

**Director's Report – Clarence Public Library**  
**January 27, 2025**

**Financial**

The financial statements are in the board packets. We have not yet received the Clarence Library's "Return to System" based on our 2024 financial statements.

**Claims Audit**

See abstracts for county checking and Trustees Memorial Account

Account Balances (as of 1/27/2024):

Savings:	\$50,412.81
County Checking:	\$10,199.84
Trustees Checking:	\$14,403.40
CD:	\$20,402.42

**Donations:**

December 11, 2024 - \$500.00 (Patricia Beris – for Citizen Science Kits)  
December 17, 2024 - \$100.00 (Susan Black)  
December 23, 2024 - \$146.00 (Women of Waterford)  
December 23, 2024 - \$5.00 (Robert Heiss – monthly donation)  
January 17, 2025 - \$192.90 (Garden Friends of Clarence)  
January 23, 2025 - \$300.00 (Ansel Wolf – for winter craft/story time programs)  
January 24, 2025 - \$5.00 (Robert Heiss – monthly donation)

**Other:**

Reimbursement of \$719.85 from Central for programming funds (annual appeal)

**Statistics:**

November 2024

**Circulation**

- **November 2024 Circulation:** 17,315
- **November 2023 Circulation:** 18,311
  - **Change:** -5.4%
- **January – November 2024 Circulation:** 240,013
- **January – November 2023 Circulation:** 228,585
  - **Change:** %5.0
  
- Maximum circulation in November 2024: on November 1,212.
- Maximum circulation in 2024: 1,776 on July 3.

- Maximum circulation in 2023: 1,723 on August 5.
- Average circulation per day in November 2024 604.

**Rankings:**

- Clarence ranked **10th** in circulation for November 2024.
- Clarence ranked **9th** in circulation for November 2023.

**Top Branches by Circulation in November 2024:**

Branch	November 2024 Circulation Rank
1. Audubon	33,777
2. Clearfield	25,212
3. Kenmore	23,859
4. Julia Boyer Reinstein	21,933
5. Orchard Park	21,659
6. Central	20,932
7. Lancaster	18,840
8. Hamburg	18,574
9. West Seneca	18,715
10. Clarence	17,315

**Library Visits**

- **November 2024 Visitor Count:** 5,411
- **November 2023 Visitor Count:** 5,504
  - **Change:** %-1.7
- **January - November 2024 Visits:** 75,730
- **January - November 2023 Visits:** 69,830
  - **Change:** 8.4%

**Rankings:**

- Clarence ranked **11th** for library visits in November 2024.
- Clarence ranked **10th** for library visits in November 2023.

**Top Branches by Library Visits in November 2024:**

Branch	November 2024 Library Visits
1. Central	25,710
2. Audubon	12,209
3. Orchard Park	11,333
4. Kenmore	9,444
5. Clearfield	9,167
6. West Seneca	8,172
7. Julia Boyer Reinstein	8,156
8. Merriweather	7,546
9. Hamburg	7,481
10. Lancaster	6,992
11. Clarence	5,411

**Public Access Computer Sessions**

- **November 2024:** 351 sessions
- **November 2023:** 372 sessions
  - **Change:** -5.6%

**Wi-Fi Usage**

- **November 2024:** 1,277 connections
- **November 2023:** 1,415 connections
  - **Change:** -9.8%

**Programming Summary**

Clarence Public Library Programming

**November 2024**

**In Library programs:**

Programs

Attendance

For children 5 & under	5	80
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For children 6-12	3	49
For teens	2	10
Intergenerational	2	15
For Adults	6	67

**In Library One-on-One Programs:**

Programs

Attendance

For children 5 & under		
For children 6-12	5	5
For teens	6	6
Intergenerational		
For Adults		

Meeting Room Use: 13 (Non library-sponsored meetings and events)

Seed Library: 6

## December 2024 Monthly Report Summary

### Circulation

- December 2024 Circulation: 17,700
- December 2023 Circulation: 18,363
  - Change: -3.5%
- January – December 2024 Circulation: 257,713
- January – December 2023 Circulation: 246,948
  - Change: 4.4 % (overall circulation for 2024)

### Notable Circulation Facts:

- Maximum circulation in December 2024: 1,212 on December 27.
- Maximum circulation in 2024: 1,776 on July 3.
- Maximum circulation in 2023: 1,723 on August 5.
- Average circulation per day in December 2024 was 604.

### Rankings:

- Clarence ranked **7th** in circulation for December 2024.
- Clarence ranked **8th** in circulation for December 2023.

### Top Branches by Circulation in December 2024:

Branch	December 2024 Circulation Rank
1. Audubon	33,469
2. Clearfield	25,030

3. Kenmore	23,356
4. Julia Boyer Reinstein	21,014
5. Orchard Park	20,875
6. Central	19,677
7. Lancaster	17,819
8. Clarence	17,700

### Library Visits

- **December 2024 Visitor Count:** 4,834
- **December 2023 Visitor Count:** 5,234
  - **Change:** -7.6%
- **January - December 2024 Visits:** 80,564
- **January - December 2023 Visits:** 75,064
  - **Change:** 7.3% (overall change for 2024)

### Rankings:

- Clarence ranked **11th** for library visits in December 2024.
- Clarence ranked **10th** for library visits in December 2023.

