

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
November 18, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, November 18, 2010, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Sharon A. Thomas, Chair
Frank Gist, Secretary
Sheldon M. Berlow, Treasurer
Phyllis A. Horton
Anne M. Leary
Rick Lewis
Hormoz Mansouri
Elaine M. Panty
Judith K. Summer
Wayne D. Wisbaum

Rebecca L. Pordum, Trustee Emeritus

Absent:

Amy Alvarez-Perez
Richard L. Berger
Jack Connors
Albert L. Michaels
John G. Schmidt, Jr.

Chair Sharon A. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room.

Agenda Item B - Agenda/Changes to the Agenda. Ms. Thomas informed trustees the agenda required an amendment to add Executive Session after New Business for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Ms. Panty moved and was seconded by Ms. Horton. Approval was unanimous.

Agenda Item C - Minutes of the Meeting of October 21, 2010. On motion by Ms. Panty, seconded by Ms. Horton, the October Minutes were approved as mailed.

Agenda Item D – Report of the Chair. Ms. Thomas reported attending the ACT (Association of Contracting Library Trustees) meeting on November 6th at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library at which time Ms. Quinn-Carey addressed the particulars of the 2011 budget cycle facing the Library. At that meeting, Ms. Thomas made a point of reiterating this is a System issue, not the city versus the suburban libraries.

Ms. Thomas announced the Library has a new Board member, Dr. Amy Alvarez-Perez; she was not in attendance. A copy of her resume was distributed to trustees at the start of the meeting.

Agenda Item E – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 – Executive Committee. In the absence of Vice Chair Connors, Ms. Panty read the following report of the November 10th Executive Committee meeting. Present were Sharon Thomas, Jack Connors, Anne Leary, Sheldon Berlow, Elaine Panty, Judy Summer, Mary Jean Jakubowski, Ken Stone, and Bridget Quinn-Carey.

Chair Sharon Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.

Ms. Quinn-Carey provided an overview of the 2011 budget process. There was discussion regarding the Legislature’s Budget and Finance Committee meeting held earlier in the day. The senior library staff was invited to attend the meeting late the previous week and to bring information about service levels at various restored funding levels. Ms. Quinn-Carey presented four restoration scenarios (\$1 Million - \$4 Million) to the Committee as requested. Copies of the scenarios were presented, and were sent to the Board of Trustees.

She reminded the Executive Committee that the Public Hearing on the budget commenced at 5 p.m. that afternoon at Old County Hall. She planned to attend, along with Ken Stone and Stanton Hudson.

Ms. Quinn-Carey gave a report on her recent discussions with the Regional Institute and attorney Ellen Bach. It was agreed that the process for reviewing governance and funding options needed to proceed expeditiously.

The Committee reviewed the agenda for the November Board meeting.

There was no other business to come before the Executive Committee and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – Authorization for Director to Approve Transfers in Excess of \$5,000 through 2010 Year End. Mr. Stone commented this is a routine annual item. Ms. Panty moved for approval and was seconded by Mr. Gist, whereupon approval was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2010-38

WHEREAS, the 2010 year-end closing process is approaching and involves finalizing encumbrances (or commitments to spend budgeted funds), and

WHEREAS, the delay between payment of telecommunications related expenses and receipt of E-rate discount reimbursements for those expenses can cause the need to transfer funds temporarily between budget accounts as the available balances in the E-rate supported accounts towards the end of the fiscal year are too low to accommodate the delay, and

WHEREAS, some costs, such as termination payouts for retiring employees, will impact other accounts including the System salary and fringe accounts and individual contracting library salary and fringe benefit accounts, requiring transfers, and in the case of contracting libraries, contract budget amendments, be processed quickly to ensure payroll expenses can be met on a timely basis, and

WHEREAS, it may be in the Library's interest to encumber items that may require budget transfers in excess of \$5,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library authorizes the Library Director, with the approval of the Board Chair or the Budget and Finance Committee Chair, to approve transfers within the budget impacting objects of expenditure in excess of \$5,000 for the purposes of making year-end encumbrances and/or expenditures as stated above, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board Chair is authorized to execute contract library contract budget amendments needed to implement transfers needed to address library termination payout costs, and be it further

RESOLVED, that any such transfers be incorporated into the monthly financial statements submitted to the full Board prior to the close of the fiscal year, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library authorizes the Library Director to approve temporary transfers within the budget impacting objects of expenditure in excess of \$5,000 for the

purposes of accommodating the delay between payment of telecommunications-related expenses and receipt of E-rate discount reimbursements for those expenses, with said transfers being reversed upon receipt of the E-rate reimbursement.

Agenda Item E.2.b – Authorize Funding for Study of Governance and Funding Options conducted by UB Regional Institute. Mr. Stone pointed out this was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting with recommendation to authorize the use of private funds to cover the cost of the project and ensure it begins on a timely basis. He noted there is a reasonable expectation that some additional private grant funding may be obtainable to offset the cost. Ms. Leary moved, Ms. Panty seconded, and approval was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2010-39

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2010, the Executive Committee of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library adopted Resolution 2010-36 which authorized entering into an agreement with the University of Buffalo Regional Institute to assess alternative organization models for the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System, and

WHEREAS, to aid the Library's efforts to solicit private foundation support for the cost of this assessment, a commitment to fund the work to the extent needed would be beneficial as it would assure potential funders that the study will proceed, and

WHEREAS, sufficient funding is available for the \$59,807 cost of this work within the Library's private funds, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board approves the use of Library private funds to fund the cost of this study if needed.

Agenda Item E.2.c – Monthly Financial Report. The monthly financial report for the period ending September 30, 2010 was presented for information.

Agenda Item E.3 – Development Committee. The Committee convened on November 10th at the Central Library. Ms. Leary, Committee Chair, thanked trustees for providing names for the year-end appeal. She reminded trustees if they had not done so already, to submit 10 names at the end of the meeting to help build a fundraising list for the year-end appeal. The Committee is in the process of planning the B&ECPL's 175th Anniversary with a fundraising goal in mind. Both she and Ms. Quinn-Carey met with Stan Lipsey of the *Buffalo News* who will take a role in helping the Library with development. Recommended by Mr. Lipsey, a future meeting is being planned with the Oishei Foundation to discuss planning and development efforts. The Committee is beginning to look at corporate funding as well.

Trustee Gist inquired if there had been any movement for online donations to be included on the Library's website. Ms. Quinn-Carey noted this will be done as soon as the Library possibly can.

Ms. Summer shared with trustees information about a project she is working on to get 175 autographed items (books, maps, CD's, etc.) donated to the Library to be put on an online auction. She asked trustees to provide her with any contact names and addresses for possible leads for donations and she would contact them.

