



# ACDL

## The Month In Review

### **LIBRARY EXPERIENCES / TESTIMONIALS / REPORTS – June 2022**

“Who designed the Children’s Garden? It’s beautiful! I find it so inspirational!”

*~ Ashtabula Patron Brittany*

“Thank you so much for providing this printing service. When Staples closed I wasn’t sure what we were going to do. And you are open late, which is perfect for me.”

*~ New Ashtabula Patron*

Dwight taught a couple how to move tax information on their phone from text format to a proper word document so they could print it out. Amazed and grateful, the overjoyed couple happily made a contribution to the library in thanks for the exemplary service they received.

*~ Ryan, Ashtabula Branch Manager*

“Not only did Melissa read with our students, she provided a protocol of natural consequence and helped our students with recall in retelling the stories. She got our students thinking by encouraging empathy, teamwork and mutual respect. I appreciate every moment she has been in our program. You are very lucky to have her.”

*~ Krisia Keenan, Discovery Cove Administrator*

While assisting a patron with a print job, she mentioned how much money she spends on buying ebooks. I asked if she was interested in getting her ebooks free of charge through the library and proceeded to set her up with a library card and the Libby App. Afterward she smiled and said, “You are a wonder, you have done such a good thing!”

*~Lauren, Geneva Branch Manager*

Personal note from an ACDL Foundation donor: “Please accept the enclosed donation to the library foundation from [us]. We are privileged to support such a worthwhile local cause. Thank you for all you do.”

*David & Michelle*

An Ashtabula County resident called to tell me how pleased she was to see the Bookmobile back in service. She recently spotted the Bookmobile at our Footville stop, and it brought a smile to her face.

*~Lauren, Geneva Branch Manager*

While driving the ACDL van in the Geneva-on-the-Lake Summer Kick-Off Parade, Jim couldn’t help but smile when he heard shouts of “We love the library!” coming from the parade watchers.

*~Jim, Mobile Services & Outreach Associate*

A volunteer helping to sign up local youth for a free summer sports camp mentioned how beautiful both of the ACDL library buildings are. He enjoyed the charm of the Geneva building and the classical beauty of the Ashtabula building. He thought the modern addition on the Carnegie building in Ashtabula was particularly well done.

*~Lauren, Geneva Branch Manager*

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A local Geneva patron was so excited to learn about the summer reading theme, *Oceans of Possibilities*, that she purchased and donated two large cardboard decorations for the children's area. Geneva's treehouse area now features a moveable ship's wheel and a nautical anchor.

~Lauren, Geneva Branch Manager



## PUBLIC SERVICE

- COVID test demand increased significantly in May. We distributed the 180 tests in Ashtabula. Geneva Library distributed an additional 216 tests to area residents.
- We received notice that the Conneaut Foundation/Youth Philanthropy group had awarded ACDL \$830 to be applied to the grant Dwight submitted for circulating Roku. The Roku will be preloaded with subscriptions to Hoopla, Kanopy and Netflix, Disney+ and HBO/MAX (only one premium channel per device).
- Angela Knapp will be returning on a temporary basis to assist with public services this summer. Angela's skills with youth services, circulation functions, and mobile service tasks will be put to excellent use.
- Carol is currently adding metadata to the fourth box of historical photographs and scanning the 1988 Ashtabula High School yearbook. She completed the adjusting and cropping of the fifth box of photographs which should be uploaded soon.
- The community organizations that used the Robert S. Morrison Foundation Room, Ashtabula Foundation Room and other spaces in the Ashtabula Library in May included: NEOFund, Ashtabula County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Community Advisory Panel, High Council of the United Eastern Lenape Nation, Zonta, Building Resiliency Together, Community Counseling, Alzheimer's Support Group, LGBTQ Coalition, Ashtabula County Genealogical Society, Second Chance Citizen's Circle, Ashtabula County Genealogical Society, ACDL Board of Trustees, Signature Health Mobile Unit, Ashtabula Lions Club, Lake County Free Clinic, Geneva Camera Club, Key



Bank, Ashtabula County Football Hall of Fame, Jarrod Bunch Youth Football, and the Girl Scouts.

