Bentonville Public Library Advisory Board

- Emily Douglas
- Melanie Elliott
- Elaine Kerr
- Octavio Sanchez
- George Spence

Thank you for representing our community by advising on library issues. It is a pleasure to work with you all.

Bentonville Library Foundation

Anne Burke | Steve Galen
Margaret Jackson | Jordan Garrett
Pat Carroll, Vice President | Johnny Haney
Michael Clark | Galen Havner
Ed Clifford | Andy Klungland, Sec/Treas
Brenda Compton, President | Chip Stacy
Jay Ellis | Cindy Suter
Ex-Officio members:
Mayor Bob McCaslin | Gail Trolinger, Admin Asst

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Bentonville Public Library. Your contribution to our community is greatly appreciated.

Friends of the Bentonville Public Library

- Gail Trolinger, President
- Luci Henderson, Vice President
- Betty Cleek, Treasurer
- Emily Douglas, Secretary

Bookstore volunteers & Friends membership

Thank you so much for your monetary donation that enhanced our marketing/display materials. Thank you for sponsoring our anniversary celebration and “birthday” collections. Finally, thank you for your continuing support of our summer reading club programs. BPL has wonderful Friends!

Volunteer Activity

- 3,243 total hours volunteered at BPL.
- $24,322.50 cost savings for the library.

Donated Materials

- 4,201 total donated items cataloged for the collection.
- $58,213.62 cost savings for BPL.

Library Volunteers

Thank you to Suzanna Hicks for volunteering at the library for more than six years. Special recognition to Ann McKnight for her long service to BPL. July 2003 - July 2008. A dedicated individual, Mrs. McKnight volunteered more than 1,500 hours.

- Amanda Aislip
- Jacob Smith
- Timothy Daniel
- Gina Stevens
- Suzanna Hicks
- Ivette Stevens
- Ann McKnight
- Robert VanBibber
- Levi Mele
- Don Wallace
- William Sheffit
- Derek Williams
- Mechelle Sinclair

Library Volunteers 2008

Thank you to Society members for volunteering 1,558 hours at the library, assisting library patrons in family research. Special recognition goes to Carol Miles for volunteering 308 hours and Carey Anderson for volunteering 291 hours at BPL.

- Cary Anderson
- Beth Hickman
- Judy Vandenbergh
- ZalDen Aver
- Marian Jordan
- Ruth Barnes
- Myra Baker
- Mary Maquess
- Jan Reeves
- John Bates
- June Melton
- Frances Thompson
- Carolyn Fugedy
- Carol Miles
- Kay Turner

Northwest Arkansas Genealogy Society

Thank you for your continued support of our summer reading club programs.

- Ashley Arnold
- Christian Horton
- Anshu Pradhan
- Aaron Barlow
- Sage Hoyt
- Christian Reinisch
- Andrew Brunnet
- Hanna Johnson
- Michael Reinisch
- Summer Chapell
- Daniel Johnston
- Divya Shah
- Arun Chawla
- Zach Jones
- Mallory Cibulka
- Indran Kalanathan
- Celine Siahmakoun
- Caitlin Dean
- Taunee Laemmle
- Lucero Soza
- Matt Duty
- Laura Lancaster
- Lexi Stewart
- Callie Edwards
- Emily Landefeld
- Brittany Tavernor
- Anjali Matteri
- Heath Thomas
- Stephanie Galen
- Cody McClure
- Isabella Thomas
- Megan Hargus
- Darryl Mitchell
- Hannah Tomlin
- Britton Hawkins
- Amanda Parker
- Jessica VanHook
- Alisha Holmen
- Kelli Porter
- Ashley Worthen

Thank you for your monetary donation that enhanced our marketing/display materials.

Teen Advisory Board

Library staff began a teen advisory board in 2008. Approximately 10-12 teenagers attend monthly meetings to advise on library issues and services that serve their needs.

BPL Mission Statement

The Bentonville Public Library’s mission is to promote the development of literate and independent citizens through open access to diverse cultural, intellectual and informational sources.