Mr. Lewis asked if the Library was looking into putting a link to the Library website on other websites around the area. Ms. Leary answered yes.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. Ms. Quinn-Carey began her report noting the biggest issue in front of the Library at this time is the 2011 budget and, although there is no day that doesn't deal with this in some capacity, we are in a hold position until we hear from the Legislature on their plans. She updated trustees the Library is in regular contact with the Legislature and both she and Mr. Stone attended the Republican caucus and answered questions, clarified issues as well as provide them with facts and information about library funding and services; this was very well received. She reported the message from the Republican caucus is the Library is the primary issue for them this year; whether or not they have the capacity to do anything is another question. They are working in a bipartisan fashion as well as with the County Executive to try to find a solution for the Library; whether it is a one-time allocation or a recurring operational item, this is not known. The Legislature was assured that whatever came to the Library would be used to help supplement services across the System. She has been in contact with Legislator Thomas Loughran as well who is a vocal supporter of libraries. The schedule of updated, upcoming dates for next Legislative sessions and budget happenings was sent to trustees.

Ms. Quinn-Carey provided an update on recent Library events as well as highlights from the Director's report sent to trustees prior to the Board meeting. She commended staff for the great job done on the *Big Read*. She recognized Deputy Director Mary Jean Jakubowski who is the new President of the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC).

Trustee Wisbaum arrived at approximately 4:17 p.m.

Ms. Quinn-Carey invited trustees to see the Library's 2 new exhibits, the Kelmscott Press and the BPO's 75th Anniversary, as well as visit the Educational Opportunity Center's Family Literacy Night taking place at the Ring of Knowledge after the Board meeting.

In closing, Ms. Quinn-Carey thanked the Development Office staff as well as the Board for their hard work on the Library's Annual Appeal.

The following was submitted by the Director and transmitted to Board members prior to the meeting:

Report of the Director November 18, 2010

Goal 1:

Ensure that every Library in the System is a key destination for exciting and enriching programs and events

October was *Big Read* month! Over 200 events were held throughout the Library System starting at the end of September and extending into November. The premiere event was a visit from noted author Max Brooks for *Comics Fest 2010* held on Saturday, October 23rd. Since horror was one of the atmospheric themes of this year's *Big Read* featuring Edgar Allan Poe, Max Brooks' zombie themed titles were especially topical. The author presentation was a hilarious, laugh-out-loud seminar on zombie survival techniques. Max Brooks was surprised and gratified by the response to his presentation. Fans stood in line for an hour to have his books signed. The zombie craze is the next big thing after the *Twilight* inspired vampire mania, and Buffalo & Erie County Public Library was ahead of the cultural curve! *Comics Fest* also boasted a very well received performance by North Ridge Academy Star Wars re-enactors which included a light saber demonstration. North Ridge "cast members" circulated throughout the Central Library as Star Wars characters, to the obvious delight of our younger patrons. Props included a life-sized R2D2 remote controlled robot. Over 700 people attended the daylong festivities, with over 500 turning out for Max Brooks.

Other *Big Read* programs of note this month were a lunchtime program *Haunted Western New York* featuring local haunting expert Mason Winfield; keynote *Big Read* Edgar Allan Poe in Pop Culture panel discussion moderated by noted local author Gary Earl Ross; POE-etry Jam Coffee House presented in collaboration with Just Buffalo Literary Center; and Fringe Science with Center for Inquiry professor Brahm Segal. Younger *Little* and *Littlest Readers* enjoyed performances by Spin-a-Story Tellers Sharon Holley and Karima Amin, as well as *Spooktacular Science* programs provided by the Buffalo Science Museum, gaming and activity programs and very popular Hawk Creek Wildlife Center presentations featuring live birds of prey. Also popular for patrons of all ages were special presentations of the *Simpson's Treehouse of Horror* episodes featuring Bart Simpson in *The Raven*. Over 190 Edgar Allan Poe programs were scheduled to be held during the 2010 *Big Read* which wrap up on November 13th. Both the Children's and Adult Programming and Outreach Teams did an outstanding job of planning and conducting the programs that went into this year's *Big Read*.

The Development & Communications Office coordinated all aspects of the national traveling exhibit *Katyn*, including setup and dismantling of the 48-panel presentation, all promotional/publicity initiatives, the opening reception, and showing of the film *Katyn*.

As part of the Library System's ongoing partnership with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) and its 75th Anniversary Season, the Development & Communications Office coordinated all logistics, technology needs, and promotion/publicity activities associated with *BPOventions @ the Libraries*, a music appreciation series linked to upcoming BPO concerts (Central, Audubon, and Orchard Park).

The Development & Communications Office coordinated the planning, copywriting, display coordination, panelist selection and preparations, and promotion/publicity for the October 21st program *PastForward (Public Funding for the Arts during the Great Depression and Today)* funded by the New York Council on the Humanities.

In collaboration with Just Buffalo Literary Center, the Development & Communications Office created promotional materials and a library patron discount offer in conjunction with the 2010-11 Babel Series.

The Development & Communications Office supported the planning and promotion of a variety of programs/activities during the month of October, including: New York Library Association (NYLA) reception, *Imagining Buffalo in the 21st Century Series* featuring Buffalo Public Schools Superintendent James Williams, *Working for Downtown Luncheon Series* featuring Pearl Street Grill owner Earl Ketry, Upstate New York Transplant Services (UNYTS) blood drives, Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) Flu Shot Clinics, Doors Open Buffalo/Niagara Open House tours, Disability History Month kickoff, United Way Financial Wellness Fair, and the upcoming UB/Educational Opportunity Center's Family Literacy Night.

Through the Graphics area of the Development & Communications Office, the elements of the Rare Book Room's *Kelmscott* exhibit were created. Other components included signage over Washington Street and outside the Rare Book Room, printed postcards, and brochures.

Graphics created a logo for *Resources @ Your Fingertips* as well as easel-backed posters for every library. In addition, various "Re-Imagine the Library" materials, including a logo, 4 ads, posters for each library, and table toppers for Fables Café were developed, produced, and distributed.

Posters, bookmarks, signage, and ads were all created by Graphics for use in conjunction with the Library System's *Comics Fest*.

On Saturday, October 16th, a *Spooky Library Party* was held at the Central Library. Approximately 140 children and their families attended. At 3 craft stations children made popcorn hands, scary ghost and haunted house magnets and decorated paper plate pumpkins. Along with crafts there were Bat Toss, Halloween Math and Pumpkin Bean Bag Toss games. During the *Spooky Library Party* children were also able to Trick or Read around the library. Treat stations were located at Borrower Services, Security, Popular Materials, Central Reference Desk and the Children's Department Information Desk.