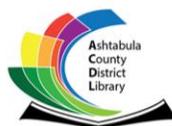
- Josh installed a Nalox box, an opioid emergency rescue kit, supplied by Signature Health in an easily accessible public location in Ashtabula. A representative from Signature Health provided training on Narcan administration to Ashtabula staff who voluntarily registered.
- 366 votes were cast at the Ashtabula Library during the May 3, 2022, Primary Election. Geneva Library also served as a polling place for Geneva-area residents.
- Geneva Library served as a meeting place for local organizations including Geneva Rotary Club, Friends of Geneva Library, Kiwanis Club of Geneva, Geneva Country Quilters, Life Without Chains, Nantucket Woods Condo Association, and our local Spencerian Writers group. Geneva also had several groups of tutors and students who utilized the library for learning sessions.
- Lauren reached out to Trumbull Township Trustee Dr. John McMahan to explore and discuss the possibility of creating a public Wifi zone located at the Trumbull Township Admin Building on Rt 534.
- The Edith R. Morrison & Mary W. Morrison Genealogy and Archive Room averaged 20 visitors per week in May, two of whom were from Philadelphia, Pa. & Florida. The average number of visitors, as well as computer users & resources used mirrored April with just over 320 resources used and close to three-quarters of the visitors using the computers.
- Some of the more interesting research that Carrie completed for patrons in May: History of the Fork & Hoe building on the corner of Washington Ave./West 57<sup>th</sup>; coverage of an accident at the CEI Plant resulting in two deaths; the Venen family of Conneaut to prove Mayflower lineage; the Davis family of Hartsgrove to prove DAR lineage; a woman who is currently visiting from Georgia was trying to locate a recent photo taken of her painting flower pots; and a Florida man trying to locate the name of the owner of a turkey farm in California that he visited years ago as a child.
- Highlights of volunteer activities in the Archives/Genealogy room include:
  - Char has finished scanning Moina Large's History of Ashtabula county. She continues to organize, sleeve, number, and enter the information of the photo collection into a spreadsheet.
  - Kelsi has finished prepping the remaining Ashtabula Dart yearbooks for upload with Ohio Memory, and has begun the process of prepping the Lee/Gee letters, Andover Church records, and Moina Large books for upload.
- During the month of May, Geneva had over 100 volunteer hours logged. A large portion of these came from our Teen Action Group (TAG) members who assisted with two large programs: the week-long Harry Potter Escape Room and the Summer Reading Kick-Off Party.

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- Jim completed 26 Homebound visits with area residents and 27 Home Delivery Express stops. Combined checkouts related to these home services were nearly 300 items. Jim was also able to place 170 items into local Bookdrop Collections throughout the ACDL service area.
  - Bookmobile service continues to expand. New service points for the month of May included Austinburg Town Hall, Harpersfield Township Garage, and the Bardmoor and Bonniewood neighborhoods in Ashtabula. While May Bookmobile stops at Saint John School and Superior Elementary schools were the last for the current school year, students and teachers are excited to begin (and possibly expand) service again in the fall. Overall, the Bookmobile served 158 children and 23 adults in the month of May.
  - Jim continues to serve residents at the Rae-Ann Nursing Home in Geneva with a read-aloud program. This month he completed his reading of Stephen King's baseball novella *Blockade Billy*, and he started reading Erich Segal's *Love Story*.
  - The *Community Garden at Geneva Library* is officially open. Gardeners put spade to soil and planted their first seeds and seedlings on May 14. Master gardeners were on hand to provide advice and guidance on planting techniques and to give away seeds courtesy of Ohio State University Extension.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & OUTREACH

- Lauren accepted the invitation of Geneva Area City Schools Superintendent Terri Hrina-Treharn to sit as a panel judge for the Geneva High School Pitch Contest. Students were asked to think of a real-world problem and brainstorm a product to help address that problem. Then, they crafted and practiced a Shark Tank-style investment pitch to be presented to the panel of judges. It was clear students were critically thinking about the world around them and invested in developing entrepreneurial solutions to improve the lives of others. Lauren enjoyed having the opportunity to engage with the students in this creative endeavor, and she looks forward to hearing the ideas students bring forward at next year's contest.
- Alecia, Mike and Ryan assisted Ashtabula County Community Action Agency (ACCAA) in unpacking and sorting books received as part of an Appalachian reading initiative.
- Ryan attended monthly meetings for Longest Day of Play; Head Start Policy Council; and Building Resiliency Together.
- Jim decorated the ACDL van and participated in the Geneva-on-the-Lake Summer Kick-Off Parade. With the help of four TAG members, he was able to generate a lot of smiles and pass out some candy to parade watchers of all ages.
- As a result of his coordination of the *What Was I Wearing* display in our gallery, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center asked Dwight to join their Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

