

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Lonesome Pine Regional Library



Start Here - - Go Anywhere

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our Summer Reading Program theme for last year was “All Together Now.” The Lonesome Pine Regional Library staff held this theme near and dear throughout the year. The staff came together to work through many changes and challenges the year brought. The most noticeable change was the retirement of the longtime director Julie Short. Ms. Short was a member and leader of the library staff for the past three decades. Her absence was felt not only by the system; it was felt throughout our communities.

Our Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library in Clintwood suffered significant flood damage from the heavy rains in August. The County Administrator and the community came together to help with the cleanup and library staff worked to have materials available for patrons using a locker system on the front porch. The Rapha Foundation’s generous support helped the library reopen in a seven-week time frame. Executive Director Mark Vanover conveyed the Foundation wanted to “ensure that neither the library system nor the county would suffer any financial loss due to the flood event.”

The library system also had a couple of manager and staff retirements during the year. The staff not only conquered these events, they created a remarkable year of accomplishments and meaningful impact for our communities. They strived to excellence by providing existing and new services for the community.

Next year’s Summer Reading theme is “Adventure Begins at Your Library.” I am excited to begin my new adventure leading the Lonesome Pine Regional Library system into a new year. I hope you will visit the library in the coming year to be a part of the Library’s new adventures. Thank you each and all for your support and remember you can Start here -- go anywhere.

Sincerely

Shannon Steffey



OUR BEGINNINGS

The birth of library service in our region began in 1957 when the City of Norton and the County of Wise joined together to apply to the Library of Virginia to operate a trial demonstration library. The demand and use of this first library was greater than any had anticipated resulting in the State Library evaluating the demonstration as the “most successful Demonstration to date.” The Board of Supervisors of Wise County and City Council of Norton agreed with the recommendation that resulted from the trial and accepted the responsibility for the operation of the library. Thus in July 1960, the Wise County Demonstration Library became the Wise County Public Library. Dickenson County joined with the Wise County Public Library in 1964 to create the Lonesome Pine Regional Library. This partnership made the Lonesome Pine Regional Library the third largest library system in the state at that time. Lee County joined the system in 1967 and Scott County in 1972. Today, the library is the second largest geographical library system in the state.



ABOUT US

MISSION

Lonesome Pine Regional Library will be the cornerstone of the region where children and adults can experience personal enrichment and connection with one another as we:

- Promote the love of reading
- Excel at providing resources to customers of all ages.
- Create welcoming spaces for our community.

VISION

Lonesome Pine Regional Library is the best place to discover, to learn to imagine, to smile.

MOTTO

Start Here - - Go Anywhere

VALUES

We value the highest standards of excellence in everything we do:

Provide superior customer service.

Offer and advocate access for all.

Act with initiative, creativity, and flexibility.

Work together, with enthusiasm and optimism, to reach goals.

Create learning opportunities for professional and personal development.

Celebrate diverse opinions and ideas.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lu Ellsworth- Chair	Wise County
Jennifer Meade- Vice Chair/Secretary	Scott County
Roberta Smallwood- Treasurer	Lee County
Chris Allgyer	Wise County
Ethel Daniels	City of Norton
Martha Jett	Wise County
Earlene Lester	Wise County
Carolea Newsome	Dickenson County
Sheila Phipps	Dickenson County
Rebecca Scott	Scott County
Tammy Scott	Lee County

DIRECTOR & MANAGERS

Regional Director	Shannon Steffey
Wise Branch Manager	Hazel Jessee
Big Stone Gap Branch Manager	Dakota Mullins
Coeburn & St. Paul Branch Manager	Emily Williams
Clintwood & Haysi Branch Manager	Kimberley Rose
Pennington Gap & Rose Hill Branch Manager	Audrey Evans
Gate City Branch Manager	Stephanie Griffin
Regional Technical Services Manager	Nancy Sowards
Regional Business Manager	Onedah Stanley
Regional Technology Coordinator	Jennifer Hall
Regional Administrative Assistant	Debbie Yates

2022-2023 Community Report



261,734
ITEMS CHECKED OUT



152,792
VISITORS TO LIBRARY

CARDHOLDERS

33,064
TOTAL



ITEMS IN COLLECTION
511,246



33,793
PUBLIC COMPUTER
SESSIONS



640,831
WEBSITE VIEWS



EVENTS & CLASSES: **2,261**

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: **40,151**



172,060

LIBRARY CATALOG VISITS



19,500

HOURS OPEN



260

JOB ASSISTANCE ONLINE

REFERENCE
QUESTIONS
ANSWERED



14,642

MEETING ROOMS
USED BY GROUPS



109



3,209
COVID TEST KITS
GIVEN OUT

Community Learning

Baby Sprouts
Little Pines
Trailblazers
Trailblazers Home School
Summer Reading
1,000 Things before Kindergarten
Local Schools Outreach
Back to School Bashes
Literacy Family Nights
Read Across America
Community Reader Days
UVA Wise Activities Fair and Bash
Adult and Young Adult Book Clubs
Adult and Family Night Crafting
Research Databases
Online Learning Databases
Genealogy Databases



