funding.

Book Ends got a face lift during the library expansion. Bookshelves have been added to accommodate an expanded collection of books for sale. It must be the new look because the books keep coming in by the box load, almost daily.

And of course, we "get a little help from the Friends", those dedicated volunteers who give of their time to help out at the library. Those who are on the Friends Board; those who process books; book selection; the Book Ends book store volunteers; those who help sorting out and toting books; those landscape designers and workers; and, those who work with the Summer Read program are all valued members of our library team. They more than earned our gratitude for

all the work in packing, moving and un-packing all (that's ALL) the books in the library during the expansion project. We are grateful to all of you and sincerely thank you for this extraordinary volunteer effort!

We could not do what we do without the great librarians and staff who are present daily to perform all the "behind the shelves" work to keep the library current and operating, plan the programs, and are available to help the patrons. Our Library Director, Jeanie Lively, has performed so many duties this past year that I cannot name them all. Besides being the full-time Director, she was our on-site manager for the expansion project; no small job for anyone. Rachel Gerik, Children's Librarian, and Amy German, Youth Librarian, Manuela Smith and Elaine Eddings Circulation Desk Staff all deserve our thanks for all they do to make the library a wonderful place to visit.

Here are a few statistics that illustrate the continued work accomplished this past year, even during the expansion project:

Adult book collection added 483 books.

Children's book collection added 155 books.

Young adult collection added 183 books.

New patrons added were 359 for a total of 6,711 total patrons.

Computer classes – 14.

English as a Second Language classes – 23.

The library offered several programs to the public this past year. These included: weekly children's story time, book reviews, Death by Chocolate, Halloween party, crafter activities for adults, making Christmas cards, and a coffee to honor all the volunteers.

On a final note: the library ended the year 34% under budget in the operating account. We have no debts and continue to add monthly to our savings. Truly an outstanding and very successful year.

I ask that 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