2008 Accomplishments

- Emphasized programming and services for youth and adults, with a special focus on partnering with community organizations.
- Began providing outreach to public schools and community organizations as library staff visited teachers’ fairs, educator events, schools and other community events.
- Emphasized staff training and development through collaborative and procedural meetings, including the library’s first staff in-service day.
- Developed a viable and productive teen volunteer program to assist with various library tasks. 42 teens volunteered 914.5 hours in 2008. Together with adult volunteerism, the library had more than 10 volunteers who donated 3,243 hours of service.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Visits</th>
<th>Circulation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>255,848</td>
<td>380,074</td>
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<tr>
<td>254,848</td>
<td>390,074</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2006</th>
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<th>2008</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>380,074</td>
<td>390,074</td>
<td>390,074</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>4% Increase</th>
<th>13% Increase</th>
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</table>

BPL 2008 Statistics at a Glance

- BPL experienced more than 264,800 visits.
- Library staff assisted patrons 20,143 times.
- 6,291 new library users were registered in 2008; Bentonville Library has 41,086 total registered users.
- 30,074 items were borrowed, 77% of those items were checked out using the self-check terminals.
- 400,000 library computers were used 50,649 times.
- 13,153 new books, videos, audio books & periodicals were added to the library’s collection, bringing the total collection size to 70,416 items, valued at $1,547,047.84.
- Library meeting facilities were utilized 850 times by library’s first staff in-service day.
- Developed a viable and productive teen volunteer program to assist with various library tasks. 42 teens volunteered 914.5 hours in 2008. Together with adult volunteerism, the library had more than 10 volunteers who donated 3,243 hours of service.

2008 Accomplishments

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BPL Expenditures 2008

| Personnel Wages | $421,362.15 |
| General O&M | $694,468.20* |
| Collections | $145,048.70 |
| Capital | $7,902.05 |
| TOTAL | $1,268,745.10 |

*$500,000 payment to Library Foundation in 2008 completed the City’s $2 million financial contribution toward construction of the new facility.

The Library is supported by individuals, organizations & businesses, all of whom are not listed here.
Bentonville Public Library has come a long way in three short years. Usage statistics for 2006, 2007 and 2008 demonstrate the library’s growing significance in our community. Our 2008 successes are a culmination of many efforts over the last few years. From an outdated, cramped space located in the Historic Massey Hotel to a modern 38,000 square foot facility, the library has not only adapted to our community’s needs, but has become a central focal point for community activities, meetings and services.

The heart of Bentonville Public Library’s mission is to positively impact our community by empowering our citizens through open access to diverse information. The dissemination of diverse information is through various means – our library collections, technology services, our facility amenities and library programs.

2009 promises to be even better at Bentonville Public Library. Many fun and educational youth and adult programs are being planned by library staff. 2009 Library goals include:

- Striving to meet the changing needs of our technologically-savvy users by providing access to downloadable e-audios, a new electronic collection.
- Developing a strategic plan for the library, implementing user-surveys or focus groups along with input from the Library Advisory Board, Friends of the Library, the Library Foundation and the City of Bentonville.
- To take a moment to thank the entire library staff. As our community grows, so do our services. I appreciate your flexibility and hard work to meet our increasing usage. Special thanks to our library support groups—Library Advisory Board, Friends of the Library and Bentonville Library Foundation. Each person volunteering in this capacity is extremely dedicated and wonderfully supportive of the library. Our successes are even greater because of you. Thank you also to our library volunteers who assist with daily operations. Your contributions mean so much. Finally, thank you for your continued support—Mayor McCaslin, City Council aldermen and City of Bentonville departments. Special appreciation must be mentioned for Parks and Electric departments for ongoing assistance with grounds and facility projects.

Sincerely, Hadi S. Dudley

### Library Program Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>20-1% Increase</th>
<th>2199% Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>14,617</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>5,036</td>
<td>14,617</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>15,173</td>
<td>14,617</td>
<td>201% Increase</td>
<td>2199% Increase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to inadequate space in our former location, Bentonville Public Library did not provide special programs and was forced to eliminate storytimes in 2005. With the opening of our new facility came the debut of dynamic storytimes and craft sessions for toddlers and preschoolers. To meet public demand, the library added a baby storytime, a homeschool program and teen initiatives in 2008. Free family programs were added at least one Saturday every month and special events enhanced our annual summer reading program. Library staff have also implemented programs for adults, a new endeavor for the library, including music programs, special HGTKV events and a book discussion group. In order to establish new programs, the library has relied on our staff, community partnerships, volunteers, grants, donations and a small program budget.

The Bentonville Public Library grew from 660 program attendees in 2006 to 5,036 in 2007 to an extraordinary leap of 15,173 program attendees in 2008. These figures demonstrate the importance of value-added programming for our community. Bentonville Public Library’s policies and procedures were updated in 2008 to address the library’s new-found commitment to programming and public services for our community.