One of the most successful programs conducted by the Children's Programming Team has been the *Silly Bandz Exchange*. The librarians have taken this program to several branches and the kids love it. On Wednesday, October 13th, **Sarah Gallien** visited the Niagara Branch. Sarah had a box full of silly bandz. If a child guessed the shape, they got to keep the band. She also had other collectibles such as beanie babies, shellbys, and furbys explaining what they were and why people collect them. Each child got 3 silly bandz. This program was also held at Crane, Dudley and East Clinton Branches.

The Ideal Book: William Morris and the Kelmscott Press, curated by Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rob Alessi**, continues to draw attention in the rare book exhibit area.

Grosvenor Librarian **Carol Pijacki** completed installation of the *BPO and Our Community: Celebrating 75 Years* exhibit on October 20th. The exhibit begins with the early history of orchestras in the City of Buffalo and explores the WPA roots and continuous service that the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra has contributed to the musical heritage of Western New York. The exhibit contains materials from the B&ECPL Special Collections including: articles from the various Scrapbook Collections (i.e. BPO, WPA, Library, H. Reich), and materials from archived audio, orchestration, program, and ephemera collections (i.e. Buffalonia Local History files, the Buffalo Orpheus Singing Society). Special thanks go to **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** of the Graphics Department for their fine design work and visual recommendations, and to Senior Page **Justin Cronise** for his assistance.

Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** and Rare Book Room Clerk **Peter Scheck** provided hourly tours of the Rare Book Display and Mark Twain Rooms for *Doors Open Niagara* on Saturday, October 16th and Sunday, October 17th. Approximately 30 people on Saturday and 22 people on Sunday came through to see and hear about *The Ideal Book: William Morris and the Kelmscott Press* in the display room and *125 Years of Huck* in the Mark Twain Room.

Carol Pijacki presided at the October 19th Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion, *Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe*, led by Dudley Librarian **Kathy Galvin**.

Buffalo Branches

Crane Branch

- Programming in October included two *Big Read* programs, a special *Halloween Preschool Party*, 2 computer classes and practice labs, *Wordflight Poetry* and VNA Immunization Clinic. Auditorium users included City Honors, the local Brownie Troop, Yo Yo club, a meeting addressing fracking and Rotaract (junior Rotary).

Dudley Branch

- The *Big Read* was the focus of programming in October with the following attracting audiences at the Dudley Branch: Tiny Talons, a presentation by Hawk Creek; The *Littlest Read*, featuring The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything, presented by **Kasey Mack**. Visitors to the branch have also been playing *Where's Edgar?* throughout the month by locating the picture of Edgar Allen Poe as he reads throughout the children's section. The *Halloween Spooktacular*, a party for children of all ages, was a huge success, with approximately 75 children and parents attending.
- In conjunction with the *Big Read*, Upstate New York Transplant Services held a blood drive, dubbed "The Big Bleed" at the branch on October 8th; 18 people gave blood.
- Other programs were the ongoing *Preschool Storytime*, *Young Explorers* and *Young Scientists*.

East Clinton Branch

- The Buffalo Museum of Science *Young Scientists* program held 3 sessions and had 20 total attendees.
- The *Simpson Spectacular* had 11 attendees who enjoyed the movie, drinks and popcorn.
- Nine people attended the *Haunted WNY* presentation.

East Delavan Branch

- The East Delavan Branch Library participated in the system-wide *Big Read*. The following programs were the highlights: Hawk Creek program for preschoolers and their daycare providers was attended by a group of 21 adults and children; the Saturday afternoon *Bunnacula Ball* was offered to school-aged kids who made a bunny mask, played games, and won prizes; the *Simpson's Treehouse of Horror Film Fest* was a big hit with 40 "kids" of all ages attending.

- *Preschool Storytime*, presented by Children's Room Librarian **Wanda Collins**, was held on Thursday mornings in October. These 4 programs drew a total of 22.
- *Lego Club/ Game Night* was offered on Wednesday evenings in October. Clerk **Paris Henderson** and Senior Page **Brittani McKay** brought out the fun and monitored the program.

Merriweather Library

- The Merriweather Branch's annual book sale was held October 4-9.
- Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY presented a program for children ages 12 and under on Saturday, October 2nd.
- As part of the *Big Read* program, Karima Amin told spooky stories on Saturday, October 16th.
- On October 20th, Peaceful World Movement presented a play on violence prevention with a post performance discussion that featured Ras Mo Moses of New York City. This special presentation was part of Peaceful Buffalo Week.
- The branch had a family concert featuring Njozi Poets on Thursday evening, October 28th.

Niagara Branch

- On Wednesday, October 6th, members from PRONE, Paranormal Researchers of Niagara Erie, held a forum with 23 patrons in attendance. PRONE members Kathy, Allie, and Rob gave a presentation about their organization and some of the locations they have investigated. They played back actual sounds and statements of paranormal activity recorded. They talked about their findings at the Niagara Branch and Central Library describing books falling off the shelves seemingly by themselves. They concluded that one female and one male spirit reside at the branch.
- On Tuesday, October 19th, the branch held its *Annual Halloween Party*. Seventy-five children and their parents enjoyed an evening of crafts, scary stories, safe trick or treating, and refreshments. Senior Page **Nancy Smith** and retired Senior Page Sonja Wade regaled the audience with some very spooky tales. Afterwards, the children went from room to room trick or treating. Central Library Senior Pages **Amanda** and **Candice Leli** volunteered their time handing out candy. The evening concluded with everyone enjoying pizza and juice. Also volunteering was Elizabeth Torres, a valued patron, and East Clinton Branch Library Associate **Susan Carson**, who served refreshments. Among those in attendance were Erie County Legislator Maria Whyte and her children. Many

thanks go to the Niagara Branch staff for all of their hard work to make this event the success that it was.

- On Friday, October 22nd, sixty-five 3rd grade students and teachers from Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy (School 76) visited for a tour and program on simple machines. **Brian Hoth** explained and demonstrated the various types of simple machines and afterwards, the students did an activity.
- On Saturday, October 23rd, Hawk Creek Wildlife Center visited to present a program on live birds as part of the *Big Read*. Twenty-seven children and adults got to experience an owl, hawk, and peregrine falcon up close. They also got to see a real tortoise shell, skunk and opossum skins.
- On Saturday, October 30th, Journey's End Refugee Center held its orientation for volunteers prior to the start of their *Let's Go to the Library* program. The program begins on November 6th and will run each Saturday throughout the school year. The branch also became eligible for another \$750 gift from the Verizon Foundation for hosting this worthwhile program completing 50 hours of service. The money will again be used for programming to promote literacy.

