

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

OCPL

Onondaga County Public Library

ONONDAGA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Nicholas J. Pirro

OCPL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joyce M. Latham

OCPL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edmund G. Sullivan, President

Sandra G. Jones, Vice President

Hugh W. Bonner, Secretary

John J. Kianka, Treasurer

Jane Fahey-Suddaby

H. J. Hubert

R. David Lankes

Patricia Mautino

Richard Strauss

Kathleen M. Wojslaw

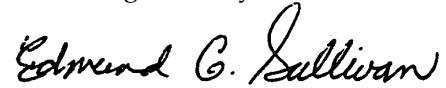
Year in Review

As we look back on 2005, we see a period of transition, marked by increased energy and active engagement throughout the organization. Library staff and administrators worked to develop new services and new partnerships. Member libraries were brought closer through cooperative projects and a shared understanding that only by dramatically improving our shared technology can we move forward.

The board of trustees worked closely with the library's executive director on a range of issues. Perhaps the one with the most potential for long-term impact is the establishment of a foundation intended to develop new sources of funding.

In 2006 the Onondaga County Public Library board of trustees, along with community representatives, library administrators and staff, will begin the important task of developing a strategic plan. We'll ask

questions about what our users need; we'll examine assumptions about what a library should be; and we'll establish priorities for ourselves and for the organization. Over the next year we'll be calling on many of you to participate in this process and look forward to hearing your opinions and ideas as we work to provide excellent library service to the residents of Onondaga County.



Edmund G. Sullivan
President
OCPL, Board of Trustees

Director's Message



All of OCPL was busy in 2005. First, we focused on planning. From ILSI, the Integrated Library System Implementation teams, to the system-

wide tech liaison training, to the new Overdrive downloadable books selection committees, everyone has had an opportunity to participate in the decision-making processes that move OCPL forward as a whole.

Then, we focused on discovery. OCPL sponsored opportunities for all librarians in the region to engage with national experts in the fields of youth services and readers advisory, as well as exploring our own professional literature for new ideas and practices. Our partnerships with

regional educators, historians and cultural institutions expanded our areas of engagement with the community as a whole.

We also extended access to our resources, with additional hours, improvements in technical infrastructure and an increase in materials purchased for the year.

All of OCPL was extremely busy in 2005, and we don't expect to slow down in 2006 — we have a future to catch up to.



Joyce M. Latham
Executive Director
Onondaga County Public Library

Dollars & Sense

2005 Operating Budget

The Onondaga County Public Library has three major program budgets: Central Library/System Services, Syracuse Branch Libraries, and Library Grants. State, federal, and privately funded grants are approved by the source in accordance with program guidelines.

Central Library/System Services

County Funds	\$4,163,793
State Aid	1,237,002
Library Charges	80,000
General Charges—Other Government	555,806
Charges Auto. Circ.- Member Libraries	182,083
Misc. Revenues	10,525
Total Budget	\$6,229,209

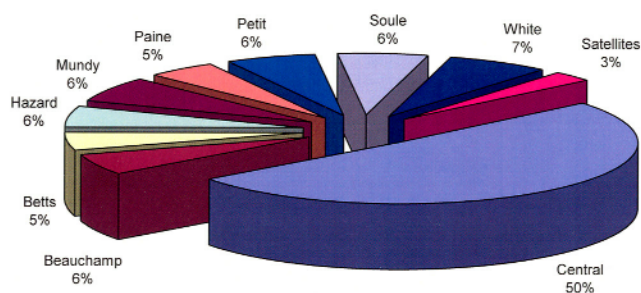
Syracuse Branch Libraries

City of Syracuse	\$5,294,216
Library Charges	84,732
Transfer from Prior Year	257,852
Misc. Revenues	11,774
Total Budget	\$5,648,574

Library Grants

Federal Aid	\$15,172
State Aid	336,426
Library Services and Technology Aid (LSTA)	61,544
E-Rate	33,289
Other	17,150
Total Budget	\$463,581