### Top Branches by Library Visits in December 2024

Branch	December 2024 Library Visits
1. Central	20,195
2. Audubon	9,474
3. Orchard Park	8,592
4. Clearfield	8,021
5. Kenmore	6,978
6. West Seneca	6,917
7. Julia Boyer Reinstein	6,772
8. Hamburg	5,932
9. Merriweather	5,588

10. Lancaster	5,431
11. Clarence	4,834

**Public Access Computer Sessions**

- **December 2024:** 332 sessions
- **December 2023:** 367 sessions
  - **Change:** -9.5%

**Wi-Fi Usage**

- **December 2024:** 1,254 connections
- **December 2023:** 1,263 connections
  - **Change:** -0.7%

**Programming Summary**

Clarence Public Library Programming

**December 2024**

<b>In Library programs:</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
For children 5 & under	7	66
For children 6-12	4	35
For teens		
Intergenerational	3	27
For Adults	6	113

<b>In Library One-on-One Programs:</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
For children 5 & under	42	42
For children 6-12	87	87
For teens	11	11
Intergenerational		
For Adults		

**Meeting Room Use: 10 (Non library-sponsored meetings and events)**

**Note:** Circulation and patron visits were down in both November and December, but overall they were up for the year. We saw less traffic in the library and in our meeting room in both November and December. Part of the decrease in meeting room usage was a result of cancellations by a few groups, primarily due to illness. Nevertheless, the library offered several notable programs, all of which had good attendance including the following programs

November Makery (18); November Tail Waggin Tutors (20); November Story Time and Read & Play (65 total); Lego Club (22 total); December Study in Sherlock (10); December Story Time and Read & Play (72 total); December Tail Waggin' Tutors (14); Holiday Makery (20); December Neurodivergent Teen Social Group (7); December Red Cross Blood Drive (32); Ugly Sweater Cookie program (13); Adult Paint Class (20); Hooked on Crochet (15); Duty and Honor: A Tribute to Veterans with Greg Kinal (22); Mindfulness and Meditation (8); Clarence Family Support Center Advisory Council Meeting (32).

**Groups/Organizations that used the meeting room in November/December:**

Clarence Concert Association  
WNY Armenian Community  
Clarence Contemporary Club  
Essential Solutions (Medicare)  
Happy Bookers Book Group  
Senior Center Card Players  
Clarence Lions Club  
Person Centered Services  
Jane Austen Society  
Garden Friends of Clarence  
Harmon Homes  
Clarence Small Business Group

**Meetings/webinars attended:**

- 11/22/24 – Sarah and Monica met with Beth Bevars (Teach My Kid to Read) and Tarja Parssinen (WNY Education Alliance) regarding decodable books and literacy hubs in public libraries.
- 12/2/24 – Monica attended the FSC Advisory Council Meeting held at the Clarence Public Library
- 12/3/24 – Monica attended the webinar Dyslexia-Friendly Libraries sponsored by South Central Regional Library Council of Virginia
- 12/13/24 – Monica attended the Manager/Director meeting at Central
- 1/9/25 – Monica attended a virtual tour of the Lodi Public Library's Literacy Hub – presented by Beth Bevars and Marion Waldman (Teach My Kid to Read)
- 1/9/25 – Sarah attended the System Youth Services Group Meeting (YSG); the topic was Teen Advisory Group Creation
- 1/16/25 – Monica and Sarah met with Victoria Mintz and Bridget Wodowski of the Eight O'clock Book Club to discuss our collaboration with the group.

On December 17, Sarah presented to the Clarence Small Business Group about small business resources available through the Clarence Public Library and B&ECPL. Sarah followed up her presentation with a survey regarding possible future classes or small business workshops that would be available through the library. Sarah has reached out to both Buffalo State and UB Small Business Development Centers to see if there are any low or no cost classes that could potentially be offered at the Clarence Library.

**Other Items of Note:**

We took a survey of patrons in November. Surveys were distributed to the Family Support Center, the Senior Center, and Clarence Town Hall and were also available online and in the library. We received a total of 154 responses and survey results are available in the trustees packet.

Monica submitted the Equipment & Technology Grant request on 12/21/24. The project is for the creation of an IDEA Lab (i.e. adult makerspace) at the Clarence Public Library. The total project cost would be \$10,251.97. We should hear by early March if we will be awarded any of the grant funding.

Monica wrote a grant to the Clarence Community Foundation for \$500.00 to purchase books for two literacy events in the spring - World Book Day and Transcendentalism on the Trails. We were awarded the grant and Monica will select the books through Scholastic Literacy Partners.

In mid-December, the Town of Clarence installed a new water fountain with water bottle refill station.

The Clarence Public Library will have a display table at Winter Fest on January 25. Sarah and Justin will represent the library at this event and will promote upcoming programs and give out Lunar New Year Take and Make crafts. We will also celebrate Lunar New Year and National Puzzle Day at the library on January 29 and there are many wonderful programs and activities coming up in February.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Mooney  
Director – Clarence Public Library