North Park Branch

- Sixty-eight children and 10 adults from 4 kindergarten classes at the Olmstead School visited the Branch in October. LA **Sean Goodrich** read stories. The children were given library cards, checked out books and made sucker ghosts.
- **Gwen Collier** from Children's Room held a *Hold My Hand Story Hour* on Thursdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gwen read stories, helped children with crafts and showed short videos. The total attendance for Gwen's story hours was 30 children and 12 adults.
- **Sean Goodrich** held *Craft Time! Batty Buddies* on Wednesday, October 13th.
- *Branched Out* programs, conducted by the Buffalo Museum of Science, were held every Monday in October, including *Spooktacular Science* on October 18th as a part of the *Big Read* celebration.
- Part-time Clerk **Cindy Yucsyck** resumed the *Literary Crafters* program for adults on Wednesday, October 20th from 6-7:30 p.m.
- Spin-A-Storytellers performed for 10 children and 4 adults on Friday, October 22nd from 6-7 p.m.
- North Park's *Halloween Party* was held on Wednesday, October 27th from 6-7:30 p.m. Twenty-five children and 6 adults heard stories read by **Sean Goodrich**, decorated cookies with Page **Karen**

Leonard and made spooky door hangers with volunteer Melissa Leli.

- On October 30th, 7 children and 3 adults watched the movie *Hocus Pocus*. **Cindy Yusczyk, Katherine Brown** and **Karen Leonard** helped children create fall mobiles.

Riverside Branch

- On October 26th, Riverside Library hosted its *Annual Halloween Party*. Sixty-four children registered and 32 adults were present for this free event. Each child was given a treat bag filled with goodies. They were able to make a creepy door hanger and a pumpkin man craft to take home. The children decorated 2 pumpkin cookies each (one to eat and one to take with them). This was a messy but fun craft. There were 2 games: a spider ring toss and a pumpkin toss. Prizes were given out at each game. There was also a tattoo station and Halloween themed videos playing in the background.
- The Museum of Science held their *Branched Out* programs. The attendance has been steadily increasing; 23 children and 10 adults participated in this program.
- On Tuesday, October 5th, **Sarah Gallien** held the *Big Read Bunnacula Ball* for 6 children and 2 adults. The kids made wonderful bunny masks and heard some creepy (and not so creepy) stories.
- Every Friday throughout October **Wanda Collins** presented a very successful *Hold My Hand* preschool program to children 2 to 5 years old and their caregivers. Seventy-nine children and 51 adults attended throughout the course of the month.
- As part of the *Big Read*, 7 Simpson fans attended a *Simpsons Episode Marathon* on Thursday, October 7th at 6 p.m.
- Speaker John Koerner presented a program on Western New York haunting to an audience of 8 on Tuesday, October 12th.
- Seven children and 3 adults played "Bored Games" on Thursday, October 14th at 6 p.m.
- Seventeen children came to *Gaming Day* on Saturday, October 30th from 12-2 p.m.
- The Library's new *Sensational Saturday Craft Program* has been a big success; 53 kids and 29 adults attended the 3 sessions held in October.

Member Libraries

Angola Public Library – submitted by Mary Truby, Library Manager

October was a very busy month at the Angola Library. A variety of programs structured to appeal to all age levels were offered.

WBEN's PBS Raising Reader's Corner was installed in a quiet corner of the library. Colorful signs and a bright, cozy carpet were set up to entice parents and children to spend time together reading stories, playing word games and using the PBS.org website to promote reading readiness. It has been very popular and well used.

Our perennially popular preschool programs with "Miss Laurie" began again on Wednesday evenings. *Toddler Time*, a parent and child sharing time, is for children under 3. *Roars & Snores* is for children 3 to 5 featuring stories, songs and creative play. October was the beginning of the *Big Read* at our library. To start off the event, Angola held *Gaming Day* on October 9th. Families had a good time together trying their skill at the various, slightly skewed games offered for their enjoyment. *Spooktacular* on October 18th, presented by the Buffalo Museum of Science, attracted a large number of patrons and was enjoyed by the adults as much as the children. The *Littlest Read* program, *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*, was the prelude to Halloween. Perhaps the most popular of all our *Big Read* programs was Hawk Creek. The birds of prey were the perfect touch to round out a mysterious and spooky month and a perfect tribute to Edgar Allan Poe.

All of this activity added to the usual routine of assisting patrons, group meetings and tutors who use the library which made for a lively month. November promises to be just as hectic. Explore & More: a Children's Museum will present 2 of their popular programs. A very important event is the fundraiser the Board of Trustees and library staff is working on. We are trying to raise funds to augment the proposed 2011 budget so that we may remain open for more than 16 hours per week to better serve our patrons.

Clarence Public Library – submitted by Monica Mooney, Library Director

We finished up a very busy summer at the Clarence Library. Children from the summer reading program reported 2,423 hours spent reading and many attended the summer fun clubs at the library. Many teens registered for the 2010 *Make Waves Read* teen reading program and submitted over 50 book reviews, which entered them into a drawing for an iPod Touch™. There were plenty of family fun events this summer, some of which included programs by the Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company, Mama Earth's Kitchen Band, Ventriloquist Bruce Weaver, Cartoonist Tom Fox, the Canine Academy and the Primate Sanctuary. Family, staff and volunteers from the

library, along with the Kiwanis Club of Clarence, hosted a summer picnic on August 13th for all the children who participated in the summer reading programs.

There's been a great deal of activity this fall at the library. The *Lego Club* continues to be a popular afterschool activity for children, as well as our children's Storytime programs - *Toddler Time*, *Preschool Storytime*, and "*Wee*" *Read* for children 6 to 18 months. The Clarence Youth Bureau hosts a monthly library craft time for children ages 5 to 12 and the Youth Bureau also participated in our *Just Stories* program on September 25th. This is a Saturday morning program where teens read to children. We had a special visitor last time from Lucy the Therapy Dog who is part of the "Tail Waggin" tutors program. She was available for older children to practice their reading skills by reading stories to her. Also, on October 5th, Matt Hitchcock from Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center presented *Leap Into Literacy*, a specialized program aimed at establishing excellent language and literacy skills in preschool students.

The Clarence Library community meeting rooms have been used on a daily basis by organizations such as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Clarence Destination Imagination, Youth Asset Development Alliance for college preparation workshops, Erie County 4-H, Clarence Wrestling Boosters, Bookmarks Book Club, Chinese Youth Club, Hollows of Loch Lea, Upstate New York Transplant Services, Visiting Nurses Association, CHC Learning Center (class visit) and the Clarence Chamber of Commerce for their weekly Toastmasters Club. In addition, on September 11th the Clarence Library was the host location for the 2nd Annual Legislative Breakfast sponsored by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce and featuring local legislators answering many questions from the audience relating to business issues.