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- Rebecca attended the ADDA Economic Vitality Meeting; Two Rotary Club meetings; a CREATES meeting; and the NEO Networking Meeting on Social Media Practices.
  - The Community Connection Fair was on Friday, May 27. Rebecca set up a table with marketing materials and a door prize. She interacted with 61 people and the most valued resource was the June Events flier. The most common comment overheard was “Oh the Library, I love the Library!”
  - ACDL participated in the Saybrook Memorial Day Parade on May 30 with 3 TAG volunteers who handed out candy and event fliers. It was a small parade, relatively early in the morning, and there was not a large crowd but we were one of the few handing out candy so we had a very positive impact.
  - Mike attended two Lions Club meetings; a LGBTQ+ Coalition meeting; the A-Tech Board Meeting; and the OMJ Partners meeting.

#### **MARKETING / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

- American Library Association’s PR Xchange Award:
  - The PR Xchange Award winners were chosen late in the month in May and Rebecca won two awards for the 2022 PR Xchange Awards Competition for the Educator Brochure in the 'External Communications' category and for the 25 Days of ACDL events flier in the 'Special Events' category for our budget category! These marketing materials will be on display at the ALA conference in June and be made available for library marketers to take home with them.
  - From the [ALA website](#): “The annual PR Xchange Awards Competition recognizes the very best public relations materials produced by libraries in the past year. Entries are evaluated on content, originality, and design by a team of experts in public relations, graphic design, communications, and marketing, who select the winner(s) in each category. Unlike the annual John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards, this competition evaluates the singular promotional items a library produces, not the entire campaign.”



**We're here for Homeschool & Digital Learning!**

**Contact Us**

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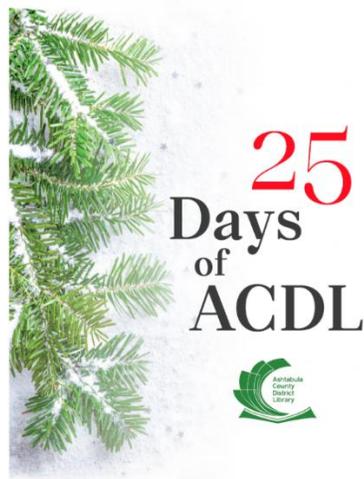
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**Educator Resources**

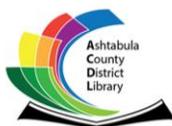
Ashtabula County District Library



- **Summer Reading Marketing:**
  - The Summer Reading Email blast went out on Tuesday the 31st and has been well received so far.
    - Summer Reading Yard Signs
    - Updated MyPromo receipts.
- **ACDL Magnet Contest:**
  - Early in the month, ACDL staff voted on the winner for the ACDL Magnet contest. The winner, by one vote, was AJ Eland with her picture of Daisy the Toad. AJ is one of our social media champions and it was my joy to be able to send her such a great prize for her participation. AJ picked up her prize later on in the month and was thrilled with all that was included in the swag bag. She sent her thanks with this picture.
- **Newspaper & Ads:**
  - We purchased ad space in the ADDA guide.
  - We sent 4 weekly events releases to the Gazette.
  - We were included in a press release about the Conneaut Youth Philanthropy Group.
- **Social Media:**
  - The biggest impact we had this month was the announcement of temporary closure for Geneva due to a staffing shortage. Our patrons were very concerned about this and were quick to spread the notice with 18 shares and a reach of nearly 2500. The good news was that we also had 160 link clicks to the job posting.



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- Patrons were also enthusiastic about the gun lock giveaway and the new mini creative space at the Geneva Public Library.
  - We gained 11 page likes on Facebook and 3 followers on Instagram.
  - Overall reach and engagement on Facebook is down this month but engagement on Instagram has seen significant gains.
  - Rebecca ordered and installed new signage for the A/V collection and the new item rollers in Ashtabula.

