

Library Director, Willie E. Nelms

**MEMBERS—BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

Dr. Richard E. Ericson, Chairman

Mr. Jeffrey Coghill

Mr. Brian Cooper

Miss Edna English

Mr. David Hammond

Mr. Bryant Kittrell

Mrs. JoAnne Lewis

Dr. Vivian Mott

Mrs. Patricia Rawls

Mr. Sanjay Saha

Mr. Ralph Scott



530 Evans Street • Greenville, NC 27858-2398

www.sheppardlibrary.org
252-329-4580



SHEPPARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2009-2010

Annual Report

Fiscal 2009-2010 was a year of growth and change for Sheppard Memorial Library. In terms of use, it was a record year for book circulation as 499,249 items were borrowed. In terms of patron visits, 488,019 people came through the doors of the main library and branches. Despite national economic difficulties which impacted many public libraries, Sheppard remained financially stable and experienced no reduction in hours of operation or other declines in services to the public.

The library was awarded a \$100,000 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to install an RFID system at the main library. The new system was fully operational by April 2010 and allowed self-checkout of material by patrons as well as inventory and security features to improve operations. For the first time in history the North Carolina Library Association held its biennial conference in Greenville, and Sheppard staff played an important part in the planning and hosting of convention events. This included hosting the All-Conference Reception "A Taste of Eastern North Carolina" at the main library, featuring music by The Embers.

Remaining current with the latest developments in library offerings, Sheppard added downloadable audio for patrons to borrow as well as several new online resources that were accessible from patrons' home computers. These resources ranged from language tutorials to genealogical reference material.

In response to continued economic difficulties, the library system remained a major resource for local residents by providing public-access computers. In all, more than 190,000 computer sessions occurred during the year. Patrons turned to the public library as a valuable source of information, recreation, and job enhancement in both book and non-book material.

The Friends of the Sheppard Memorial Library remained vital to the library's success. The Friends helped fund many library programs and added \$15,000 to the library book budget. The Friends' major fundraiser, the annual used book sale, was successful, despite a winter storm that eliminated most use on one day of the three-day sale in late January. The sale generated more than \$31,000, the second highest total in sale history. This sale was supplemented by a September paperback book sale that set a new record of nearly \$3,000.

In March, Library Director Willie Nelms announced his plans to retire in July 2010, after more than 29 years of service. The Board of Trustees conducted a national search to find a successor. In May, the board announced that Greg Needham, Director of the Wilson County Public Library, would begin work as the new director when Nelms retired.

With a strong history of past accomplishments, Sheppard Memorial Library looks forward to continued growth in the future.

Book Stock, cataloged

Number of volumes, July 1, 2009	236,021
Volumes added	11,074
Volumes withdrawn	<u>9,929</u>
Total, June 30, 2010	237,166

Other Library Materials

Book stock, uncataloged	44,447
Newspapers	30
Magazines	361
Audiocassettes	3,786
Compact discs	6,159
Videocassettes	2,000
Digital video discs (DVDs)	5,352
Filmstrips	309
Microforms	9,360

Book Circulation

Sheppard Memorial Library (adult)	177,121
Sheppard Memorial Library (juvenile)	143,239
Juvenile Outreach	5,305
East Branch Library	72,427
Carver Branch Library	20,200
Pitt County Bookmobile	22,828
Blount Library, Bethel	4,311
Winterville Public Library	<u>53,818</u>
Total book circulation	499,249
Total magazine circulation	2,370
Total non-print circulation	<u>50,497</u>
Grand total circulation	552,116

Registrations

Registered borrowers, June 30, 2010	54,901
-------------------------------------	--------

Programs

Library sponsored	773	Audience	22,714
Nonlibrary sponsored	<u>1,540</u>	Audience	<u>10,996</u>
Total	2,313		33,710

Reference and Information Services

In person	139,056
By telephone/mail	<u>34,836</u>
Total	173,892