Our early literacy programs include Baby Sprouts and Little Pines and are designed to introduce infants, toddlers, and parents to the early world of learning. For school age learners, children continue their learning adventures in our Trailblazers after-school programs. Our Summer Reading Program encourages children and adults to read throughout the summer. The library provides exceptional reference service, assistance with online job searches, and genealogy research quests. Last year we answered 14,642 reference questions and registered 640,831 web page visits. Fostering an atmosphere of learning for all ages is essential to our library and communities.

Community Happenings

Local Fairs and Festivals
Senior Centers Visits
Nursing Home and Assisted Living Visits
Gingerbread Contest
Parades
School and College Visits
EduCare Visits
Local Business Visits
Pop-Up Library
Spinning the Yarn Mini-Festival
Community Christmas
Friends of the Library Groups
John Fox Jr. Literacy Festival
Farmers Markets
Cooks and Books Annual Fundraiser
National Library Week Events
Children's Book Week Activities
Family Bingo Nights
Family Movie Nights



Lonesome Pine Regional Library serves 101,922 people across our four counties of Wise, Dickenson, Lee and Scott and the City of Norton. The year brought 40,151 visitors to our 2,261 programs. Community groups used our meeting rooms 109 times. Along with our in-library programs, the library staff also goes out into the communities we serve. The outreach programs listed give us the opportunity to make meaningful impacts that enrich the communities we serve.

Community Partnerships

Library of Virginia
Friends of the Library Groups
Regional Adult and Career Education
Virginia Department of Health
Wise and Dickenson County Historical Society
Local State Parks
UVA Wise and MECC
City of Norton
Towns of Wise, Big Stone Gap, Coeburn, St. Paul, Haysi, Clincho, Clintwood, Pennington Gap and Gate City
Counties of Wise, Dickenson, Lee, and Scott
Local Businesses
Local Schools
Local Head Starts and Preschools
Local Fire and Police Departments
Lonesome Pine Office on Youth
Appalachian Sustainable Development and Feeding Southwest Virginia
Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens
Local Kiwanis Clubs
Dickenson Center for Education and Research
Local fairs and festival committees
Pioneer Art League of Dickenson County
Girl Scouts
Lee County Senior TRIAD
DAR
Women's Clubs
Girls Who Code
Hope House
Appalachian Community Action Development
Garden Clubs



Partnerships provide the library with opportunities to advance the common goals of each organization and help to provide better services to all. Local service organizations are wonderful resources for our library patrons. The children love to visit local fire departments and pumpkin patches in the Fall. Local businesses and partnership groups help us expand our capabilities and allow us to provide enhanced services.

Community Grants

Ralpa Foundation Favorite Friends and Clintwood Flood Recovery	\$46,000
IMLS Training Grant	\$10,373
Lee County Community Foundation	\$2,635
Phipps Foundation	\$1,000
LVA-ARPA Grant	\$54,000
Gibbs Grant	\$3,000
Teddie's Treasures	\$800



Finances

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME	AMOUNT
Local Government Funds	\$1,618,347
Contributed Services	\$67,067
Library Branch Income	\$66,667
State Aid Funds	\$527,205
Interest	\$62,779
Gifts & Donations	\$6,335
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$51,192
Miscellaneous	\$13,166
Grants	\$117,808
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,530,566

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Salaries	\$1,199,926
Employee Benefits	\$412,851
Building Maintenance & Utilities	\$208,782
Library Materials	\$149,938
Internet Connectivity	\$66,028
Shelving, Furniture & Equipment	\$106,867
Equipment Maintenance	\$89,768
Postage & Supplies	\$53,193
Auto & Travel Expense	\$7,211
Grant Expense	\$106,870
Programming	\$37,793
Miscellaneous	\$9,334
Insurance & Contracted Service	\$69,401
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,517,962

RESTRICTED FUNDS & ENDOWMENTS

Luther F. & Lou Emma Addington Fund Wise County Public Library	\$75,695
Wise County Public Library Improvement Fund	\$12,441
Howard & Hattie Cummings Endowment Fund C. Bascom Slep Memorial Library	\$18,981
Nelle T. Phillips Estate Fund C. Bascom Slep Memorial Library	\$1,179,758
C. Bascom Slep Memorial Library Improvement Fund	\$577
Coeburn Community Library Improvement Fund	\$1,584
J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library Improvement Fund	\$20,131
Lee County Public Library Improvement Fund	\$349
Haysi Community Library Improvement Fund	\$35
Regional Compensated Absence Fund	\$26,854
Regional Van Replacement Fund	\$37,907
Total	\$1,374,312

