

## September 2025 Librarian Notes

Andrew Adaryukov

- **Accomplished Operational Tasks and Projects**
  - a. As required by the grant agreement, spent 5% of the County Bond 2025 funds by deadline: collection development (books and DVDs) and two hard drives to upgrade public-use computers.
- **Ongoing and Upcoming Operational Tasks and Projects**
  - a. Policy reviews.
  - b. New Mexico State Library's ILL and outreach librarian visit.
- **Library Conference Room Art Display**
  - a. August 11-October 13: Theodore Greer's exhibit New Works and Old Favorites. (Very successful, many viewers!).
  - b. We have an expression of interest from a local artist for the next slot (formal application pending), and several possible participants for the future. Overall, this program is working out extremely well!
- **Community Relations**
  - a. Ted Greer, Damien Spencer, and Marla Robb took many highly professional and beautiful photographs of the Mary Mother of Priests Chapel, and we have received a few pictures from the community members. We appreciate everyone's contribution! Next step: determining storage location for archival images, generating display copies and metadata, building a webpage interface, and making the community aware of this new resource.
  - b. The library hasn't received the desired level of response from the Jemez Valley Public School yet, despite multiple emails sent. We will continue efforts to establish communication channels with the school, with the long-term view of substantive cooperation. We are at a similar stage with the Pueblo Library and the Pueblo Department of Education.
- **Facilities and Equipment**
  - a. The water system has been repaired! (A special thank you to the mayor for going an extra mile to facilitate this project).
  - b. The children area furniture upgrade project is progressing, we expect to be placing orders with the vendors this month.
  - c. We have received two computer cases and motherboards from JVCU (thank you!) and have purchased two solid-state hard drives. Next step: ensuring we have uniform, high-quality peripherals (keyboards, computer mice, monitors, cameras, etc.), and having Fred assemble the computers and install and configure required software.
  - d. Researching new furniture options for the reading room and team room: pending. We are also considering several scenarios of a more significant library space re-configuration.
- **Personnel and Professional Development**
  - a. Librarian and Library Assistant attended ARSL 2025 Annual Conference in Albuquerque (Sep 17-20, 2025). It was fun, it was overwhelming, it was highly useful and inspiring. We brought back many new ideas, many new vendor and peer professional contacts, and free books.
  - b. A very fruitful library staff meeting on September 2, full attendance. Operational coordination, strategic planning, and staff training.
  - c. Live and on-demand professional webinars attended by the library director and the librarian assistant.
- **Programs and Events**
  - e. There were two major events this month: Library Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Both were extremely successful!

- f. Library Open House:
  - More than thirty participants.
  - Robust response to the library's solicitation of interest for nearly thirty new potential clubs, events, and programs.
  - Multiple volunteers stepping forward to either lead or assist with many of the library-proposed and a few user-suggested clubs and programs.
  - Refreshments sponsored by several local businesses: the Pie Lady, Brew House, Los Ojos, and Sam's Club—our thanks to everyone for their contribution.
  - Wonderful informal interactions and community atmosphere.
  - Will be an annual event.
- g. Volunteer appreciation dinner:
  - Hosted by Cliff and Barb—thank you!
  - More than a dozen volunteers were able to attend.
  - All volunteers received or, if they couldn't attend the dinner, will receive a card and a small gift.
  - A highly meaningful library tradition helping to honor and encourage the community's active engagement with and support of the library.
- h. The first event in a series of gardening talks sponsored by the Sandoval Extension Master Gardeners (SEMG) was a success! Thank you to Elaine Sutherland for spearheading this program.
- i. The *Friday Fun* program continues to encounter serious challenges with participation. It appears to be due to a combination of factors, some of which are within our control (promotion) and some are not (demographics, logistics, conflicting schedules). We will give it another month, increase our marketing efforts, and, if there is no significant improvement, reevaluate the program's feasibility.
- j. All other regular programs continue to be successful.
- k. The library has started working on standing up new clubs and implementing new programs in the order of priorities based largely on feedback from the Open House.

- **Media and Patron Communication**

- a. The library maintained a cadence of several Facebook posts a week. Next steps: work on more exact statistics and engagement analysis, experiment with post types and formats and increased post frequency.
- b. The library has secured a NextDoor account. Next steps: mastering the platform's mechanics and features.
- c. The library continues to post content in the local newspaper. Next steps: better tracking of the posts, more content, researching ways to gauge impact.
- d. A serious current challenge: finding an affordable, well-performing mass mailing platform. Without it, the library is limited to passive forms of promotion and advertising.
- e. The library is exploring tools for online polling and schedule coordination.
- f. A long-term systemic challenge: communicating with patrons who are not active social media users or don't have sufficient Internet access. We will continue to work on this issue.

- **Contact-Free & Outside-The-Working-Hours Services**

- a. Curbside pickup, lockers for 24/7 hold pickups, laptops to use outside the library, and reference via phone/ email.

- ❖ **A huge thank you to all the library staff and volunteers** who make our daily operations, along with such a rich schedule of programs and events, possible!
- ❖ **The Friends of the Library** continue to be a tremendous support by assisting with the library's operational costs and by funding programming expenses and special purchases. **Thank you for your invaluable contribution!**

Library Board Agendas (prior to the meeting), and Librarian Notes and Library Board-Approved minutes (minutes are typically reviewed and approved at the subsequent board meeting) can be found on the library website here: <https://jsplibrary.org/board-meetings/>