## PROGRAMMING

- Lyn, Michele and Ryan finished up the last two sessions of *Art and Music Literacy for Homeschoolers* this month. Feedback from program participants was wholly positive, with one parent exclaiming, “I learned so much in this class- even as an adult!”. Lyn plans to replicate the art portion of this course for adults later this year in Ashtabula and Geneva. Staff will repeat this program in the fall for homeschoolers.
- Lauren’s May DIY participants created succulent planters using discarded books. Each person carved out a niche inside their book to hold a small container with a mini succulent. Participants then had a chance to embellish using decorative stones, shells, and glass beads.
- Stacy Stangel with Central State University Extension presented at Geneva Library the first three sessions of a nutrition and education program called *Eat Smart - Move More*. Participants have the opportunity to learn tips and tricks related to shopping for and preparing nutritious meals. Stacy also demonstrates preparation of a dish that exemplifies the topic being covered at each session. Three additional sessions will be held in June.
- The May meeting of the Geneva Book Group held a discussion of *Pull of the Stars* by Emma Donoghue. This is a book which Dwight and Lauren found utterly fascinating in the discussion of The Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1920, and the subsequent complications for birthing mothers, which some of our group regulars found to be a heavy topic. This feedback led Dwight to pick some “lighter” books including comedies for some of the remaining sessions of the year.
- The Ashtabula Book Group discussed *The Four Winds* by Kristen Hannah. This book of historical fiction discussed the plight of migrant fruit pickers and the ecological disaster known as “The Dust Bowl.” We had a spirited discussion with five members at the library, and an additional five participants at the Ashtabula Senior Center, who viewed the book as a vivid description of real life during a difficult era of history.
- Julie Wayman of the OSU Extension in Ashtabula County facilitated a very well-received *Roadmap to Local Foods* program in Ashtabula. She discussed the locations and typical offerings of several farmer’s markets, and she fielded several questions regarding how Community Supported Agriculture works. All those present received the Extension Office’s Local Food Guide.

- Melissa hosted field trips to the Ashtabula Library by the third grade classes from the Lakeside Primary Schools. There were three groups and they each stayed for about an hour. They were introduced to the library and shown the resources that are available to them with an ACDL card. Despite the short time each group was here, they even got to explore the collection and watch the Hoopla video version of *I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen. Many of the students came back throughout the month to check out books, sign up for a library card, and/or sign up for the Summer Reading Edventure 2022.
- Storytime in Ashtabula was extra special this month. Teresa filled in for Melissa on May 6th and sang and played the ukulele for the families along with reading stories. Throughout the month a few new faces arrived. The favorite book of the month was a new one called *The Suitcase* by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros, a book about immigrants, trust, and new friendships.
- *Illustrate!* (in Ashtabula) focused on the changing of seasons this month. The themes of warm weather and dinosaurs combined and inspired beautiful art. After reading *When I'm Big* by Ella Bailey, the kids created "earth dinosaurs" which is the silhouette of a dinosaur but filled with blue and green (and glitter) to look like Earth.
- The Tech Toy of the month was the Snap Circuits. Learning how this toy worked was a group effort, and we were able to create basic circuits while learning about how electricity works. The best part was making a glow-in-the dark fan fly.
- The Ashtabula youth services department hosted *Toddlers & Tea*. This program was a tea party where caregivers and guardians were encouraged to put on their favorite tea party outfits. There were lots of dresses, fancy shoes, and ties worn by all. The event also featured craft stations where partiers could make a craft stick bouquet, bracelets and necklaces. Melissa read the books *A Bargain for Frances* by Russell Hoban and *Miss Spider's Tea Party* by David Kirk with the group.
- Carrie, along with the Genealogical Society, hosted a program presented by Linda Swanson of the Ohio Genealogical Society titled, *OMG the OGS Website*. Access to OGS's website is available in the Edith R. Morrison & Mary W. Morrison Genealogy and Archive Room. Nine people attended via Zoom & seven in person.
- Miss Tina's Storytimes in Geneva featured tales about flowers, including a story about a digger who saves flowers and a tiny mouse named Chrysanthemum.
- The Art Lab table in Geneva featured all the supplies needed for little ones to create their own spring flowers using paper plates, popsicle sticks, pom poms, and crayons. Little artists also had a chance to build and color a unicorn.
- Geneva saw an average of 65 student visitors during the after school hours on weekdays. Students enjoyed making ham and cheese wraps and no-bake cookies in the Tina's *Stir It Up* cooking program. Cindi's *Gadgets, Gizmos, and Games* after school program was more popular than ever due to the addition of a second Oculus VR headset. Other popular teen & tween programs were Anime Club and Coding Club.

