

Director’s Report – Clarence Public Library
April 22, 2024

Financial

The financial statements are in the board packets. Please note that we did receive a \$900 reimbursement check from Erie County for our overpayment on the 2023 “Return to System.” (see Director’s Report – March 25, 2024). This check was deposited into our interest-bearing savings account. I am currently working with Tracy Palicki to complete the 2023 Annual Financial Report to the State (Comptroller’s Report).

Account Balances:

County Checking:	\$14,877.60
Trustees Checking:	\$17,512.63
Savings:	\$67,036.09

March Monthly Report Statistics

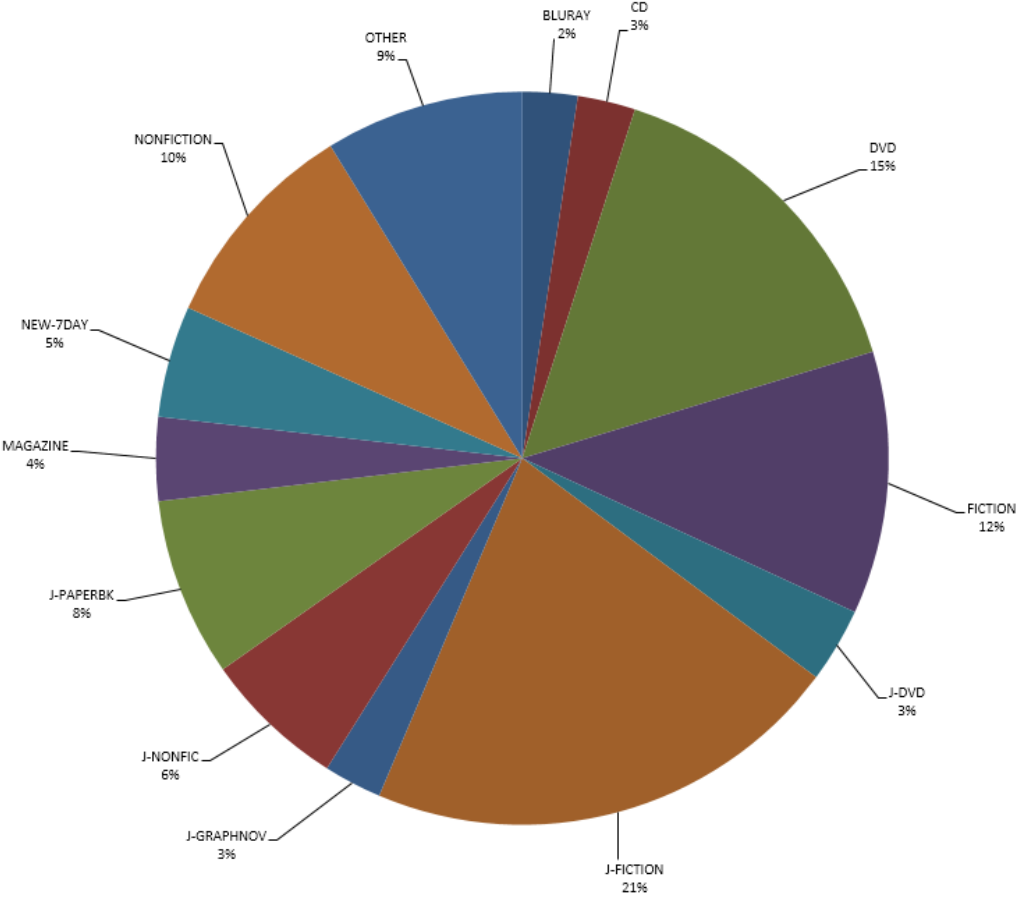
Circulation, Patron Count and Programming Summary

Circulation

March 2024 Circulation:	20,345
March 2023 Circulation:	22,164
	-8.2% percent change
January-March 2024	58,627
January-March 2023	61,584
	-4.8% percent change

- Maximum circulation this month was 1,315 on March 28th.
- Maximum Circulation in 2024 was 1,315 on March 28th.
- Maximum Circulation in 2023 was 1,723 on August 5th.
- Average Circulation per day was 710.
- Clarence was ranked 10th in circulation overall for March 2024.
- Clarence was ranked 7th in circulation overall for March 2023.

