

Onawa Public Library

707 Iowa Ave.

Onawa, IA 51040 Ph. 712 423-1733

Annual Report 2019-2020



www.onawa.lib.ia.us



For those without money, the road to that treasure house of the imagination begins at the public library.

I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card.

Laura Bush

“Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.”

Lady Bird Johnson



**BECAUSE STRONG LIBRARIES
BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES.**

LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM



“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.”

—Andrew Carnegie

**BECAUSE YOU CAN
BORROW MORE
THAN YOU CAN BUY.**

LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM

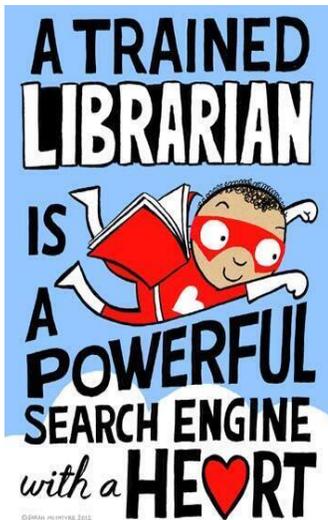




THE LIBRARY -- GOALS AND PERSONNEL

The Onawa Public Library provides the residents of Onawa and the surrounding area with access to books, library materials and other resources, as well as programs and services to meet their informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs. The library promotes reading and the use of library materials, and provides support for community, cultural and historical activities. Through its staff, Board and services, the library builds knowledge, understanding and appreciation of libraries and library materials in those it serves.

Financial support of donations from gracious library supporters, the City of Onawa, the Monona County Board of Supervisors, Enrich Iowa, Open Access, Access Plus, and Iowa Infrastructure enable the library to serve the majority of people in Monona County.



We feel so fortunate to have a staff of employees who are dedicated to supplying the kind of quality service that the patrons of the Onawa Public Library have become accustomed to. As you can see below we had several staff changes during the beginning of 2020. Lori, Maggie, and Ann gave us many wonderful years but felt it was time to step back and let some fresh ideas come in.

These workers are listed below as well as their years of service to the library:

Director:	Lori Beck	33.5 years (Retired 2/29/2020)
Director:	Amy McDermott	8 years (Director: 3/1/2020)
Librarians:	Chris Zink	29 years
	Ann Crawford	17 years (Retired 4/2020)
	Margaret Blatchford	14 years (Retired 1/2020)
	Rachel Ruffcorn	9 years
	Laurie Joy	1 year
	Prairie Compton	Started 4/15/2020

Board of Library Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Onawa Public Library who, like the founding fathers of the library, are civic minded people who truly love and support our library. Without their dedication, our library would not be the community asset that it is.

These members of our Board were as follows:

Jessica Hupke	appointed July 2016	(July 2022)	President
Matt Minnihan	appointed July 2008	(July 2020)	Vice-President
Lou Hewitt	appointed July 2010	(July 2022)	Publicity
Jenn Collison	appointed July 2018	(July 2024)	
Curtis Sturgill	appointed April 2018	(July 2024)	

The dates of expiration of their terms on the Board are shown in parenthesis.



Rooted in Our Community

FINANCE

Every year we have to depend on the gracious and generous support of many different entities and people. Our City is a constant source of great support for our facility making us able to continue to provide wonderful services for those in our community who cannot afford these things themselves. We are always pleased with the amount of donations that have been given. Some of these come in the form of memorials, monetary gifts, or a gift of an item from our wish list. Sadly, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic closures our revenue was down slightly. Closures mean little to no printing, faxing, and scanning; no passport processing, and no patrons coming in to offer donations.

