

Genealogy/ESL/Interlibrary Loan Board Report
April 2017

Genealogy:

The chart below shows the increase in patrons and their requests for Genealogy information for the past two years. The information that is most requested is for obituaries from the McKinney newspapers. These newspapers that the department has on microfilm date back to 1884. Other requests are for look-ups of family names in the books we carry, information on the patron's house for Historical Designation, and general genealogy information.

	April 2015 – March 2016	April 2016 – March 2017
Patrons	104	132
Requests	377	419

During the past year, we have partnered with the North Collin County Genealogy Society. Members of the Society now assist patrons with their Genealogy on the first Sunday of the month. These members are also in the process of indexing the McKinney Tax Rolls that we recently received from the City. The rolls date back to 1919.

In October, the Library participated in the Texas Genealogy Lock-In. This event took place on a Friday from 12:00 – 11:00 p.m. There were 21 libraries in Texas that took part in this event. It consists of webinars, skyping with Genealogy experts and a chance for patrons to work on their Genealogy in the Library after hours. We had 19 attendees for this event and the North Collin County Genealogy Society members volunteered to assist with all aspects of the program. We plan to participate again in this on October 20th.

We have also had programs on the Library of Congress, Portal to Texas History, FamilySearch.org and Ross Cemetery. Ross Cemetery is an historic McKinney cemetery that is the final resting place of slaves, the city's earliest residents, and 62 veterans -- and counting -- from four wars.

Starting in May, the Genealogy Department will be conducting monthly classes at the McKinney Senior Center. On June 4th, we will have our Beginner's class. The Genealogy Society reserves their June meeting to assist the beginners that attend the Library's program.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes:

In the last three sessions of ESL classes, we have served 218 students. We have four levels of classes in the Fall session and five in the Spring and Summer sessions. In our Fall session, students from the Job Corps were included. Due to a high registration from the community, we were not able to accommodate them this Spring. After taking in to account the drop out or no show rate this Spring, I plan to include the Job Corps students in the Summer session. The Spring session usually has a smaller drop off rate than it has had this session. This is due to students deciding to take classes at the Community College, change of work schedules, spring sports, and their children's additional after school

activities. We have a group of nine dedicated volunteers who teach these classes. Some of our volunteers are new, some have been with us for years. Their backgrounds range from a retired Dean of French to a volunteer whose parents relied on ESL classes when they came from Germany to Chicago and wanted to give back to her community.

Interlibrary Loans:

Interlibrary loans have increased in the past year:

	Received from other Libraries:	Shipped our materials to other Libraries:
April 2015-March 2016	2274	730
April 2016-March 2017	3651	969

Patrons are now allowed to have five Interlibrary Loans at one time which is an increase from two. Due to staff changes, we have been fortunate for Larry Dishman to come from John and Judy Gay Library (JJGL) twice a week to assist with the loans. We anticipate his coming to Hall full time once the part-time library assistant position is filled at JJGL. Larry and Rebecca Hantson work well together. Rebecca had to take on the majority of Interlibrary Loan responsibilities and had done a great job in keeping the service running smoothly. The change in staffing has created the opportunity for the Interlibrary Loan staff to make changes which will streamline the process, enabling staff to keep up with the increased amount of loans that we receive and send to other libraries. Since the switch to the Koha system, the Interlibrary Loan Service we (OCLC) use has had problems communicating with Koha. In a normal situation, patrons can place Interlibrary Loans on their own through the Library's website and OCLC. With the problems in communication, patrons could not do this. This caused frustration on the patron's part and increased workload on Library staff, as requests had to be manually entered. After almost six months, the two systems are now communicating which has been a relief for all involved.

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