Appendix

COLLECTION HOLDINGS AND ELECTRONIC HOLDINGS

FORMAT	WISE	DICKENSON	LEE	SCOTT	MAILBOX	TOTAL
Adult Books	154,758	46,321	31,477	36,436	0	268,812
Juvenile Books	57,676	19,025	18,941	16,291	0	111,933
Paperback Books	32,972	11,516	3,795	8,459	20,814	77,556
Total Books	245,226	76,862	54,213	61,186	20,814	458,301
Total Audio Books	4,318	2,115	1,251	1,825	2,112	11,621
Total Music	4,238	1,249	697	1,046	3,567	10,797
Total Video	11,124	4,888	2,177	3,039	0	21,228
Total Other	371	123	43	126	0	663
	Other includes Chromebooks, Laptops, iPads, Hotspots, CD-Rom, Microfilm, Newspapers, Paintings, & Sculpture					
Total Holdings	265,277	85,237	58,381	67,222	26,493	502,610
Volumes Added	6,192	3,697	1,555	2,057	188	13,689
Electronic Holdings						
Books						3,060
Audiobooks						576
Magazines						5,000
Total						8,636

LIBRARY MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

Location	Total
Wise	58,757
Big Stone Gap	31,853
Coeburn	32,624
St. Paul	17,935
Total Wise County	141,169
Clintwood	21,797
Haysi	18,907
Total Dickenson County	40,704
Pennington Gap	24,140
Rose Hill	6,186
Total Lee County	30,326
Gate City	31,138
Total Scott County	31,138
County Totals	243,337
Mailbox	2,100
eMaterials	16,297
Total	261,734

WISE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

124 Library Road SW Wise, VA 24293

PHONE: (276) 328-8061

EMAIL: wcplib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	49.50
Square Footage	25,274
Visitors	30,114
Public Computer Workstations	13
Public Computer Sessions	8,953
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	323
Number of Adult Programs	92
Program Attendance	11,100
Items Checked Out	58,757
Items Added	2,704



“We were so excited to see such an increase in attendance for our Summer Reading Programs this year! We have really focused on getting patrons back into the library after COVID and are now seeing that happen.”

**Hazel Jessee
Branch Manager**

C. BASCOM SLEMP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1 Proctor Street N Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

PHONE: (276) 523-1334

EMAIL: cbslib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	46.50
Square Footage	10,081
Visitors	19,960
Public Computer Workstations	11
Public Computer Sessions	7,227
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	214
Number of Adult Programs	33
Program Attendance	4,077
Items Checked Out	31,853
Items Added	1,438



“The C. Bascom Slemple Memorial Library strives to be an active participant in community events within the Big Stone Gap area. Most notably, we have participated in the ‘Festival of Trees’ and ‘Greenbelt in Lights’. We are excited to be in the planning stages for a Pop-Up Library with a musical component to share at our local events.”

Dakota Mullins
Branch Manager

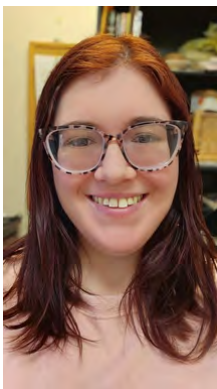
COEBURN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

111 Third Street Coeburn, VA 24230

PHONE: (276) 395-6152

EMAIL: ccllib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	38
Square Footage	8,760
Visitors	15,488
Public Computer Workstations	7
Public Computer Sessions	4,314
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	212
Number of Adult Programs	44
Program Attendance	3,515
Items Checked Out	32,624
Items Added	1,049



“As the manager of Coeburn Community Library and J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library, every day is a new adventure. For the past year or so, Coeburn has worked with the local nursing homes in the area by visiting and giving out holiday cards. These cards are hand made by our Baby Sprouts, Little Pines, and Trailblazers. This brings excitement to both the elderly and the children.”

Emily Williams
Branch Manager

J. FRED MATTHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

16552 Wise Street St. Paul, VA 24283

PHONE: (276) 762-9702

EMAIL: spbib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	34
Square Footage	5,212
Visitors	10,408
Public Computer Workstations	6
Public Computer Sessions	1,428
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	161
Number of Adult Programs	54
Program Attendance	3,057
Items Checked Out	17,935
Items Added	1,001



“Every year at the J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library, with the help of the Friends of the Library and the Lyric Theater, we have held a “Cooks and Books” fundraiser which gathers businesses and authors from all over the county to enjoy books and local foods. Everyone has a great time and leaves with great books from local authors and a stomach full of good food.”