191,278 Computer Users @ OCPL



Statistical Report

OCPL Central Library & Branch Statistical Highlights

	Circulation	Holds	Reference	Computer Users	Program Attendance
Central	432,449	28,171	165,203	97,472	3,931
Branches	978,742	71,354	164,810	93,806	31,016
Outreach	52,136				
Remote		397,237			
Total	1,463,327	496,762	330,013	191,278	34,947

OCPL Web Site Hits - 392,933
 Online Catalog Access - 2,283,437
 OCPL Database Traffic - 347,100

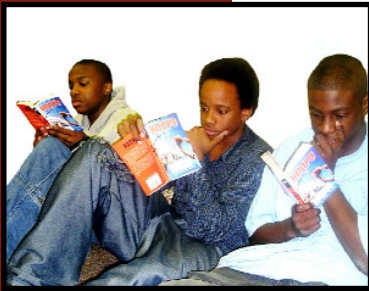
Thanking Our Friends & Supporters



THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD LECTURE SERIES continues to be the largest library-sponsored lecture series in the United States. In 2005, authors Sue Monk Kidd, Walter Dean Myers, Simon Winchester, Henry Petroski, Alexander McCall Smith, and Suzan-Lori Parks spoke. The Friends of the Central Library (FOCL) supports library collections and programs through the lecture series and other fund-raising activities.

READ IT AND PASS IT ON:

Capitalizing on Walter Dean Myers' appearance in the lecture series, FOCL purchased 500 copies of *Hoops* and placed them in schools and community centers. Teens were urged to read it and pass it on to a friend. Myers also visited the Hillbrook Juvenile Detention Center, where he spoke about the power of books.



CENSORSHIP AND THE GRAPES OF WRATH, a symposium held by FOCL at the Delavan Center for the Arts, examined censorship, past and present. Speakers included the Hon. George Lowe, U.S. Magistrate; Edward Conan, Attorney; and Joyce M. Latham, Executive Director of OCPL.

FOCL BOARD MEMBERS:

Kathleen Mezzalingua, President
Barry Weiss, Vice President
Sally McDonald, Secretary
John Tartaglia, CPA, Treasurer
Nancy Belkowitz, Sonya Bonneau, Peter Clark, Patricia Edwards, Ed Kochian, Suzanne McAuliffe, Gail Meagher, Jim Messenger, Joanne Michaels, Debbie Moore, Joanne Murphy, Susan Ryan, James Scherzi, Kathleen Wojslaw, Kim Zimmer

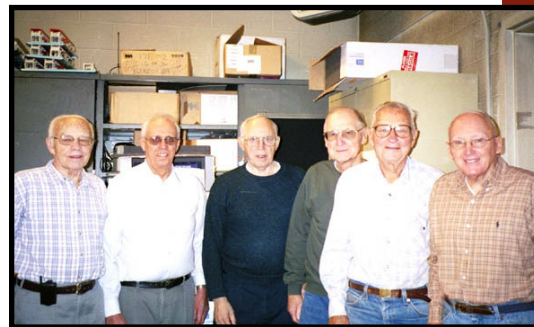
SYRACUSE VERIZON PIONEERS

repair and recondition Talking Book machines used by blind library patrons in Onondaga County in coordination with OCPL's Special Technologies and Adaptive Resources (STAR) program.

OVER 143 VOLUNTEERS devoted nearly 3,500 hours to the Central Library and branches. Volunteer activities ranged from helping out at book sales and program events to sorting, tutoring, and more.

A GENEROUS GIFT

from Yvonne Tasker-Rothenberg, a local library patron, enabled White Branch to add new computers and furniture to the children's area.



SENATOR JOHN DEFRANCISCO

and Assemblyman Jeff Brown supported Onondaga County Public Library by offsetting the impact of unexpected budget cuts.

Colleagues and Collaborations— Building Partnerships

START: STORIES AND ART, a three-part series offered in partnership with the Everson Museum and funded by a grant from the NY State Council for the Arts, allowed participants to explore contemporary art with Johanna Keller, director of the Goldring Arts Journalism program at SU, and photographer Noah Montena.