In November, we have on display photos taken by the Clarence High School Photography Club. Events happening in November and December include computer classes on November 10th & 17th and December 1st, a new teen Manga Club on November 17th, the Zoomobile on November 18th, Native American Storyteller, Perry Ground, on November 20th, and the Clarence High School Chorale's Annual Holiday Concert at the Library on December 1st. The library will also be hosting JumpBunch Sports and Fitness for Kids in November and December. This series of 4 programs for preschoolers will introduce children to sports and fitness in a hands-on setting. On December 9th, Gunilla Kester will present readings from the first and forthcoming second volume of the book she co-edited with author Gary Earl Ross called *The Empty Chair: Love and Loss in the Wake of Flight 3407*. The public is invited to add by reading their own poems or stories for and about the victims of Flight 3407 or about how their lives have been impacted by the tragedy of Flight 3407.

Finally, the Friends of the Clarence Library hosted a book sale from October 21st to October 23rd. Thousands of current hardcover and paperback titles in good condition were organized by topic for easy shopping. The book sale event also included a bake

sale sponsored by the Friends on October 23rd and also a hot dog cookout sponsored by Erie County Legislator Ray Walter. The Friends of the Clarence Library have also planned their Annual Theme Basket Raffle for December. All proceeds from these events will benefit the Clarence Public Library. The Friends' support has been crucial during these difficult budget times and we encourage our patrons to support the Friends of the Clarence Public Library, whether it's by joining the Friends or by helping with the book sale, basket auction or simply by buying a candy bar to help support their fundraising efforts. Every little bit helps and we are grateful for their time and dedication to the public library.

Goal 2:

Build and maintain quality collections, both print and electronic, based on user needs and long-term vision for library collections

Technical Services staff created serial controls for the 92 new subscriptions scheduled to start January 1, 2011. The projected 2011 serials budget was recalculated after an extended drop/add period ended in September. This year's serials budgets were reviewed to identify over-expenditures and/or residual funds.

The number of languages which can be learned using the database Mango Languages was expanded from 7 to 37. Mango is an online language-learning system that can help patrons learn languages like Spanish, French, Japanese, Brazilian Portuguese, German, Mandarin Chinese, Greek, Italian, Russian and more. It also assists non-English speakers learn English. Mango is available for use at any library or from home with a valid Buffalo & Erie County Public Library card number.

Freegal Music downloads continue to be popular. In October, 368 patrons downloaded a total of 2,120 titles.

In October, 397 downloadable eBooks and 136 downloadable audio books were added to the Library's collection.

Database Virtual Tours were implemented on October 21st. These tours offer database training to staff and patrons anywhere at any time through the Library's website.

Goal 3:

Create a warm and welcoming approach in all aspects of library service through renovated and expanded facilities and streamlined services that guarantee quality user experiences

Focus: Facilities

Technology Support staff members spent significant time space planning to consolidate Technical Services operations into one unified area. The Catalog and Serials Departments will combine into the Acquisitions and Processing areas. The moves will require major furniture, equipment, electrical and data cable relocation. In preparation for the consolidation, some workstation and shelving changes have been implemented, and others have been mapped. The next element will be determining the electrical and data requirements. All moves may be complete by the end of the year.

The Crane Branch Library had a fantastic display window celebrating Edgar Allen Poe and the *Big Read* including some of his works, a terrific drawing complemented by black light. A sight to be seen in the evening!

The parking lot and driveway at the Dudley Branch Library were resurfaced and painted this month. Parking curbs were replaced as needed. This work represents a great improvement to the building.

Re-Tree WNY and The South Buffalo Crew planted over 400 trees all along South Park Avenue on October 30th. A Magyar Ginkgo was planted in front of the Dudley Branch. The branch is proud to be a supporter and recipient of this and other streetscape improvements on South Park Avenue.

On Friday, October 29th, WNED delivered a PBS Kids Corner to the Niagara Branch, including a banner and many giveaways. This is the second one received this year.

Focus: Services

A representative from the Canadian Consulate called asking about their tickets for Driving Growth with a Taste for Trade. Librarian **Kathy Smith** hadn't heard about this event. She contacted **Debbie Lawrence** and **Anne Conable** in the Development Office who were not familiar with the event either. Kathy looked it up on the Internet and found out it was presented by Buffalo World Trade. She gave the information to the caller who thought she must have dialed a wrong number. After thanking Kathy, she mentioned how ironic it was to dial a wrong number and have it be the library. Who better to help them find the correct number than us!

Goal 4:
Key initiatives for 2010-2011

A. Literacy

The Family Place Parent/Child Workshop at the Central Library began in September and continued for 3 additional weeks in October. Attendance was consistent and parent feedback was very positive. Over the 5 week session, parents or caregivers learned about early literacy, spoke with health care professionals and networked with other mothers. The children enjoyed playing with toys and interacting with each other during the Family Place program.

Family Place workshops began at the Niagara Branch on Wednesday, October 13th. Dr. Betty Cappella from Project Flight, Children's Room Librarian **Mary Ann Budny**, System Programming Manager **Peggy Errington**, and Family Place Coordinator **Karen Kwandrans** were on hand for the first session. Niagara Branch Librarian **Brian Hoth** acted as facilitator. The children enjoyed themselves playing with the toys. It was interesting to see them gravitate to specific toys each week. Afterward, each child received a free board book donated through Project Flight.

The permanent location for Family Place at Niagara is coming along with ceiling and floor tiles replaced and new baseboard along the wall where shelving was previously located. All of the existing toys have been relocated to that area. A 4'x12' bulletin board has been hung. Children have already begun using the area. On Monday, October 4th, five school age children were playing a game they made up around the book *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* going from one animal to the next using the Eric Carle rug.

B. Special Collections

Rob Alessi conducted a tour for a group from Leadership Buffalo on October 13th. The group was joined by Deputy Director, Chief Development & Communications Officer **Stanton Hudson** and Library Director **Bridget Quinn-Carey**. Rob shared a few treasures from the rare book collection as well as the current *Kelmscott Press* exhibit and the Mark Twain Room.

Amy Pickard, **Amy Vilz** and **Rob Alessi** gave a Rare Book Room tour for Trustee Elaine Panty and 4 guests on October 22nd. A few selected treasures and the new exhibit, *The Ideal Book: William Morris and the Kelmscott Press*, were the subjects of the tour.

Rob Alessi and **Amy Vilz** shared the current rare book exhibit, 1893 canal district map and Mark Twain Room with visiting author Max Brooks on October 23rd. Mr. Brooks

was very entertained by the canal district map and inquired about purchasing a reproduction.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Amy Vilz** continues to work on the next Rare Book Room exhibit that will debut in February, *Travelers and Cosmopolitans: the Tourist Is the Other Fellow*.

Carol Pijacki conducted short tours of Grosvenor Room resources for visiting patrons on October 16th.

Grosvenor Room Manager **Suzanne Colligan** is working with Training Lab Coordinator **Sara Taylor** to design a *Camtasia* presentation that would provide a virtual tour of the Grosvenor Room.

