



# OWWL LIBRARY SYSTEM

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT Wednesday, September 14, 2022

### SYSTEM UPDATES

#### Trustee Handbook Book Club Next Steps

The Trustee Handbook Book Club will be returning this fall with expanded and updated information from the Trustee Handbook.

I am also working on our in-System Trustee Education offerings for early 2023. The new Trustee Education Law goes into effect on January 1, 2023, and Trustees across the System should have no problem completing their required two hours of training.

#### Public Library District Toolkit System Training

I will be working with the Trustee Handbook Book Club team to deliver a training on November 1, 2022 about the Public Library District Toolkit. This training will be for System staff from the 23 Public Library Systems across the State. The goal is to help other Systems understand district voting and funding options for their libraries.

#### NYLA Council

AnnaLee Dragon, Executive Director of NYLA, has asked that I fill a vacant position on NYLA Council and I have accepted. There is already a good representation of rural libraries on the Council, so this will be an added opportunity for our System to be represented.

#### OWWL Library System

Kelly and I sent a follow-up letter to the IRS regarding the paperwork for our name change. The information was signed for, but still no word on a determination. We're holding off on some of the renaming activities until we receive the final "go-ahead" from the IRS.

#### Website Redesign

Bob, Kelly, Kelsy, and I have been working with Mason Digital on our website redesign. To date, they have

produced a sample wireframe along with some test designs. Everything is looking good and coming together nicely.

### Mobile Maker Kits and Booker Costume

Earlier this month, we decided to discontinue Mobile Maker Kits to libraries. The kits were becoming outdated, they were not used as much as they were several years ago, and they are expensive and difficult to manage. All of this added to our decision to end the collection.

For similar reasons, and because the costume has exceeded its expected life, we have also decided to no longer loan out the Booker Costume. This mascot costume has become old and does not represent the System the way we would like it to any longer. There have also been instances and concerns with mascot etiquette over the past few years, so in my opinion, this is a positive transition.

### Outreach Updates

#### *Programs and Events*

- **June 27 through September 4** - OWWL Libraries Traveling Summer StoryWalks Program
- **July 16** - Tabled at Roc Pride Fest with Monroe County Library System; distributed books and other giveaways
- **July 22** - System Field Trip to Women's Rights National Historical Park and Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls
- **August 4** - Attended NYLA Open House
- **August 6** - Tabled at the Healthy Families Ontario & Yates Community Baby Shower with Geneva Public Library; distributed 110 picture and board books
- **August 12** - System outing to the Rochester Red Wings; 70 system staff, library staff, and their family and friends attended
- **August 17** - Distributed 427 books at the Wayne County Partnership/Foodlink Pop-Up Pantry in Newark; 1,322 books distributed at food pantries so far in 2022
- **August 24** - Delivered 57 backpacks to the Agri-Business Child Development (ABCD) Head Start programs in Williamson and Red Creek
- **August 30** - Mailed our 200th Books by Mail bundle, just a few days short of our nine month program launch anniversary
- **August 31** - Attended ABCD Head Start graduation in Geneva and distributed 29 backpacks; 253 backpacks full of supplies were distributed this summer in total
- **September 1** - Launched Special Edition OWWL Kids Card to celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month

#### *Book by Mail Stats to Date*

- 53 Total Patrons
- 1,253 Items Circulated
- 207 bundles mailed

## LIBRARY SUPPORT UPDATES

## Funding Discussions

I've met with three libraries over the past month to discuss a variety of funding options that will help them become more sustainable in the years to come. One seems like they are planning on moving forward with their plans. The others are still considering their options.

## Trustee Education

The Bliss library invited me to their library on August 25, 2022 to meet with their board as well as Trustees from Pike, Gainesville, and Castile to have an open Q&A about Trustee responsibilities. We talked for two hours on OML, First Amendment Audits, Policies, Finances, and a plethora of other topics.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### No Guns in Libraries

September 1, 2022 was the first day that Senate Bill S51001 went into effect. This bill relates to licensing and other provisions relating to firearms including banning them in sensitive locations. NYLA advocated to have libraries included in the list of sensitive location and it worked.

### NYLA Intellectual Freedom Committee

NYLA is developing a resource to aid libraries in combating book bans. I am serving on the "public" committee which is developing resources that can be used by the general community. The website is currently being developed; there is no release date scheduled at this time.

### NYLA Legislative Committee

I have been asked to serve as chair of NYLA's Legislative Committee, and our first meeting was on August 30, 2022. We discussed 2023 priorities, including budget asks and non-budget-related legislation.

On September 8, 2022, Briana McNamee, AnnaLee Dragon, and I met with the Governor's "War Room" team to discuss libraries, finances, and...