Balance on hand: July 1, 2019



Revenue Collection	(Actual)
Transfers in (city funds)	\$ 124,448.00
Monona County	\$ 19,239.00
Fees and fines	\$ 3,450.00
Fee cards	\$ 30.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,107.00
Gifts	\$ 735.00
Memorials	\$ 1,451.00
Facility tax	\$ 20,228.00
Rents	\$ 5,220.00
Grant	\$ -
Enrich Iowa	\$ 2,216.00
Totals	\$ 180,124.00

Expenditures

(Actual)

Salaries	\$ 76,304.00
Withholdings FICA, IPERS, Health Ins	\$ 26,358.00
Repairs	\$ 6,506.00
Liability Ins. -Work Comp	\$ 6,091.00
Books & Periodicals	\$ 18,853.00
Operational supplies	\$ 37,578.00
Misc/petty cash	\$ 1,195.00
Memorials	\$ 693.00
Capitol Outlay - Improvements	\$ -
Totals	\$ 173,578.00



We truly value and appreciate the generosity of our patrons. With the continued support of our community, we will be able to keep up with whatever changes the future holds for America's Libraries.

A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.

–Andrew Carnegie



The citizens of our community are experiencing strange times with the economy and Covid-19 and we are noticing many changes in our statistics. Covid-19 closures are prompting a lot more Internet use of the library. The library has been able to continue to provide BRIDGES eBook/audio services to our patrons. This service has seen a continued growth level and our Facebook page continues to gain support and followers. We are always looking for new ways to expand our services such as proctoring tests, processing passports, BRIDGES eBooks, and free Wi-Fi.

BRIDGES is an eService that we subscribe to for our patrons to use to download any form of audio. There are many different formats and genres available. We have had an ever-increasing number of patrons subscribe to use this service. We now have 246 patrons who have registered and used this service for a total of 3073 circulations this fiscal year.



Circulation Statistics:

Books:

Adult	7467
Young Adult	231
Juvenile	<u>1814</u>
Total Books	9512

Other Materials:

Video (VHS & DVD)	2238
Audio	659
Periodicals	438
All others	<u>146</u>
Total	3481

Registered Patrons:

	3627
Patrons Added	99
Patrons Withdrawn	<u>28</u>
Total active patrons	3698

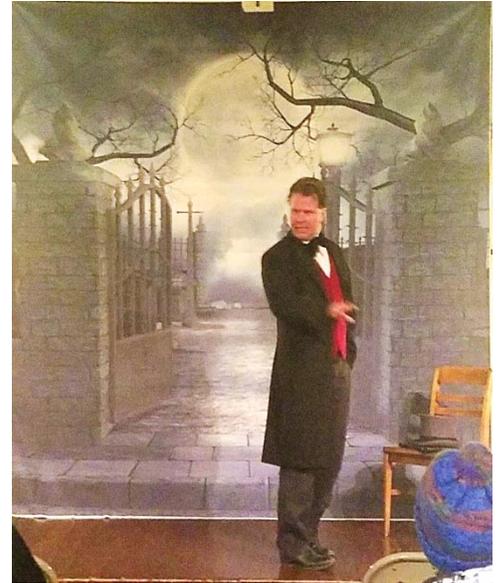
Meeting Room use	3610@ 247 mtgs
In-Library Material use	8,500
Door Count	22,452
Computer usage	7001

Holdings:

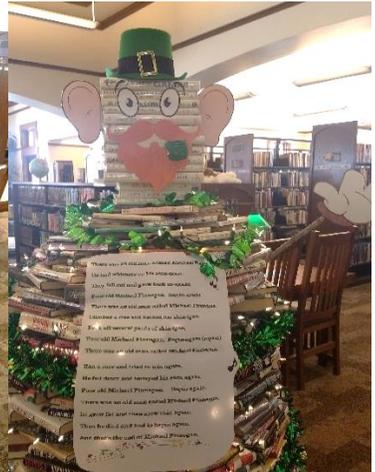
Items held at the start of the year	46,024
Materials Added	1,318
Materials Withdrawn	<u>3,792</u>
Total materials at year end	43,550

We have continued to provide more programming for adults/families this year, although due to Covid-19 we were unable to hold any programming from March - June.