C. Public Career Resources and Skill Training

A grand total of 43 public technology training classes were conducted in October for 316 enthusiastic attendees at libraries throughout the County. This represents an increase of 169% in the number of classes offered (16 total in 2009) and an 83% increase in the number of attendees at Central Library classes. In addition to basic technology skill training classes, 10 Web 2.0 sessions were conducted covering topics including *Introduction to Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, Wikipedia, Blogs/RSS Feeds, ResumeMaker* and the Library's website. Trainer **Rebecca Severson** noted that a Collins Public Library attendee found immediate use for the *Google It!* class she took. The patron was able to help her husband find an appropriate eatery for lunch while he was at a conference in Boston. Way to go Rebecca!

Read to Succeed sponsored computer classes at the East Delavan Branch during October 2010. Classes were held on Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

At the Frank E. Merriweather Jr. Library, Librarian **Ian Schoff** continued the Saturday computer class series in October with an average attendance of 8. Classes included *Word Basics, PowerPoint Basics, Google It* and *Intro to Web 2.0*.

Goal 5:

Ensure long-term financial sustainability through public and private investments and create a culture of philanthropy within, and on behalf of, the Library System while enhancing the System's image and visibility throughout the County

The Development & Communications Office scheduled a number of media interviews for the Director in an effort to publicly educate the community on the budget crisis and the System plan for dealing with the projected shortfall. Interviews also focused on promoting the many assets of the Library System, including programming and the

upcoming “Re-Imagine the Library” meetings. Media outlets included: WGRZ-TV, WEBR-Radio, the *Buffalo News*, WBEN Radio, WKBW-TV, YNN News, WBFO Radio, Bee Publications, Citadel Radio (WHIT, 97 Rock, and The Edge), WKBW-TV’s *AM Buffalo*, and WNED Radio. Additionally, messages were developed and disseminated internally to staff to explain the budgetary challenges facing the System.

The Development & Communications Office promoted the “Re-Imagine the Library” campaign through a web presence, news releases, staff announcements, print ads, flyers, and posters. Print ads running in Bee Publications, Hamburg Pennysaver, Metro Community News, Business First, Buffalo Criterion, and the Riverside Review.

The Development & Communications Office is preparing for the 2010 Year-End Appeal. Plans call for this year’s mailing to total between 75,000 and 100,000 pieces. The Office is also preparing various elements of a fundraising campaign to be focused on the Library’s 175th anniversary in 2011. Components will include a gala as well as a corporate sponsorship program, with a current goal of raising \$175,000.

Public Affairs Manager **Joy Testa Cinquino** has begun meeting with the Directors/Managers of individual libraries to discuss ways in which the Development & Communications Office and libraries can work more efficiently and collaboratively in the future. Meetings with all libraries will take place prior to year’s end.

Deputy Director **Stanton Hudson** met several times with representatives of FirstHand Learning to discuss a possible joint grant with both the Oishei Foundation and the National Science Foundation to fund an afterschool inquiry-based science program involving both middle school students and at-risk urban teenagers. Both funders have encouraged FirstHand Learning to develop a full-blown proposal.

The Development & Communications Office, through grantwriter **Anne Conable**, is exploring funding opportunities with the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to develop a multi-year request for funding to expand the Library System’s current Depression-era digital media project funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the New York Council for the Humanities (NYCH).

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System has been included in a major marketing/promotional campaign by the *Buffalo News* to promote its online store. Several images from the Library’s Special Collections have been selected to test the effectiveness of this sales initiative.

Sales of the book *Mark Twain in Buffalo* are approaching the \$10,000 mark.

The Development & Communications Office, at the suggestion of a number of staff, created donation boxes that are being utilized in every Library throughout the System. Promotional signage was developed and distributed through Graphics.

A major book sale is being planned for the first weeks of December to address a major “weeding” initiative currently under way at the Central Library.

Goal 6:

Streamline workflows and promote system-wide opportunities for improving internal operations

Staff Development and Community Involvement

On Monday, October 4th, **Brian Hoth** visited CAO Head Start at The Old First Ward Community Center. Brian read to 40 prekindergarten children and their teachers about autumn.

- On Wednesday, October 6th, **Brian Hoth** attended the Buffalo West Even Start Advisory Board meeting held at Holy Cross Head Start.
- On Thursday, October 7th, **Brian Hoth** visited CAO Head Start (Ferry Center). Brian read stories to 7 preschool classes of 125 children and adults. Brian also participated in “Read for the Record” reading *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats to 107 children.
- Programming and Outreach Librarian **Dan Caufield** taught a *Small Business Resources* class for the West Seneca Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneurial Assistance Program. The class was well received by the 32 small business owners in attendance.
- On October 8th, **Kara Stock** and **Renee Masters** staffed an informational table at the *Food Bank of WNY Community Services Expo* held at the McKinley’s Banquet and Conference Center, Hamburg, New York. Approximately 230 agency coordinators attended this event and many will now be helping to spread the word about library services, particularly free computer classes.
- On October 13th, **Dan Caufield** attended the first of 6 library marketing classes offered through the Rochester Library Resource Council in Rochester, New York.
- **Sandra Williams Bush** attended an Open House at School #53 on Thursday, October 14th. Approximately 200 parents and children stopped at the table for information about Merriweather.

- On Friday, October 15th and 22nd, **Brian Hoth** and **Kasey Mack** visited Niagara Daycare to present programs to 15 and 13 children and their teachers respectively.
- On Monday, October 18th, **Brian Hoth** made his first visit of the school year to D'Youville Porter Campus at 77. Brian presented a program on oceans to 31 prekindergarten students and their teachers.
- On October 19th, **Renée Masters** staffed the Library Services information table at the Disability History event. Visitors were impressed by the depth and variety of historical materials concerning disability and were also very interested in free computer workshops. Many positive and supportive comments were received. Approximately 150 people were in attendance. **Renee Masters** went the extra mile and made arrangement to obtain 2 manual wheelchairs to assist visitors during the event. Wheelchairs were graciously loaned by the Volunteer Services Office at the Buffalo General Hospital.
- Information Services Librarian **Keri Thomas-Whiteside** attended the WNYLRC (Western New York Library Resources Council) workshop *Riding the Google Wave* on October 19th. The workshop involved learning new ways to fully utilize Google applications and searches for documents, patents, Google Scholar, Google Voice and HTML 5 initiatives.
- On Tuesday, October 19th, **Kerra Alessi** attended the Riverside Business Association meeting at the Riverside Branch Library from 6-7:30 p.m. There were 4 other people in attendance.
- Also on October 19th, the Literally Speaking book discussion at the Central Library was led by Librarian **Kathy Galvin**.
- Twenty-six children and young adult librarians from the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library attended the Youth Services Group meeting on October 20th at the Eden Library. Sue Barlow Executive Director of the Parent Network and Kids on the Block (Educational puppets) spoke on disability awareness.
- **Nancy Mueller** met with the Town of Cheektowaga Archives and Records Manager Lisa-Marie Bolognese and Cheektowaga Town Clerk/Tax Receiver Alice Magierski on October 20th, at the old North Cheektowaga Branch Library at 735 Maryvale Drive. The building is now the official Archives and Records Center for the Town of Cheektowaga. Nancy, who is the Library's Records Manager, is also a member of the Erie County Records Commission, chaired by County Clerk Kathy Hochul. Nancy was assigned to investigate the town's new records center to see if there would be room for any other records storage for a

new WNY Genealogy Center the Commission would like to pursue. What better person for this task than Nancy who spent 18 years as Branch Manager of the North Cheektowaga Library! Ms. Mueller is anxious to report her findings at the next Commission meeting on November 17th at County Hall.

