

Solomon Wright Public Library  
**Director's Report**  
August / September 2023

Total Attendance  
August: 204  
September: 120

**Sep 27, 2023**

**Summary:**

1. The Solomon Wright Public Library achieved a significant goal this month as it gained funding for participation in the Vermont State Department of Libraries' interlibrary loan courier system. The VT Dept Libraries' funding comes to \$650.00, and will cover about half the cost of each week's courier pick-up. We are making rapid progress toward setting up workflows that will have us ready to begin using the courier system on the first day pickup is available to us; October 6th. Special thanks to Trustee Richard Williams for taking me into the Bennington Free Library's system to show me how their impressive ILL courier operation works there.
2. Another significant accomplishment made since our last Board meeting is that I added Palace to our offerings. Palace is a new e-book and audiobook platform that the VT Dept Libraries has introduced and made available to VT libraries. It's an app that users can download to their device – tablet, mobile phone, etc – that makes available over 20,000 items that are not available via our current electronic media delivery service, Overdrive. The link is on our site currently, and over the next several weeks, I will begin an awareness-raising campaign via social media and word-of-mouth. This was a long-gestating process, and will greatly expand what our patrons can access through the SWPL.
3. David Dubov-Flinn, our newest volunteer, jumped right in as our social media coordinator. As the current social media head for the Blue Benn Diner, among some other entities, David is tech-savvy and experienced with social media. With David's help, we have posted to Facebook and Instagram more than once a week over the last six weeks, documenting new books we've purchased, highlighting Staff Picks, the Monday morning playgroup, the Summer Reading List raffle drawing, and more. We have also begun replying to patron queries about library services, which will go a long way toward building engagement.
4. The SWPL published three notices in Front Porch Forum from August 16th through September 8th, regarding the Sunrise PRC playgroup and the Summer Reading Program.
5. I made several changes to the website. I modified schedule and wording for quilting group, and book club; added our social media links; added a "Find a Book" link; made the header smaller so that services and useful links are closer to the top; made the donation QR code easier to find; added Board meeting agendas and meeting minutes to

the “Board Agendas & Minutes” section. These improvements preceded the addition of links to the Palace app to the site.

6. Since the last Board meeting, we have received 5 new book suggestions via the form on the SWPL website.
7. I used shelves that had previously held DVDs, and created two new displays there; one drawing attention to works by local authors, and another for canonical graphic novels.
8. We created displays for two new Staff Picks; one from volunteer Juie Mackaman and another from Pownal Elementary principal Bethany Lorge (our Local Celebrity Pick). Promotion for both selections went out on Facebook and Instagram.
9. We participated in Interlibrary Loans with six local libraries, loaning five books.
10. Mary set up Susan Regen’s photography show; a reception for Regen is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th.
11. We held a Thank You Luncheon for the volunteers on September 1st, attended by all but two of the volunteers, and many trustees as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Director  
Solomon Wright Public Library  
Damien McCaffery