### Spotlight on Library Programs

Due to inadequate space in our former location, Bentonville Public Library did not provide special programs and was forced to eliminate storytimes in 2005. With the opening of our new facility came the debut of dynamic storytimes and craft sessions for toddlers and preschoolers. To meet public demand, the library added a baby storytime, a homeschool program and teen initiatives in 2008. Free family programs were added at least one Saturday every month and special events enhanced our annual summer reading program. Library staff have also implemented programs for adults, a new endeavor for the library, including music programs, special HGTKV events and a book discussion group. In order to establish new programs, the library has relied on our staff, community partnerships, volunteers, grants, donations and a small program budget.

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#### Care Foundation Grant

Bentonville Public Library was awarded $50,000 from the Care Foundation in 2007-2008. The goal of the grant was to establish innovative cultural and educational library programs and to attract visitors to BPL.

Staff used the grant funding to bring in nationally recognized speakers such as Wendell Minor and HGTV personalities, Paul James and Susie Cohnho. Music filled the library with the African-style drumming of Afrique Aya and Blues guitar riffs by BB King protégé Kory Montgomery [presented by the Ozark Blues Society of Northwest Arkansas].

Bringing approximately 2,000 youths and adults into the Bentonville Public Library for special programs, the Care Foundation grant allowed library services to reach new demographics of library users and to better serve our existing patronage. Serving as a catalyst for the new library facility, the Care Foundation grant allowed Bentonville Public Library to make community connections, reaching our goal to positively impact our community’s educational and cultural opportunities.

#### Children’s Library Mascot Arrives @ BPL

ARDY ARDY ARDY ARDY

Ard Hoyt, local children’s book illustrator, custom-designed a cute little owl for the library. Serving as our Children’s Library mascot, the colorful critter proudly proclaims, “A good book is never out of reach at the Bentonville Children’s Library.”

#### Annual Report: 2008

### BPL & Crystal Bridges

Merging literature and art, Bentonville Public Library has developed a wonderful partnership with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. Two programs, “Let’s Read a Picture” for youths and “Art Views” for adults, revolve around images of Crystal Bridges’ permanent collection. Participants share their point of view about the artwork through interactive participation techniques. Special displays of library resources demonstrate connections between literature and art.

In September 2008, library and museum staff presented an educators’ workshop, providing attendees six hours of continuing education credits from the Arkansas Department of Education. “ABC: Art + Books = Literacy” featured Wendell Minor, an award-winning illustrator of children’s books and classic works. Students from the Northwest Arkansas Community College demonstrated “tableaux vivant,” a dramatic method illustrating Mr. Minor’s book Yankee Doodle Ameri-ca.

### BPL & The Children’s Museum

Bentonville Library partnered with the Children’s Museum of Northwest Arkansas to provide a fun-filled day of family-friendly activities at the library. “Rexy’s Jurassic Party” events centered on the library’s half-size dinosaurus replica.

An exciting day, 80 volunteers worked several events: “Reading Rocks” storytimes with guest readers, Cave Art, Fossil Finds, DinoRama Sand Stories, Cap-o-Saurus Puppet-Making Project, Ancient Artifacts and Dino Drama with Tricycle Theater for Youth. Our community was enthusiastic about these free events, with more than 600 kids and parents participating.

### From the Library Director

Bentonville Library has come a long way in three short years. Usage statistics for 2006, 2007 and 2008 demonstrate the library’s growing significance in our community. Our 2008 successes are a culmination of many efforts over the last few years. From an outdated, cramped space located in the Historic Massey Hotel to a modern 38,000 square foot facility, the library has not only adapted to our community’s needs, but has become a central focal point for community activities, meetings and services.

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2009 promises to be even better at Bentonville Public Library. Many fun and educational youth and adult programs are being planned by library staff. 2009 Library goals include:

- Striving to meet the changing needs of our technologically-savvy users by providing access to downloadable e-audios, a new electronic collection.
- Beginning Inter-Library Loan (ILL) services for library customers.
- Developing a strategic plan for the library, implementing user-surveys or focus groups along with input from the Library Advisory Board, Friends of the Library, the Library Foundation and the City of Bentonville.

I want to take a moment to thank the entire library staff. As our community grows, so do our services.

Sincerely, Hadi S. Dudley

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**Library Program Attendance**

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