Emily Williams
Branch Manager

JONNIE B. DEEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

198 Chase Street Clintwood, VA 24228

PHONE: (276) 926-6617

EMAIL: jbdlib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	46.50
Square Footage	11,039
Visitors	18,359
Public Computer Workstations	10
Public Computer Sessions	1,510
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	172
Number of Adult Programs	79
Program Attendance	4,020
Items Checked Out	21,797
Items Added	2,171



“The Little Pine Learners and their caregivers took a field trip in October to Camp Jacob, where they were treated to some traditional fall activities. They took a hay ride, walked through a corn maze, and played some outdoor games. The day provided a great opportunity to expand our preschool programs beyond the classroom.”

Kim Rose
Branch Manager

HAYSI COMMUNITY LIBRARY

157 O'Quinn Street Haysi, VA 24219

PHONE: (276) 865-4851

EMAIL: hplib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	46.50
Square Footage	3,200
Visitors	13,016
Public Computer Workstations	6
Public Computer Sessions	1,045
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	266
Number of Adult Programs	73
Program Attendance	4,494
Items Checked Out	18,907
Items Added	1,526



“To celebrate the holiday season, the library hosted its first annual Gingerbread House contest. The public was invited to participate in the contest and local community leaders served as judges. The Grand Prize winner received a trophy and bragging rights. All the entries were put on display for a couple of weeks and our visitors really enjoyed admiring them.”

Kim Rose
Branch Manager

LEE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

539 Joslyn Avenue Pennington Gap, VA 24277

PHONE: (276) 546-1141

EMAIL: lcplib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	49.50
Square Footage	9,981
Visitors	22,306
Public Computer Workstations	10
Public Computer Sessions	4,036
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	169
Number of Adult Programs	22
Program Attendance	4,314
Items Checked Out	24,140
Items Added	1,359



“The phrase “Teamwork Makes the Dream Work” comes to mind when I think of how our libraries function thanks to the cooperative efforts of so many within our communities. We could not do what we do without our local Board of Supervisors and County Administrator, the Town of Pennington, our school system, local civic groups, and above all, our patrons. All of these come together to enable our libraries to be an active part of our communities

whether we are providing access to our public computers and wireless services, conducting an outreach at a local school, hosting an adult craft program, providing free meeting space for educational or civic endeavors, or putting just the right book in the hands of a patron.”

**Audrey Evans
Branch Manager**

ROSE HILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

6463 Dr. Thomas Walker Road Rose Hill, VA 24281

PHONE: (276) 445-5329

EMAIL: rhplib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	12
Square Footage	1,700
Visitors	1,152
Public Computer Workstations	9
Public Computer Sessions	1,765
Items Checked Out	6,186
Items Added	196



“The Rose Hill Community Library is just what its name says it is - a community library. This branch is strategically located in the western part of Lee County and strives to meet the needs of a community that might otherwise have to seek services from libraries located miles away. From its humble beginning to its current operating site, it has become a library in which community members and stakeholders alike can take pride.”

Audrey Evans
Branch Manager

SCOTT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

297 West Jackson Street Gate City, VA 24251

PHONE: (276) 386-3302

EMAIL: scplib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	49.50
Square Footage	7,502
Visitors	21,989
Public Computer Workstations	9
Public Computer Sessions	3,515
Number of Children's/Teen Programs	265
Number of Adult Programs	57
Program Attendance	5,496
Items Checked Out	31,138
Items Added	2,057



“Scott County Public Library hosted its first Spinning the Yarn Mini-Festival which combined author talks, musicians, and the installation of the outdoor yarn bombing. The Festival was a wonderful way to introduce fiber art into the community while enticing visitors to experience the works of local authors.”

Stephanie Griffin
Branch Manager

MAILBOX LIBRARY

124 Library Road SW Wise, VA 24293

PHONE: (276) 328-4806

EMAIL: mailboxlib@lprlibrary.org

Public Service Hours per Week	20
Total Items	26,493
Items Added	188
Items Checked Out	2,100
Interlibrary Loans Loaned To Other Libraries	216
Interlibrary Loans Borrowed From Other Libraries	31



“We are pleased to offer a free library service by mail to our homebound patrons. They become an extension of friends. We receive cards, notes and calls expressing their appreciation for this service. It is as rewarding for me as the patrons we serve. The excitement of reading a new book and the anticipation of getting a package in the mail never gets old. It provides a nice distraction for someone who has to stay close to home.”

Debbie Yates
Mailbox Coordinator
Administrative Assistant

*alone we can
do so little;
together
we can do
so much*

- Helen Keller

The Library staff and I would like to extend a sincere and heart felt THANK YOU for your support.

Shannon Steffey
Director