### NYLA Civil Service Committee

Briana McNamee, AnnaLee Dragon, and I met with five representatives from the State Civil Service Office on August 4, 2022, to discuss the six Civil Service priorities that we have been using to draft legislation. The meeting was positive. However, the main response from the State Office was that local training would solve most of the issues. I do not believe this is the case, so the committee is now looking for specific Civil Service instances that highlight the priority areas so we can move forward on individual legislation to solve some of these issues.

### NYALS Annual Meeting

The New York Alliance of Library Systems met from August 9-10, 2022, in Ithaca, NY. The main focus of the meeting was Advocacy and funding for different System types. This is the group that funds NYLA's

Business Relations staff member. Our System is a member.

### SOME FUN PICTURES...



Figure 1 Ron and Suzanne at Pride Fest



Figure 2 Suzanne Delivering Backpacks



*Figure 3 Field Trip to National Women's Hall of Fame*

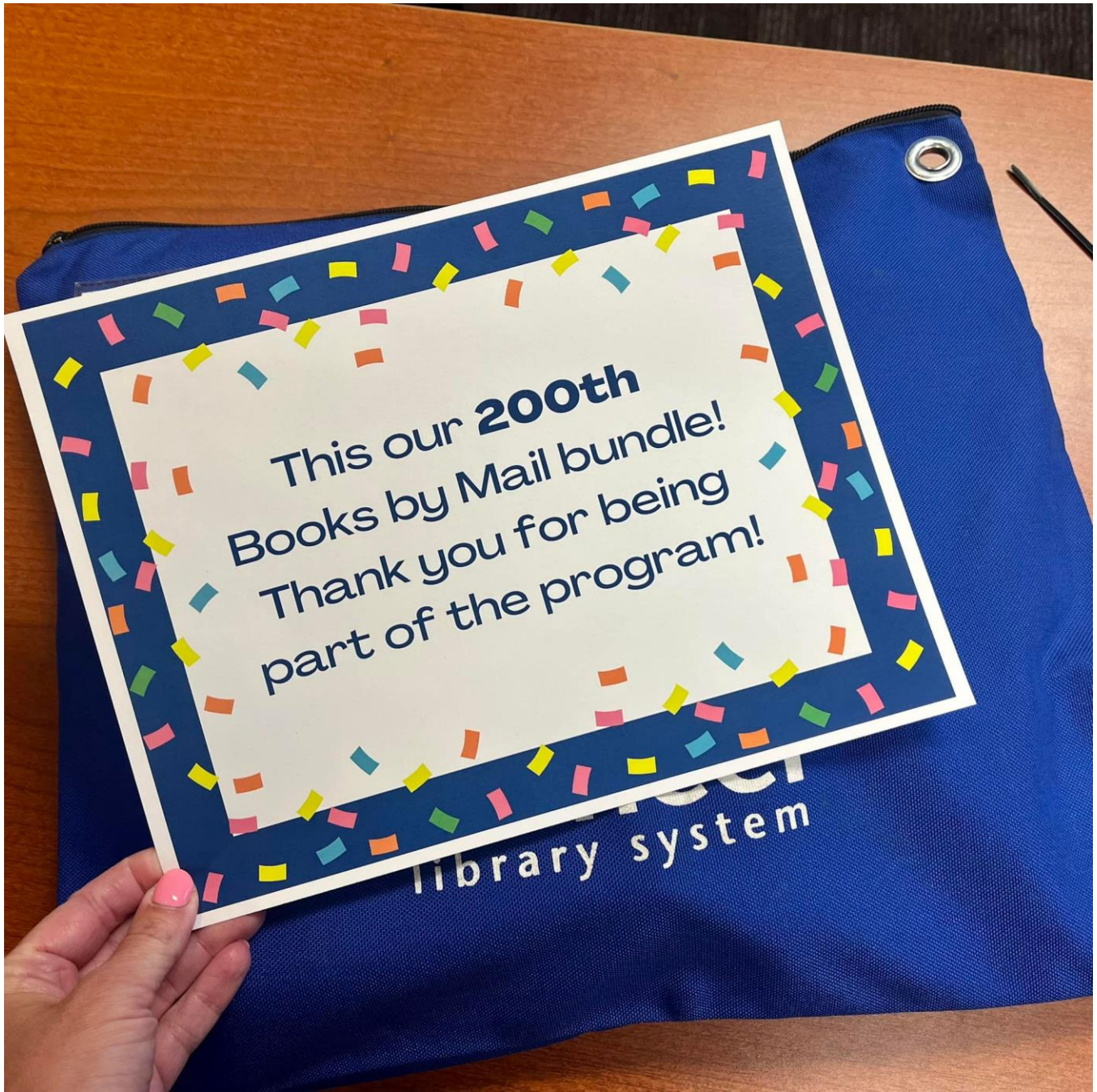


Figure 4 200th Books By Mail Mailing



Figure 5 NYLA Open House 2022





Figure 6 Suzanne and Tanya Giving Away Books



*Figure 7 Library Card Sign Up Month Special Run Library Card*