



# Oelwein Public Library

2021 Annual Report

Library Board of Trustees

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Submitted by Susan Macken  
January 25, 2022

# Year in Review

At the beginning of the year, a few restrictions were in place due to COVID-19.

- At the end of February, the meeting room opened back up.
- By May, services resumed to a normal level. Story Time and Book Club, once again, met in person.
- Summer Reading Program participants attended a number of programs. Thirty-one kids, 13 teens, and 15 adults registered. The most popular programs were making a kaleidoscope and the stained glass demonstration.
- By November, LEGO Club met with a few variations including a Challenge theme and some safety guidelines.



- A Hush Study Pod was installed.
- The 1000 Books before Kindergarten program was launched.
- After publication ceased, some of the Dr. Seuss books were temporarily removed from the shelves until the re-sale market softened.
- ARPA grant funds were used to purchase an outdoor solar powered device charging bench.
- Acquired a lighted, wooden display case.
- Staff participated at Party in the Park in promoting library programs and services.
- A new Story Time Cart was purchased.
- Staff conducted a comprehensive salary study.
- New teacher packets containing library marketing materials were distributed.
- The library collaborated with Dollar Fresh to offer a walk-in Flu Shot Clinic.
- A grant from the State Historical Society was used to microfilm and digitize the Oelwein Daily Register from 2017-2020.



- By patron request, the library resumed ordering audiobooks on CD.
- The Cemetery Walk program was held at the Old Catholic Cemetery.
- ISU Extension taught a fall wreath making workshop.
- The Genealogy Society hosted a program on converting VHS tapes and old photos to digital archives.
- A Cook Book Club was started.



# Condition of the Building and Grounds

- Over winter, the roof leaked in the children's closet, the public men's restroom, and the south west corner of the fiction area. The City Administrator hired a representative from Shive-Hattery to investigate and resolve the roof leaks.
- The exterior building sconce lights were repaired as well as the sign light.
- The emergency EXIT sign batteries were replaced.
- The reversing valve in the HVAC system was repaired. The leaked Freon was replaced.
- The TXV on the HVAC circuit was repaired.
- The sewer backed up from the floor drains in the staff area. This occurred twice over a number of months.
- The trees on the library grounds were trimmed and invasive species were removed.

## Oelwein Public Library Foundation

The Library Foundation sponsored the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. One hundred twelve children (112), from age 0-5, are enrolled in this program with an additional 22 children graduating from the program. Each month, the children receive their own, age appropriate book mailed directly to their home.



# Friends of the Library Contributions to the Library

## Speakers and Programs

- ✓ “Remembering the Apron”
- ✓ “Straight Laced Girls, Uptight Ladies”
- ✓ Appreciation Tea
- ✓ Curbside Pick-up Annual Chocolate Festival
- ✓ Book and Bake Sale



## Library Enhancements

- ✓ Button maker
- ✓ Poinsettias at Christmas Time

## Community Outreach

- ✓ Book Page Book Review Magazine
- ✓ Memorial books in honor of Friend’s Members who have passed away
- ✓ Keychains for new library patron’s library card



## Library Statistics

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	19,290	17,722
<b>Program Attendance</b>	991	571
<b>Circulation</b>	51,019	50,933