CENTRAL NEW YORK READS THE NORTH STAR CONSPIRACY:

OCPL teamed with over 30 other organizations to examine the novel's themes of diversity, women's rights, slavery and the Underground Railroad through book discussions, community events, and visits by author Miriam Grace Monfredo.



HIICAP (Health Insurance, Information, Counseling and Assistance Program) volunteers offered patrons help with the new Medicare prescription drug benefit.

AARP TAX-AIDE VOLUNTEERS

offered free income tax assistance for middle- to low-income taxpayers with special attention to seniors at all city branches.

A RARE COLLECTION OF ERIE CANAL PICTURES

was digitized thanks to a partnership between the Jordan Historical Association and OCPL.



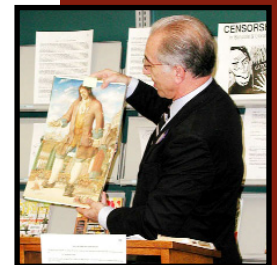
Ancestors, Art and Antics— Central & Branch Programming

**BANNED BOOKS WEEK
READ-A-THON**, sponsored by the OCPL Board of Trustees, featured community leaders and library employees reading from their favorite banned or challenged books to celebrate freedom to read. The two-day event on September 27 and 28 culminated in a reception with featured speaker, author Laurie Halse Anderson.

LOCAL HISTORY/ GENEALOGY offered tours and programs to college and school groups and local organizations. In cooperation with the Friends of the Silvio O. Conte National Archives and the Irish American Cultural Institute of Central New York, OCPL sponsored a program by Jean Nudd, archivist of the National Archives and Records Administration in Pittsfield, Mass.

MUSIC filled the Central Library's public service areas during the holidays with performances by the Syracuse Children's Chorus, the Syracuse University Men's Music Fraternity, and The Lost Boys, winners of the 2005 SAMMY Award for Best Bluegrass Album.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK: Children's book illustrator Jeff Mack visited Children's World in the Central Library to celebrate Children's Book Week. His hands-on program taught children about the magical blending of words and pictures that goes into the making of a great picture book.



Central & Branch Programming - *continued*



CHILDREN'S WORLD welcomed families, summer recreation groups, and preschool groups to free performances by musicians Tom Sieling and Milk & Cookies, cartoonist J.P. Crangle, puppeteer Nancy Sander, and gamester "The Big Guy" from the Amazing Improv Dads. Librarians partnered with SU's Literacy Corps to promote reading to school-children.

PAINE BRANCH'S annual Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration found children listening to a Dr. Seuss story and marching in a "Cat in the Hat" parade. The Henninger High School art students presented their annual art exhibit in December, followed by a reception with Peter Prunner's choir.



BEAUCHAMP BRANCH celebrated Kwanzaa with events including Larry Lott and The Martin Luther King Dancers and crafts depicting the symbols of Kwanzaa.

Family Movie Night drew neighborhood families together to enjoy a night out at the library.

MUNDY BRANCH continued its popular Tails to Tell, encouraging school-age children to read to a real, live and gentle dog, certified as a Canine Good Citizen. Mundy Branch's observance of Hispanic Heritage Month concluded in October with a performance by dancers from The Latino Theater's Youth Troupe.

SOULE BRANCH'S Midday Medleys offered lectures on topics ranging from speculation on what another four years with President Bush means to the country to literary depictions of mountain visions in Western literature. Throughout the year, one-on-one Computer Orientations helped patrons learn about the Internet, e-mail and word processing.

PETIT BRANCH hosted Let's Talk About It, a reading and discussion series that explored Jewish literature and culture. Petit offered Homework Help throughout the school year to schoolchildren.

IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY, White Branch teens, decked out in T-shirts sporting their own original design, cleaned up litter from the library lawn, parking lot, and neighboring sidewalks. In October, staff and patrons marched in the annual Columbus Day Parade.

THE CABIN FEVER QUILT SHOW once again brought color and warmth to Betts Branch throughout February. With quilts tucked away come summer, Betts planned a stellar lineup of musicians for its Music at Sunset concert series held evenings throughout July.