On October 21st, **Kara Stock** presented a *Job Resources at the Library* workshop for 18 members of the ECC One Stop POD (Professionals On Demand) group. The unemployed members of this group were especially interested in our *LearningExpress* database for assistance in preparing for civil service examinations. On October 29th, **Kara Stock** presented the same program for 50 Department of Labor employees at their Staff Development Day. This was a great opportunity to spread the word about the Library's career and business databases to employment counselors throughout Erie County.

- On Thursday, October 21st, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to Holy Cross Head Start. Brian read stories to 9 classes of 151 prekindergarten children and their teachers.
- Fifteen members attended the Black Rock Greater Niagara Partnership Association monthly meeting on Thursday, October 21st from 6-8 p.m. at the Riverside Library. Eight members of a subgroup met on Thursday, October 28th from 3-5 p.m.
- On October 26th, **Dan Caufield** and **Renée Masters** staffed the Library Services information table at the CASH Buffalo Financial Wellness Fair. Library materials and resources available for free to the public were highlighted. Approximately 100 people attended this event and many valuable networking contacts were made with community groups providing financial literacy services.
- On October 27th, the Central Library Training Lab was used to conduct 2 *Access to Justice* workshops designed to enhance library staff members' knowledge about the court system and allow them to guide their patrons more effectively. A total of 53 B&ECPL staff participated in the training sessions which were coordinated by Manager of Central Library, **Nancy Mueller**, working with Alice Chapman-Minutello, Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of NY City Courts, and Director, NY State Access to Justice Program, John P. Cairns, Special Assistant on Family Court Matters to the Hon. Fern Fisher, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the NY City Courts and Director of Statewide Access to Justice in 2010 and Joseph Abbate, Director of Education and Training for the Access to Justice Program. B&ECPL's Board President Sharon Thomas, Chief Clerk at the Buffalo City Court had been contacted by Ms. Chapman-Minutello about having B&ECPL host this program for its librarians and library associates.

It was a wonderfully informative program and all in attendance gave very positive feedback on it!

- **Sandra Williams Bush** provided an informational table of materials for *Safe Night* on October 30th, sponsored by the Glenwood Block Club.

Outreach was also the name of the game for the Children's Programming Team in October. Librarian **Kasey Mack** visited several daycares and Head Start Centers. On October 19th, Kasey visited Bethel Head Start for a story hour and crafts. On October 22nd, Kasey visited Little Scholars Early Learning Center to encourage the teachers to attend the *Story Hour* at East Clinton. **Sarah Gallien** and **Kathy Goodrich** participated in the "Read Around the World" program at Wegman's Amherst Street location each Saturday in October. The librarians passed out packets of library information (put together by Graphics) to families. A few individuals even registered for library cards. This program is sponsored by Buffalo State College. Assistant Deputy Director **Doreen Woods** spoke to approximately 25 students about today's public libraries at SUNY Buffalo's Department of Information and Library Science "Introduction to Library and Information Services" class on October 27th.

The Central Library's Facebook page has 2,204 fans, an increase of 200 from last month. The average number of monthly active users is 303 with the overall number of "likes" totaling 2,199. October posts included several promotions for *Big Read* activities, an interview with Training Lab Coordinator **Sara Taylor** and much more. One highlight from the Buffalo Comic Fest 2010 elicited several responses:

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library Star Wars characters have invaded the Central Library! As part of Buffalo Comic Fest 2010....activities, workshops, speakers...today until 4pm...including The Northridge Star Wars fan club of Buffalo New York!



Monica Gregor Mooney, Lenora Macy, Clara Noce and 12 others like this.

Gina Maria Kleinmartin: We had a great time! The library (the whole system) keeps our family happy and entertained and informed all year round.

Gregg Harrison Sr.: We had a great time with our grandson who loved meeting The North Ridge Star Wars Fan Force. They put on a great show. Excellent setup with the artists and pro wrestlers....even the zombies (but we made it out alive).

Michael F. Harris: Great time today!

Richard Meese: A great show! I really enjoyed Max Brook's talk, and I meant a couple of interesting comic artists from NYC. I hope the library is able to keep this up! Something to remember: we have an excellent library.

Chris Solecki: The North Ridge was happy to be a part of Comics Fest. We all had a great time sharing the fun with everyone. Looking forward to next year!!!

Kristen Redd: Great event!! Hope they do it again next year

@buffalolibrary, our System Twitter page, now has 1,459 followers. Tweets mentioning the B&ECPL included:



[freedommary](#) @buffalolibrary Funds 4 public Libraries & arts programs should never b cut. Libraires provide a great service to the community. KeepStrong!



[SaraSerafin](#) "Poe"-etry Jammin at the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library
<http://fb.me/JXsIICxE>



[ZenArcadeEric](#) Max Brooks in Buffalo and Erie public library tomorrow! Max Brooks better be ready!

Processing Department Supervisor, Librarian **Tom Carloni** is the recipient of the 2010 Office Dynamics Inc./NMRT Professional Development Award from the New York Library Association. Along with the award, Tom will be serving as chair of the 2010-2011 NMRT Award Committee and presenting a conference journal to be posted on NYLA's webpage.

Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs** attended a conference call with the Collection Development Team and Brodart on Monday, October 4th and a follow-up meeting on Wednesday, October 13th to discuss juvenile collection development resources and services they can provide.

Amy Vilz participated in a webinar by WNYLRC on RDA (Resource Description and Access), the new descriptive standard for online library catalogs.

Amy Vilz and **Rob Alessi** participated in 2 webinars by IMLS: "Telling the Story of Your Collections to the Press," and "Using Social Media to Tell Your Collection's Stories." Both of these webinars followed up the IMLS Connecting to Collections conference.

Suzanne Colligan attended the JOLI (Journal of Library Innovation) editorial board meeting at WNYLRC.

Goal 7:

Enhance Technology Infrastructure

Seven libraries receiving NYS Construction Grant funds for RFID (radio frequency identification) conversion are in the process or ready to begin tagging and encoding their collections. Orchard Park, East Aurora, West Seneca, Kenmore, Anna M.

