

**Bozeman Public Library**  
**Annual Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2009**  
**July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009**

**Highlights of the Past Year**

- The Board of Trustees bid farewell to Al Kesselheim after 12 years as a Library trustee. He served as a library spokesperson and was a dedicated and articulate supporter of the Library. Judy Mathre, longtime Bozeman resident and former City Commissioner, joined the Board in July.
- Outdoor sculptures can be enjoyed along the Library grounds thanks to the Gallatin Art Crossing, which plans to add one piece of public art to its permanent collection each year. The Bozeman Sculpture Park Board is eventually planning to place sculptures along the trail south of the building.
- The Library won a Merit Award in the 2008 Montana American Institute of Architect (AIA) Awards Program. The jury cited the Library's beautiful detailing, exciting contemporary look, contextual sensitivity, and environmental achievements.
- The Library's Main Street to Mountains Trail Connection received a 2008 Beautification Award from the City of Bozeman's Beautification Advisory Board, presented by Mayor Kaaren Jacobson in October.
- A Downtown Portrait Project display of photographs and stories from the March 5 natural gas explosion in downtown Bozeman hung in the Atrium Gallery in May. The project was shot on location the month following the explosion by photographer Ben Pierce.
- Our Library partnered with local museums to offer the free "Check Out a Museum Pass" for Library cardholders to visit the American Computer Museum, the Children's Museum, the Pioneer Museum, and the Museum of the Rockies.

**Graph: Adult & Children/Teen Programs, Attendance 2004-2009**

2004	
Children/Teens:	12,567
Adults:	1,211
2005	
Children/Teens:	12,585
Adults:	2,017
2006	
Children/Teens:	12,924
Adults:	878
2007	
Children/Teens:	13,294
Adults:	2,854
2008	
Children/Teens:	15,926
Adults:	3,384
2009	
Children/Teens:	18,735
Adults:	5,317

## Serving Adults

- A Library survey showed that 95.2% of our patrons were extremely or very satisfied with overall Library services. We encourage patrons to fill out suggestion forms as we value their input.
- The Library hosted the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on January 18 with a march down Main Street and live music and speakers at the Library to honor the vision of Dr. King.
- “Worlds Connect @ Your Library,” the theme for National Library Week April 12-18, featured entomologist and author E.O. Wilson, poet Greg Pape, author Aladdin Elaasar, and travel slides by Benjamin Donatelle.
- “Montana Library2 Go” began in May 2009 and offers patrons downloadable audio books from their home or library computer.
- “Master the Art of Reading” was the adult summer reading theme for 2009.

## Serving Children & Teens

- We held our first Children’s Festival of the Book in August 2008 with our featured guest, illustrator Paul O. Zelinsky. We had panel discussions, author readings and kids’ activities, all free and open to the public. The Festival was sponsored by the Library Foundation and Humanities Montana.
- Our “Baby Brains” project provided staff training, a public lecture on brain development, and packets for new parents.
- Christmas Stroll activities on December 6 featured holiday music performed by local choirs and young musicians, making homemade cards and ornaments, and decorating sugar cookies baked by Elle’s Belles. The Secret Gift Shop for children ages 3-8 allows children to make small homemade gifts for their family.
- Montana NTRAK, a local model railroading club, set up 10 scale miles of miniature model trains in the Community Room for a weekend at the end of February.
- Screen-Free Week activities were held the week of April 20, with yoga, chess, Earth Day celebration, and dance performances for children and families. Children who survived a week without TV or videos could spend the night at the Library in May!
- The Library kicked off its “Be Creative @ Your Library” summer reading program with a Summer Carnival in June featuring a puppet show by Markie Scholz, and magic and juggling by Steve Aldrich, with music provided by teen musicians. Teens submitted book reviews for the “Express Yourself” summer reading program.