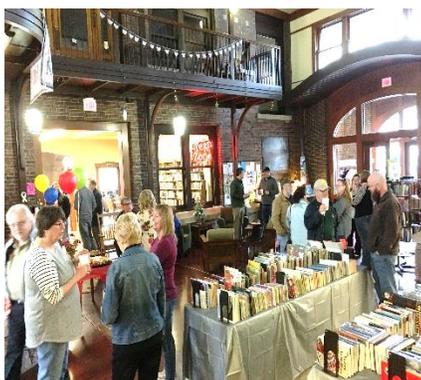
We were able to have singers Jerry Barlow and Little Joe McCarthy play in the late summer and fall. We also had an amazing story teller who presented Morbid Curriosities. This was Darrin Crow's interpretation of Edgar Allen Poe and his life. Due to poor weather there was not a large turn out but those that did make it had an enchanting evening complete with goodies from two local bakers!!!



The staff has had fun with our "Book Tree" which has turned into many different things such as a wonderful snowperson, Bunny (easter and beach), a leprechan, an apple, and a dragon to go along with the reading program.



Our biggest program this year was Lori Beck's retirement. In the morning we hosted Chamber Coffee. We had refreshments and cookies available throughout the day for those that wanted to wish her well. In the evening, there was music by Brittney Donn and some kereoke by friends and family! Along with refreshments and snacks. This was a bitter sweet day for all of us!



We have been the starting and registration point for OnaBike for many years now. The event has been recently renamed the OnaBike/Shawn Gosch Memorial ride. Every year we have returning riders, as well as new ones! As with everything else, due to Covid-19 there were fewer riders however there was a good turn out with people being mindful of each other with social distancing and wearing masks. T-shirts were done honor of the great toilet paper shortage of 2020! Laughter truly is the best medicine!



“Books for Babies”

63 babies were born at Burgess Health Center in this fiscal year. We were so thrilled to be able to provide this wonderful gift for each child born. This project was funded by John and Carol Murphy and has recently been supported by the Friends of the Library. We have a very good system in place and have been able to supply new books to all the babies born at Burgess Hospital for several years now.

We proctor tests for students who need this service. We have had requests for this service and are happy to help in any way we can for our citizens to further their education and save time and money while doing it.



We are also a passport acceptance facility and have 2 registered agents who can process the applications. We have been getting people from areas north that cannot get appointments with the Sioux City Post Office. We have been very busy with passports each year and processed 108 passports this year. People come in from Nebraska and the Sioux City area to have us process their forms. It is an amazing service and we are so glad to be able to provide this service for our community.

Imagine Your Story



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We held our 28th Summer Reading Program this year. Things were very different this year due to Covid-19. We had 18 children signed up for our program and 17 actively participated. Over 7700 pages were read by the boys and girls who turned in their forms.

School let out in early March so we were hopeful parents would want their kids to have something to do over the summer. Our program ran from June 8th to August 5th. Most of our programs were take home activities since we were unable to have in library programs.

Program 1: Plant Your Story

This first program was about planting your story so it could grow. It made us think of Jack and the Beanstalk! We provided take home bags that had a cup, dirt, seeds, and a castle on a stick. We also provided a picture of two silly eyes and had them “imagine” what they belonged to. With this being a year of not being able to gather we provided a fun story they could listen to on-line. 18 participants

Program 2: Breathe Life into Your Story

For this week’s activity we provided a way for the kids to “breathe life into their story”. We provided take home kits to make fire breathing dragons (they don’t really breath fire though). It is also a good reminder to us that sometimes if we stop and take a deep breath it can help clear our minds and help us make better choices. This program also provided the kids with a picture of a cracked egg so they could create their own story about what came from the egg. 17 participants

Program 3: Design Your Story’s Picture

For this program we were able to set up appointments to have the kids join us in the library one family at a time. The kids enjoyed coloring on bags that they would get to take home later. They also got a fun snack and got to check out books. The kids really seemed to enjoy being in the library again and doing their craft in person. This week they received a crystal ball to imagine their story. 17 participants

Program 4: Create Your Story

This program was another take home project. We provided the kids with stick people and fun items such as fabric, puff balls, pipe cleaners, string, etc. so they could make their own creations. Some kids even sent us videos of their puppet shows. I think this one was their favorite activity. This week’s “imagine your story” was a picture of a boat and fisherman and the kids got to decide what was under the water. 14 participants

Program 5: Color Your Story

What a lovely day to be outside! We provided chalk to each participant and they got to pick a spot on the sidewalk and color whatever they wanted. We were still dealing with Covid-19 closures so it was great to let them spread out and see their friends for a little while. They also had a take home project that included a dragon face and popsicle stick to make a mask out of. 11 participants

Program 6: Magic, Myth, and Mirth!