Branch	March 2024 Circulation Rank
1. Audubon	39,032
2. Clearfield	27,765
3. Kenmore	27,668
4. Orchard Park	26,110
5. Julia Boyer Reinstein	24,863
6. Central	22,886
7. Lancaster	22,660
8. West Seneca	21,303
9. Hamburg	20,433
10. Clarence	20,345



Library Visits

March 2024 Visitor Count	8,033
March 2023 Visitor Count	6,563
	22.4% percent change
January-March 2024	20,697
January-March 2023	17,987
	15.1% percent change*

*Increase due in part to distribution of eclipse glasses

- Maximum Visitor Count in March 2024 was 423 on the 18th.
- Maximum in one day in 2023 was 486 on June 27th.
- The average number of visits per day in March 2024 was 323.
- Clarence was ranked 11th for Library Visits in March 2024.
- Clarence was ranked 10th for Library Visits in March 2023.

Public Access Computer Sessions

March 2024	490
March 2023	498
	-1.6%

WIFI

March 2024	1,693
March 2023	1,406
	20.4% percent change

Clarence Public Library Programming

March 2024

In Library programs:	Programs	Attendance
For children 5 & under	6	127
For children 6-12	6	111
For teens		
Intergenerational	1	41
For Adults	5	92

In Library One-on-One Programs:	Programs	Attendance
For children 5 & under		
For children 6-12	27	27
For teens	31	31
Intergenerational		
For Adults		

Meeting Room Use: 25 (outside groups/organizations)

Seed Library: 673

Outreach: 50 (International Day of Sharing)

Outside Groups/Organizations using the Meeting Room

- WNY Armenian Community Group
- Garden Friends of Clarence
- Clarence Contemporary Club
- Clarence Contemporary Club Book Club
- Clarence Family Support Center (Neurodivergent Teen Social Group)
- Clarence Concert Association
- Clarence Senior Center Card Group
- Polish Genealogical Society of NYS
- Clarence Family Support Center Advisory Board Meeting
- Euchre Card Group
- Center for Resolution and Justice
- American Needlepoint Guild

Items of Note:

- We had a very large turnout for Bob Poczik's program – The Great Wall of China (55 people attended). Bob will be back for a fascinating presentation on Abraham Lincoln in September.

- As mentioned last month, we have spent the past several months giving out eclipse glasses. By the end of March, I estimated we had given out about 3,500 pairs during February and March.
- Sarah's special programs were very popular and well-attended. This included Crack the Code Egg Hunt (34 attended), Spring Cookie Decorating (34 people attended), and Rangoli & Egg Decorating (17 attended).
- Our large shredder became inoperable and we were unable to fix it. We were able to order another one through the Central Library and the Friends generously funded this purchase.
- Update on HVAC Project (from Tim Lavocat as of 4/12/24) – Tim just recently contracted with two (2) consultants to perform the final assessment and feasibility study to determine best options for the HVAC system improvements/replacement and ultimately a preferred solution. As he moves through this process, Tim will keep me informed on when he needs to access the building and then ultimately what the findings are and a path forward to an actual project. The consultants plan to get started soon.
- Solar Eclipse – As mentioned last month, we have spent the past several months giving out eclipse glasses. By the end of March, I estimated we had given out about 3,500 pairs during February and March. The Clarence Library hosted the Buffalo Museum of Science on March 16 for an all-ages eclipse program.
 - Sarah presented a Solar Eclipse Makery on April 3, which included eclipse buttons (made with the library's button maker), eclipse flipbook and a sun-catcher. The Clarence Youth Bureau was here on April 4 to present a Solar Eclipse craft time, which included an eclipse chalk drawing and eclipse art.
 - Eclipse glasses recycling – the Library System is collaborating with Astronomers without Borders to give eclipse glasses a second chance where they will be sent to communities across Africa, Asia, North and South America and will be given to people who would otherwise not have access to eclipse glasses that allow them to view an eclipse safely.
- The Clarence was the host location for Mental Health Advocates "Nurtured Heart" program on April 15 and April 22. This program is sponsored by the Clarence Family Support Center.
- Together with Dia Celebration - As of this writing, Dia has not yet taken place... more information on the how the program went will be available next month! What I can say now is that great deal of work went into planning and promoting this program. In addition to all of the emails, social media flyers and word of mouth promotion, Monica and Aaron delivered 2,000 flyers to the four elementary schools in Clarence. And there was a front page article in the Clarence Bee as well. We are really looking forward to the celebration and thank all of the groups and individuals who have helped to make this a special day.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Mooney
 Director – Clarence Public Library