KNIT THE WINTER AWAY attracted knitters of all ability levels to Hazard Branch. The series continued throughout the year with participants knitting mittens and hats for those in need. In Studio Art Workshops, well-known Syracuse artist Alberta Pepin introduced school-age children to sculpture.

ANNE SIMON, NYS Youth Services Consultant, visited the Northeast Community Center Library, where she helped promote the New York State Summer Reading Program to children from the Advantage After-School Program.

At the Southwest Community Center Library, a performance by George Kilpatrick and the Urban Creations Dance Group entertained families during Kwanzaa.



Off to a Good Start— Sharing Books With Children



STORYTELLING: OCPL's Executive Director Joyce M. Latham, assisted by her canine friend Arrow, told stories to children at county libraries throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S BOOK FEST: Some 250 people visited the OCPL room at Clary Middle School. Youth Services staff transformed a classroom into a vegetable patch as a setting for *We're Rabbits!*, by Lisa Westberg Peters and illustrated by Jeff Mack.

NEW YORK STATE SUMMER READING PROGRAM: Throughout Onondaga County, children and teens heard the message Tune in @ your library. As a result, 5,085 children read an average of 15 books each for a total of more than 77,039 books. Averaging eight per reader, 1,281 teens read 10,039 books. Grants from the NYS Division of Library Development and The Syracuse Rotary Foundation, Inc., funded the program.

PAJAMA STORY TIMES: At Central, Mundy, Petit, Beauchamp, Paine, Hazard, and White libraries, children came to the library in their pajamas to hear stories read by community leaders and take home a book. This initiative of County Executive Nicholas J. Pirro and Deputy County Executive Edward Kochian was funded in part by FOCL.

THE READ TO ME FAMILY LITERACY GRANT: Funded by the Community Foundation of Central New York, seven libraries held Read and Play workshops for young children and their families. Staff training and community connections gained through this grant project continue to enhance children's services.



Inside County Lines— System Services

The Onondaga County Public Library is one of 23 public library systems chartered by the Board of Regents of the State of New York. In addition to operating the Central Library, eight city branches, and two satellite libraries, OCPL provides support services to 20 independent member libraries in the county. By contract with the North County Library System, OCPL offers services to three libraries in Oswego County.

The OCPL Plan of Service 2002 – 07, including the system's mission, goals, activities and intended outcomes in providing services to member libraries, is available at <http://www.onlib.org/web-site/pdf/plan.pdf>.

OCPL's sorting and delivery system is responsible for the delivery of materials among all the urban and suburban libraries in Onondaga County, as well as three contract libraries in Oswego County,

the Onondaga County Correctional Facility at Jamesville, and the Hillbrook Detention Facility. Vans traveled approximately 56,286 miles, bringing 2,153,112 bags of books; 1,375,153 bins of videos, DVDs, CDs; and 5,891 boxes of supplies to system libraries in Onondaga County.



New Tech, New Library— Improving Technology & Electronic Resources

NEW ONLINE DATABASES covering African American history, auto repair and maintenance, genealogy, and health were added. Using library online databases, county residents can print legal forms, access practice tests for GED, DAT, ASVAB, and other exams, and research the archives of the Syracuse newspapers.

INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION (ILSI): The process of acquiring a new integrated library system gathered momentum in 2005. A committee was established with 11 subcommittees, each focusing on a specific library function. The committees included staff from various employee levels, representing a significant number of urban, suburban and rural libraries.

The committees developed specifications that were compiled into a request for information (RFI). Five vendors submitted detailed responses and gave demonstrations open to OCPL staffing.

REWIRING FOR METRONET: Staff of the Automation & Technical Services Department rewired many of the branches and member libraries to handle faster Internet service. City branches and 10 of the member libraries are part of the Verizon MetroNet system. The remaining libraries will add high-speed Internet service through Time Warner.

EVENT KEEPER, a new Web-based service, allows library patrons immediate access to current and upcoming events and programs available at libraries systemwide.