What a great bunch of kids!!! They all wore their masks so that they could watch this fun magician tell his own stories. They laughed and volunteered. Seemed like they had a good time. Kids are so resilient! We sent home “enchanted forest” pictures for them to create a story with. 17 participants

Program 7: Fairy/Troll Houses

This program was another by appointment activity. The kids got to decorate clay pots turned upside down (or right side up if that was their story). They used all sorts of craft materials to make fairy, troll, mermaid, cat, and dragon houses. These kids have the best imaginations!!! And what was chasing them? They drew wonderful things that were chasing their picture guy away. Dragons, dinosaurs, herds of lions, and even a bear! 10 participants

Our final program of the year was a Pizza Party! We brought each participant their own personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. Pizza Hut also provided us with a certificate for each child for a free personal pan pizza. The kids got to watch a movie while they ate and then we went outside and chalking on the sidewalk to end our program. 17 participants

Although it was a difficult with Covid-19 the kids were very responsive to the activities and the staff enjoyed listening to the stories they created! They brought their activities back to share with us and we have a book at the library of all the pictures they created. Due to the smaller number of participants we gave out bigger prizes and everyone got them. We encouraged reading by providing links to on-line stories and Norbert helped us display amazing books the kids could check out. Who is Norbert you ask? Well, he is the dragon we turned our "Book Tree" into. He had a great time taking pictures with the kids and their activities.



Onawa Public Library

Trust Fund Accounts

The Onawa Public Library has been the recipient of several memorial trust funds. In nearly all instances, the principal is not to be used and there are specific instructions as to how the interest of each of these accounts may be used.

Trust funds are as follows:

Allen \$973 Interest on hand \$271.48 \$0.00 spent
Fran Interest to be used for biographies

Burton \$2,500 Interest on hand \$187.20 \$0.00 spent
Harry Interest to be used to create an interest in astronomy

McCaskey \$1,000 Interest on hand \$395.10 \$0.00 spent
Edith Interest to be used for books for the general collection.

Murphy \$15,216.33 Interest on hand \$376.65 \$0.00 spent
Esther Some interest to be used for children's books some to accumulate.

Meyers \$5,000 Interest on hand \$1086.31 \$0.00 spent
Frank C. Interest to be used for books on history, biographies & general collection.

Pennington \$1,000 Interest on hand \$370.66 \$0.00 spent
Horton B. Interest to be used for non-fiction books on history.

Prichard \$550 Interest on hand \$341.02 \$0.00 spent
Robert Interest to be used for books.

Prichard \$405 Interest on hand \$93.69 \$0.00 spent
E.M. "Bert" Interest to be used for books

Ropes \$2,200 Interest on hand \$153.08 \$31.33 spent
Wayne Interest to be used for adult non-fiction
& Cora John Ropes contributed for a time with the purchase of Savings Bonds which will begin maturing in 2026

Snyder \$300 Interest on hand \$283.82 \$0.00 spent
Earl Interest to be used for items reflecting Earl's interests.

Williams M \$6263.80 Interest on hand \$82.93 \$274.34 spent
Wright D These two funds were combined at the family's request and items purchased should reflect each woman's interest.

Blakely \$1851.74 available \$0.00 spent(Loren) \$698.97 available \$0.00 spent (Helen)
Loren & Helen Fund established to purchase fiction books that reflect Loren's and Helen's interests.

We are also blessed to have regular contributors whose funds we are able to use at our discretion. We greatly appreciate your trust in us and hope that we are able to use the funds to best exemplify their wishes.



Covid-19 Visitor



Covid-19 Helper



Rainbow in dark times



As librarians,
our job is to help
young people find
the right book for
who they are now,
without judgment.



**Butterfly
Garden
On West
Sidewalk**