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- Teen Action Group (TAG) members collaborated with Cindi to create a *Harry Potter-themed Escape Room*. For a full week in May, TAG members hosted the escape room for student groups during after school hours. Groups were required to work together and think carefully about clues in order to solve puzzles and “escape” the room. Students had such a great time that they are already asking when the next escape room event might be planned.
  - Geneva Library’s *Summer Reading Edventure* Kick-Off Party was held in late May. Students had the opportunity to learn about upcoming summer programs, sign up for summer reading, and enjoy a root beer float. Students also took advantage of the nice weather to create a gallery of chalk art on the library sidewalks.

### **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

- Susan weeded the adult fiction and the paperback collections and Penny worked on rearranging Adult fiction, including Large Print, Romance, and Paperbacks.
- This month, Melissa’s collection development emphasis was searching for additions in the genres of teen romances, juvenile thrillers and graphic novels for both YA and Juvenile collections.
- Austin, Aubrey, and Cindi collaborated to create an ocean-themed book display at Geneva to highlight the theme of this year’s summer reading program, *Oceans of Possibilities*. Other Geneva book displays included Vox books and pollinator insects & birds.
- Geneva staff have undertaken the task of shifting the shelving in the children’s and adult fiction areas of the collection. These shelving adjustments will help to more efficiently place items at eye level and encourage more comfortable browsing for patrons. Adjustments also allow for more efficient shelving of oversized books in the children’s collection.
- Tina and Lauren continued to work on refreshing the Teen book collection at Geneva. Tina purchased additional items using the YALSA Top Ten Titles list, and Lauren worked on adding additional graphic novel titles to the collection.
- Codi continues to add new video game titles to the Geneva collection. Purchases are aimed to support interest in new gaming systems such as Nintendo Switch and PS5.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Codi completed his Master of Library and Information Science degree through Kent State University. As a result, he transitioned into the professional role of Public Services Manager at Geneva Library. He will be taking on additional responsibilities including programming and collection management.
- Sybil and Dwight became certified Northstar Digital literacy proctors.
- With training by Alecia, staff modified the way they managed internal display items to ensure all items could be put on hold by any patron.

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- Melissa attended the *Take 5: Let's Talk About It: An Ohio Youth Services Dialogue* at the Columbus Metropolitan library to connect with teen librarians from other Ohio public libraries. This event was more of an open space for discussion and a place to connect with other librarians about all things “teen.” This session was very much focused on the effects of COVID, helping staff become comfortable working with teens, getting teens to come to your library, and why teens (and people in general) need libraries.
  - Tina completed a session of the *New Supervisors Academy* presented through NEO-RLS. This month's session focused on a supervisory skills assessment. Topics such as delegation, planning, and goal setting were reviewed.
  - Karen, Rebecca and Alecia received Narcan training from Signature Health on May 2.
  - Alecia attended *Open Office Hours* offered by SEO.
  - Alecia viewed *Mental Illness: Basic introduction to mental illness, Part 2* presented by Ryan Dowd.

## TECHNOLOGY

- Replaced Ashtabula Branch Manager's PC with a new device.
- Worked with Security Technologies to repurpose an old PC as a replacement device for the Building Access System and, with some adjustments, it seems to be handling the role well.
- Additional devices were upgraded to Windows 11 as Microsoft expands compatibility.
- Security Audit via pen testing (an authorized simulated attack performed on a computer system to evaluate its security).
- ACDL.info Update (website)
  - Policies page has been updated to implement tabbed browsing of the policies in an effort to improve accessibility and appearance.
  - The Board of Trustees page received visual and content updates. Among other things, the meeting minutes were made current to the March 2022 Board Meeting.
  - Implementation of “callout boxes” to post information regarding COVID Test availability as a more flexible option that didn't modify the layout of the website like the banners along the top did.
  - Implementation of “lightbox” overlays to alert patrons to urgent (for the library) information. These can be used to bring attention to unexpected closings, again without altering the layout of the page or unduly inconveniencing website visitors.