Expanding Our Influence— Advocacy & Awareness

A LETTER LOBBY, coordinated by members of OCPL, the Mid-York Library System, and the Central Library Resource Council, alerted Governor Pataki to the impact of cuts to libraries and urged a return to legislated funding levels. In March, library trustees, library friends, and librarians staffed “letter lobby” stations at libraries to collect signatures on letters protesting cuts.

OCPL LIBRARIANS promoted libraries and literacy at numerous area events, including the In the City Festival held at Burnet Park, the Latino fair, Senior Fair, a Home Headquarters event, a FOCUS Sustainability event, and the Health and Wellness Fair. Also, librarians promoted books and special events on local television programs and in newspapers.



A LARGE CENTRAL NEW YORK CONTINGENT

traveled to Albany on March 15, Lobby Day, to meet with local representatives and to personally deliver 3,000 letters of support for public libraries.



Expanding Our Limits— Staff Training & Development

MAKING IT REAL, a state grant funded through the federal Institute of Museums and Library Services, took a practical approach to the shortage of qualified children's librarians by funding a full scholarship for Syracuse

University's master's program in Library and Information Studies.

MARY K. CHELTON, professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at Queens College/CUNY, presented "Encountering Young

Adults: Making Library Interactions with Them Successful" to over 75 area public and school librarians in April at the Central Library. Dr. Chelton returned in October for a Readers Advisory workshop.



NO USER LEFT BEHIND:

In June OCPL launched an ambitious staff-training program funded in part by an LSTA grant from New York State. The grant provided basic readiness training classes to 175 participants to ensure their ability to work comfortably in the Web-based environment required by a new integrated system. Phase 2 will provide vendor-specific training to prepare staff to work effectively with a more sophisticated and complex automated system.

In a critical component of the program, 35 staff members from all 31 system libraries began training as Tech Liaisons. They will install software, troubleshoot PC problems, and train other staff members, freeing Automation and Technical Service staff for more demanding tasks

At the Heart of Things— Focus on Staff

THE OSSIE C. GOLDEN TRUSTEES AWARD went to Rosalind NaPier, OCPL's Youth Services Coordinator. The award honors an employee who exemplifies the dedication and outstanding service that former librarian Ossie Golden demonstrated in her 45 years of library service.

KYUNGJIN PARK, OCPL Personnel Administrator, was recognized as one of the 2005 YWCA Diversity Achievers.

THE LATE GERALD J. PARSONS

was honored on July 13 for his dedication to the Central Library and his significant achievement in the field of genealogy. To commemorate the work of his brother, Paul Parsons presented \$2,500 to the Local History/ Genealogy Department.



SUZANNE NELSON, staff member at NOPL at North Syracuse, received the Making It REAL scholarship, enabling her to pursue a master's degree in Library and Information Studies from Syracuse University.



In the Mix— Diversity and OCPL

TALKING YOUR LANGUAGE:

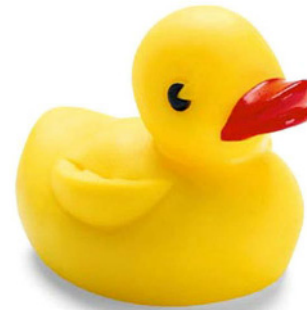
Spanish-speaking patrons will find city libraries more welcoming thanks to an LSTA grant-funded project. Twenty-two library employees took classes in basic Spanish vocabulary, and informational brochures were translated into Spanish.

DUCK RACE TO END RACISM:

Library staff members staffed a booth at the annual Community Wide Dialogue's Duck Race to End Racism. Extending the partnership, OCPL invited the Community Wide Dialogue and community members to join staff in an ongoing discussion of racism issues.

OCPL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

formed to improve minority recruitment efforts and to understand and provide better customer service to OCPL's diverse patrons.