Reinstein, City of Tonawanda and Elma Libraries are gearing up to convert items for use with the RFID technology which allows for cardholder self check-out and provides a theft deterrent system. It is anticipated these libraries will 'go live' in the first or second quarter of 2011. An EnvisionWare implementation consultant is scheduled to be in Buffalo the week of November 15th to install all gates and RFID equipment at the Eggertsville-Snyder and Clearfield Libraries.

Library Information Technology Administrator **Toni Naumovski** and Technical Support Services Specialist **Johnny Hsu** have begun migrating the CIPA-compliant (Children's Internet Protection Act) filtered internet access proxy to new server hardware. The combination of new hardware and software will provide improved internet filtering capability and it will also greatly improve internet access speeds for library users, staff and all 37 B&ECPL Wireless Access Points (Wi-Fi hotspots). The testing and network adjustments continue; it is anticipated that the new package will be transferred into production environment at the beginning of November.

Following the successful upgrade to Sirsi Symphony 3.3.1 on October 11th, several system enhancements have been implemented. Both public and technical services staff benefited from these changes. Updates were made in the WorkFlows module (which provides access to user records, circulation functions and bibliographic records display), the Serials Module (the new Global Call Number Modification wizard will greatly reduce the amount of time required to edit records with multiple holdings), and the Acquisitions Module (standardized item pricing fields will speed up the linking process). Technology Support staff has begun testing other features that will provide an enhanced patron experience.

The Information Technology team has started the setup of 13 Lenovo laptops which are being funded and will become a part of Julia Boyer Reinstein Library's ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) PCC (Public Computer Center) project. The team has created and tested the appropriate Microsoft Windows 7 computer image that will be replicated to all laptops. The remaining software and hardware has been ordered. It is anticipated the new Public Computing Center will be operational by the end of the year

Johnny Hsu and Technical Services & Technology Support Manager **Maureen McLaughlin** have set up and are testing BookMyne, an application from SirsiDynix that allows library users with iPhones to perform many of the functions currently available in the web "My Account" feature (eg. search the catalog, place Holds, renew items). When the testing has satisfactorily met our expectations, the iPhone application will go live in a beta format.

Web Page Master **Terri Dickson** worked on several major web editing and web page creation projects including the creation of the Intranet's *Resources @ your fingertips*, as

well as the public *Milestone of Science* website and Room Reserve on the hosted Evanced calendaring service. She continues to provide almost daily updates to website "Scroll" information and is involved with postings of all major programs and services (eg. "Big Read and RE-IMAGINE Your Library").

Amy Vilz developed a new design and completed content for the *Milestones of Science* website that was started 10 years ago. Webmaster **Terri Dickson** completed the re-design in short order and it is a stunning result. Remaining is the creation of a digital "Book Browser" to provide access to some of the Milestones books.

Amy Vilz completed implementation of Encoded Archival Description for the Rare Book Room. Eleven finding aids for RBR manuscript collections are online. This project is important because donors and grantees expect collection finding aids to be encoded; it is often a condition for funding and gifts.

Through the efforts of **Amy Vilz** and **Rob Alessi**, the RBR blog continues to attract attention. On October 19th, there were 63 daily views, the most to date, for the post "Edgar Allen Poe's Watch Stolen from the Downtown Library." There have been over 2,300 distinct visits to the blog as of October 31st.

Keeping the Grosvenor Room Genealogy and Local History blog updated is a shared effort by its staff. The most views to date were 246 on September 11th with 2,709 views total through October. This past month the blog featured stories about the Buffalo Sabres 40th anniversary, local haunting, celebrating 75 years of the BPO, marriage information in the Census records, and old Buffalo images.

LIST of VISITS and MEETINGS ATTENDED by BRIDGET QUINN-CAREY

October 16, 2010 – November 12, 2010

OCTOBER

- 18 2011 Planning meeting with Concord Public Library
- 18 Meeting with Paul Hogan, The Oishei Foundation
- 18 Meeting with Dale Martin, WNY@Work
- 19 Library Managers & Directors meeting – Central Library
- 19 Meeting with Cathy Foertch, Director West Seneca Public Library
- 19 Press event – Disability History Month Kickoff
- 20 B&ECPL Development Committee meeting
- 20 Legislative Budget Hearing
- 20 Meeting with George DeTitta, Ph.D., Hauptman-Woodward Institute,
- 20 Peter Murad, Architectural Resources and Jack Connors, Vice Chair B&ECPL Board of Trustees
- 21 Interview with Reporter Pete Gallivan, Channel 2

- 21 B&ECPL Board of Trustees meeting – Central Library
- 21 *PastForward Discussion Series: Arts for the People* event
- 22 Erie County Commissioners meeting – Rath Building
- 22 Lunch meeting with George DeTitta, Ph.D., Hauptman-Woodward Institute, and Chris Gibas, Literacy Volunteers of Buffalo & Erie County, Inc.
- 22 Meeting with Chris Collins, Erie County Executive, Sharon Thomas, Chair B&ECPL Board of Trustees, and Anne Leary, Trustee B&ECPL Board of Trustees
- 23 Introduction of Max Brooks, Comics Fest 2010
- 28 WBEN radio interview
- 28 Taped radio interview with Carl Russo, WGRF 96.9 FM

NOVEMBER

- 1 Appearance on WKBW News 7 AM Buffalo Live
- 1 North Buffalo Library Planning Committee meeting – Café Allegro
- 3-5 2010 New York Library Association (NYLA) Conference – Saratoga Springs, NY
- 6 ACT Trustees meeting – Julia B. Reinstein Library
- 8 Re-imagining meeting (1)
- 9 Counting Opinions webinar
- 9 Meeting with UB Regional Institute
- 9 United Way Board of Directors meeting
- 9 Re-imagining meeting (2)
- 10 Erie County Legislature Budget & Finance Committee meeting
- 10 B&ECPL Development Committee meeting
- 10 B&ECPL Executive Committee meeting
- 10 Erie County Public Budget Hearing
- 12 Meeting with Canal Side Cultural Steering Committee

Agenda Item G – Public Comment. The following 2 individuals spoke concerning the 2011 budget:

ElizaBeth Berry, President – Save Our Libraries Coalition
Peter Scheck, B&ECPL employee

Agenda Item H – Unfinished Business. Ms. Summer congratulated Trustee Wayne Wisbaum on being the recipient of the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society's Red Jacket Award.

Agenda Item I – New Business. There was no new business.

At 4:28 p.m., Trustee Horton made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Trustee Mansouri made a second. The motion was approved unanimously.

At approximately 4:57 p.m., on motion by Ms. Horton, seconded by Mr. Lewis and approved unanimously, the Board reconvened in public session. No action had been taken during Executive Session.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Panty, seconded by Ms. Horton, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Gist
Secretary