

Wright Memorial Public Library 2007 Report to the Community



Dear Oakwood Residents:

I am pleased to share this report with you of Wright Library's activities during 2007. We strive to make the Library an active contributor to community life in Oakwood and to the lives of our individual patrons in several ways.

- Education and support for the parents of preschoolers in equipping their young children to be ready to learn when they start kindergarten
- Supplementary materials to support the K-12 curriculum
- Year-round programs to enhance students' reading skills
- Opportunities for people of all ages to learn and connect with others at programs and discussion groups
- Books and other media to foster personal development, mental stimulation, and lifelong learning
- Research help in person, by phone, and online
- Training for adults in basic Internet skills
- Information for effective decision-making
- Reliable research databases that can be accessed easily through the Library's web site
- Good stewardship of community resources

I invite you to take frequent advantage of the many opportunities available at your Library this year. We'd love to get to know you as a regular patron.

Best regards,
Ann Snively
Director

2007 Highlights

It was a record-breaking year for attendance at Library programs. The Youth Services staff kept children engaged with a full schedule of programs year-round, including "Pizza and Pages" for school-agers, a mother-daughter tea party, and a mother-son superhero party. A Teen Specialist joined the Library staff in the fall to focus on materials and programs for sixth through twelfth-graders. Programs for adults included author visits

from Carrie Bebris, Bud Mercer and Bill Vernon, training in new Internet technologies, and a program on appraising collectible books. The "On-the-Road" book discussion club (led by a reference librarian) started meeting at Starbucks on the first Tuesday of the month.

Wright Library enhanced technology for patrons by adding wireless Internet access and by redesigning and updating the Library's web site.

Video fines were lowered to encourage more use of the Library by making it less likely for people to accumulate large fines. Patrons were able to pay off old fines during the month of November by contributing to "Food for Fines." More than two tons of food were collected for the Dayton Foodbank.

The Library celebrated several administrative achievements during the course of 2007. The results from the biennial audit were excellent. Managers and staff worked together on updating job descriptions and implementing a new performance appraisal system. A community group met to begin the process of creating a new strategic plan for the next four to five years.

Thanks to Volunteers and Contributors

Library volunteers deserve special thanks and recognition. Volunteers gave 1,055 hours of their time and talents to the Library last year. This was nearly twice as much volunteer participation as the previous year. The total doesn't even include the countless hours of service given by the Library's Board, Advisory Council, the Wright Memorial Public Library Foundation Board, the community strategic planning group, and the Citizens for Wright Library levy campaign committee.

Oakwood Rotary Club members not only contributed their time by doing a lawn clean-up, but the Rotary Foundation also gave the Library a grant of \$1,000 in support of the Summer Reading Program. The Four Seasons Garden Club gave the Library a grant for landscaping the patio area and also sent a crew of volunteers to help with the planting.

A generous patron, Ms. Earline Grice, donated funds to refinish the front door. Richard Pryor donated a lovely wooden patio bench in memory of his mother, Dr. Mary Pryor.

Library Use

Items borrowed: 441,067
Patrons in Library: 163,184
Hits on entire Library web site: 2,439,051
Questions answered by reference librarians: 29,116
Use of online research databases: 13,690
Books borrowed on interlibrary loan: 3,188
Library programs presented: 425
Program attendance: 9,322
Meetings held in Library meeting room: 366

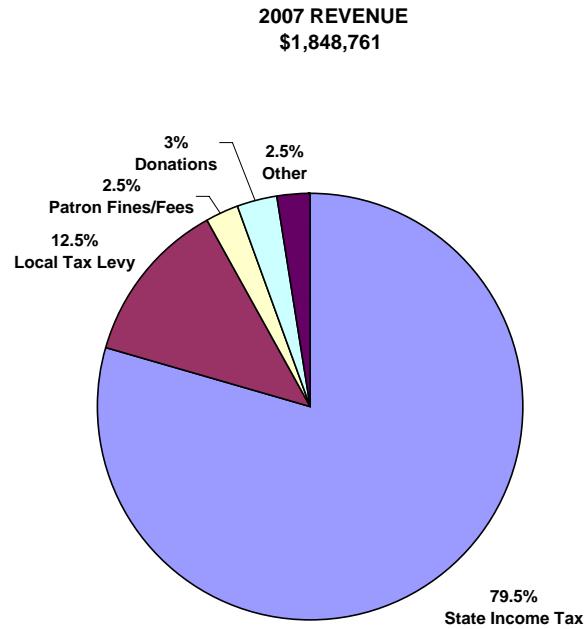
Added to the Collection in 2007

Books: 11,812
Magazines: 2,974
DVDs and videos: 1,839
Audio CDs and cassettes: 1,107

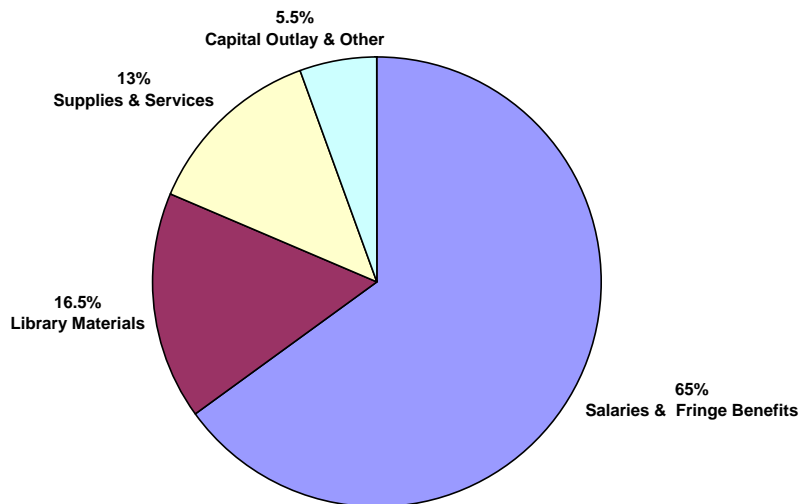
Financial Overview

State funding for public libraries remained frozen at the 2003 level throughout 2007.

In May, Oakwood voters approved the replacement of a five-year .94 mill levy that has been in place since 1997. This levy did not increase millage, but will provide a small increase in revenue because of changes in property valuation. This will enable the Library to maintain current services.



2007 EXPENDITURES
\$1,672,000



Detailed financial information is available in the Library administrative office. Please contact Ann Snively, Director, or Debra Schenk, Clerk-Treasurer at 294-8572 if you would like additional data.

2007 Board of Trustees

Judith Thompson, President (January-May)

Steven Byington, Vice-president (January-May; President June-December)

Beverly Jones-Arthur, Vice-president (June-December)

Lori Mitchell, Secretary

John Green

Alan Halpern (July-December)

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