Library Locations

CENTRAL LIBRARY

The Galleries of Syracuse
447 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202
435-1900

BRANCHES

BEAUCHAMP BRANCH

2111 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205
435-3395

BETTS BRANCH

4862 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205
435-1940

HAZARD BRANCH

1620 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
484-1528

MUNDY BRANCH

1204 South Geddes Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
435-3797

PAINE BRANCH

113 Nichols Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13206
435-5442

PETIT BRANCH

105 Victoria Place, Syracuse, NY 13210
435-3636

SOULE BRANCH

101 Springfield Road, Syracuse, NY 13214
449-4300

WHITE BRANCH

763 Butternut Street, Syracuse, NY 13208
435-3519

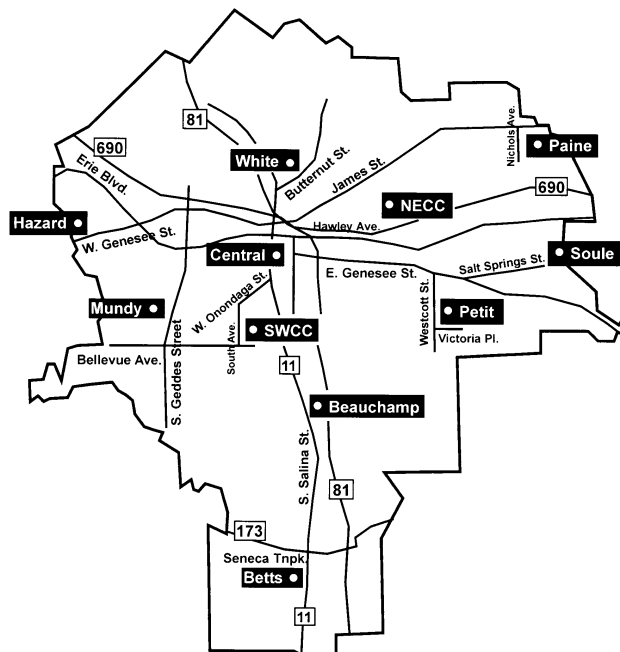
SATELLITE LIBRARIES

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER LIBRARY

716 Hawley Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13203
472-6343 x208

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CENTER LIBRARY

401 South Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13204
474-6823 x142



Suburban Member Libraries

BALDWINSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

33 East Genesee Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027
635-5631

DEWITT COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Shoppingtown Mall
3649 Erie Blvd. East, DeWitt, NY 13214
446-3578

EAST SYRACUSE FREE LIBRARY

4990 James Street, East Syracuse, NY 13057
437-4841

ELBRIDGE FREE LIBRARY

East Main Street, Elbridge, NY 13060
689-7111

FAIRMOUNT COMMUNITY LIBRARY

406 Chapel Drive, Syracuse, NY 13219
487-8933

FAYETTEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

300 Orchard Street, Fayetteville, NY 13066
637-6374

JORDAN BRAMLEY LIBRARY

15 Mechanic Street, PO Box 923, Jordan, NY 13080
689-3296

LAFAYETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Route 11 North, LaFayette, NY 13084
677-3782

LIVERPOOL PUBLIC LIBRARY

310 Tulip Street, Liverpool, NY 13088
457-0310

MANLIUS LIBRARY

1 Arkie Albanese Avenue, Manlius, NY 13104
682-6400

MARCELLUS FREE LIBRARY

2 Slocombe Street, Marcellus, NY 13108
673-3221

MAXWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

14 Genesee Street, Camillus, NY 13031
672-3661

MINOA LIBRARY

242 N. Main Street, Minoa, NY 13116
656-7401

NORTHERN ONONDAGA PUBLIC LIBRARY (NOPL)

8686 Knowledge Lane, Cicero, NY 13039
699-2534

NOPL AT BREWERTON

5437 Library Street, Brewerton, NY 13029
676-7484

NOPL AT CICERO

8686 Knowledge Lane, Cicero, NY 13039
699-2032

NOPL AT NORTH SYRACUSE

100 Trolley Barn Lane, North Syracuse, NY 13212
458-6184

ONONDAGA FREE LIBRARY

4840 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215
492-1727

SALINA FREE LIBRARY

100 Belmont Street, Mattydale, NY 13211
454-4524

SOLVAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

615 Woods Road, Solvay, NY 13209
468-2441

TULLY FREE LIBRARY

12 State Street, Tully, NY 13159
696-8606