

Lonesome Pine Regional Library

APRIL-JUNE 2008

LIBRARY UPDATE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

Why Libraries Matter...

America's public libraries are thriving, busy places. In fact, public library branches outnumber MacDonald's restaurants with approximately 16,500 outlets nationwide. Libraries are also a valued destination in the United States. Did you know that five times more people visit U.S. public libraries each year than attend U.S. professional and college football, basketball, baseball and hockey games combined?

People visit libraries for many reasons. They come in to use community meeting spaces. They enjoy the computers and the high-speed Internet access. Many rely on library computers to create resumes, find jobs, use online government services, attend online classes, and research health and other information. They attend the many free and accessible programs offered at libraries. Reading programs are available for children. Adults enjoy a variety of programs customized to community interests. Libraries provide safe, nurturing places for homework and enrichment for school age and home-schooled children. They provide social interaction for seniors as well as resources for lifelong education. Libraries do all of this and much more.

Although libraries aren't just books, the biggest thing public libraries do is still to lend books. Each day, libraries in the United

States circulate about the same number of items as FedEx ships per day (more than 5.3 million items per day). The Lonesome Pine Regional libraries move approximately 4,500 items each day to and from community households. And that doesn't even count the resources that are being used inside each library on a daily basis. Our local libraries provide books, large-print books, e-books, audio books, reference materials, magazines, newspapers, movies, and music among the many resources. Services are provided including faxes and photocopies. A significant and growing amount of library usage is now virtual through the library's webpage with users searching the library catalog and reserving materials, browsing electronic books provided for both children and adults, using the quality informational databases provided through Find It Virginia, as well as searching the census, local history, and genealogy resources that are provided.

Libraries are here for everyone. "Free to the people" is as relevant today as it was when our nation was founded. America's libraries value the individual, nourish creativity, offer sanctuary, preserve the past, and promote communities. Everyone is welcome. That's why we're here.

(Statistics courtesy of the American Library Association and Libraries: How They Stack Up published by OCLC)

Trustee Spotlight — Larry D. Yates

We are pleased to feature Larry D. Yates, a long-term Trustee, who was appointed to the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board in November 2001. He was elected Treasurer of the Library Board in July 2002 and remained in that office until July 2007 when he was elected as Board Chair.

Mr. Yates has been very instrumental in the Haysi Community Library relocation project and continues to be involved in many other community and library related projects.

A lifelong resident of Haysi, Virginia in Dickenson County, Larry is married and has two children and four grandchildren. His hobbies include gardening, farming, and caring for his pets and farm animals. He also enjoys performing public service work and helping out in the community.

Reading, of course, is one of Larry's passions. His all-time favorite author is Edward Abbey, but he has a wide repertoire of beloved authors, such as, Ken Follet; Robert Ludlum; Larry McMurry; Martin Cruz Smith; James Lee Burke; Ian Rankin; and Robert Parker. Larry also enjoys reading British Crime Writers and authors who have received Bram Stoker Awards and Edgar Awards. Thank you, Larry, for supporting our communities and libraries!



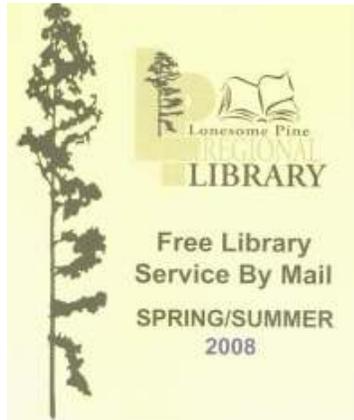
*Library Board Chairman,
Larry D. Yates*

Start Here—Go Anywhere!



Mailbox Library Enjoys Serving You!

The Mailbox Library, the largest in Virginia, provides a unique free service. From its opening in 1978, the Mailbox Library staff has enjoyed mailing library materials to community members. Many people find the Mailbox Library services very convenient. Just a few folks who enjoy the service include, stay-at-home mothers; the homebound; business travelers; and those who live in outlying areas. A resident of the western end of Scott County explains how the Mailbox Library benefits an entire family, "...we are approximately thirty minutes from either the Gate City or Big Stone Gap libraries...we have found it difficult to visit these facilities frequently. Thankfully the services of the mailbox library have allowed us to conveniently have access to many of the same benefits."



In addition to many types of paperback books, the Mailbox Library collection includes audio books, CDs, large print books, and craft pamphlets. One busy reader writes, "When my children were younger, they would eagerly await the mail delivery to see what new books were arriving. And I readily confess I am addicted to books on tape, and most recently, books on CDs. My job involves traveling, and when faced with yet another trip to Richmond, or beyond, the mailbox library staff has frequently ensured that I had enough books to take with me to make my road trip much more pleasant."

The Mailbox Library is nearing a new milestone with the 60th printing of its catalog, the Spring/Summer 2008 edition. For information, call 276-328-4806 or email mailboxlib@lprlibrary.org.

A Huge Success—The Big Read and The Maltese



High School Student Art



Roaring '20s Party



Is this Sam? And, who are his lady friends??



Or, Is this the real Sam Spade??



UVA-Wise Student Falcon Sculptures



Student Re-enactment



Random Acts at Hotel Norton—Mystery Theatre



Mysterious Musicians



John Hayes, NEA official and his guest enjoy the mystery dinner theatre!



The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest.

Lonesome Pine Regional Library & Books-by-Mail
124 Library Road, SW
Wise, Virginia
276-328-8325

Serving Wise County & City of Norton:
Wise County Public Library, Wise
C. Bascom Slemper Memorial Library, Big Stone Gap
Coeburn Community Library, Coeburn
J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library, St. Paul

Serving Dickenson County:
Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library, Clintwood
Haysi Public Library, Haysi

Serving Lee County:
Lee County Public Library, Pennington Gap
Rose Hill Community Library, Rose Hill

Serving Scott County
Scott County Public Library, Gate City