## Library Foundation

The Foundation seeks to increase and enhance the quality of services, programs, and community events offered, while advocating for private and public support of the Library. In 2009, the Foundation:

- Sponsored the first-ever Children’s Festival of the Book;
- Hosted the inaugural One Book – One Bozeman community read program with *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder;
- Started “Benches for Booklovers,” providing memorial benches on Library grounds;
- Funded the first Artist in Residence program with local artist Jerolyn Dirks.
- Sponsored the new “Baby Brains: Partnering with Parents” project for infants 0-3;
- Started two new series: Gallatin Valley Forum with a live audience, taped for radio, and Essay Writing Workshops for high school students taking the S.A.T. and filling out college applications;
- Continued and expanded the popular *Exploring the Arts* monthly series, introducing the new program *Jazz & More...* with Kelly Roberti;
- Hosted Artist Receptions in the Atrium Gallery;
- Sponsored children’s, young adult, and adult programs, including the new “Yoga for Moms & Babies” class taught by Karen Averitt;
- Provided the flowering baskets along Main Street and the holiday tree lights.

## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library met its goal of over 250 members this year. Their financial support helps the Library by purchasing needed equipment and library materials and by sponsoring community activities and programs. In the past year, the Friends welcomed Lindley Perk to the coffee shop located in the Library entrance. In addition to providing beverages and food, Lindley Perk works closely with the Friends in selling a great selection of recycled books. With revenues from memberships, a percentage of sales from the coffee shop, and three used book sales a year, the Friends raised over \$60,000 to give back to and support the Library, including:

- LCD projectors and laptops for small community and conference rooms;
- Continuing education grants to library staff;
- Two outside benches as part of the “Benches for Booklovers” fundraiser;
- Audio-visual shelving;
- Program with author & editor Landon Jones about F. Scott Fitzgerald’s little known trip to Montana in 1915;
- Montana2Go, downloadable audio books;
- Dog courtesy stations along trail;
- DVDs and books on CDs;
- Edwin O. Wilson program and book signing;
- Museum Passes for library patrons;
- Mobile coat rack;
- Reading Right from the Start booklets for parents.

## Library Statistics (chart)

### Registered Borrowers :

2008:	27,711
2009:	29,329

### Circulation :

2008:	601,250
2009:	635,133

### Library Materials :

2008:	125,515
2009:	131,674

### Reference Questions :

2008:	109,281
2009:	111,590

### Meeting Room Use :

2008:	1,104
2009:	1,246

### Meeting Room Attendance :

2008:	31,969
2009:	40,653

### Adult Programs

#### Programs Presented :

2008:	84
2009:	136

#### Attendance :

2008:	3,384
2009:	5,317

## Children's & Teen Programs

### Programs Presented :

2008:	451
2009:	508

### Attendance :

2008:	15,926
2009:	18,735

### Visitors :

2008:	382,464
2009:	410,235

## **Graph:** 2009 Library Programs & Meeting Attendance

Children & Teen Programs:	18,735
Adult Programs:	5,317
Meeting Rooms:	40,653

## **Graph:** Circulation 2004-2009

2004:	492,133
2005:	494,988
2006:	523,788
2007:	547,194
2008:	601,250
2009:	635,133

## **Graph:** Total Visitors 2004-2009

2004:	335,071
2005:	333,473
2006:	320,858
2007:	347,009
2008:	382,464
2009:	410,235

## **List of Boards**

### **Trustees**

Ron Farmer, Chair  
Holly Brown  
Marilyn King  
Jacki McGuire  
Judy Mathre

### **Library Director**

Alice Meister

### **Library Foundation**

Paula Beswick, Foundation Director  
Susan Quarles, President  
Jennifer Morrical, Vice President  
Vikki Leuschen, Treasurer

SharlaRae Stuber, Secretary  
Rick Allen  
Susan Barbisan  
Diana Blank  
Heather Jernberg  
Alan Kesselheim (new 2009)  
Lindsey Kurz  
Daryl Paulson  
Mike Redburn  
Aurene Sinnema

**Friends of the Library**

John Gallagher, President  
Amy McNamara, Vice-President  
Melissa Jacoby, Treasurer  
Mara Johnson, Secretary  
Mary Doyle  
David House  
Shirley Davidson  
Vicky York  
René Tanner  
Jamie Johnston  
Gale Farnsworth

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[www.bozemanlibrary.org](http://www.bozemanlibrary.org)

The Bozeman Public Library ...offering free, open, and equal access to information for the people of Gallatin County