

Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck

It's hard to believe that summer is already coming to an end! There wasn't any time where things slowed down in the office, so I continued to keep busy with receiving and cataloguing new orders all summer. I also started an online Excel course this month, which will be very helpful for refreshing my knowledge as I find I am using Excel more now than I was in previous years. I was also away on vacation from Aug 14-18 so that was a nice break in between.

Fall orders will be submitted next month so that will be the last big batch of book orders for the year.

Programmer Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

Summer flew by and Bookland Explorer's Club (BEC) is done for another year! Thanks to all the programmers who worked hard and made this year a success, as well as the staff who pitched in and helped where they could. This really is an all-efforts/hands on event that takes many people to run.

In total for all South Central's 5 branches, we had 1337 program registrations and a total of 24,935 hours read overall. For anyone curious, the squishmallow prizes were by far the most popular prize and took both 1st and 2nd place for most tickets entered. I will be compiling a more comprehensive list to share with more in depth stats from the summer. Thanks to the support of the Green Team funding for allowing us to hire exceptional students for the summer.

This year Winkler launched a pilot project for a teen program at the end of July and it was also very successful. In the short time the program ran, we had 25 participants and a total of 946 hours read. We had great feedback regarding this program and hope to continue this next year, in Winkler and other branches.

Our theme for next year is 'Under The Sea', and Joanna and I have already started shopping!

Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen

For July we focused on our Bookland Explorers Present Space; Summer Reading Club. We've had many different activities and crafts every week including our decorate your own book bag which was a craft that was only possible because of the generous businesses that donated. At the beginning of July the Chamber hosted their downtown kick off, which was right outside our doors, it was so nice to be able to be open during that event and be a nice place for people to come cool off and check out a book. Between Friday and Saturday we had close to 400 people visit us! We ended the month strong, with a visit from a local author: E. Reimer who talked about her book: The Summer 10. We were very glad to have her and look forward to having a copy of her book for our collection. We also had the Manitoba Underground Opera come and perform the Bremen Town Musicians. It was a fantastic show, all the people, kids and adults alike were very impressed, we even had members of the public stop in the halls to listen. They did a wonderful job and we hope to have them back next year.

For August we have been very busy with summer reading activities and our wind up. We were very fortunate to have 3 businesses: Elmer's Manufacturing, Pioneer Meat, and Rendezvous Fitness sponsor our fun day, which allowed us to have a pool party with snacks and prizes for the kids. We had a total of 201 children sign up for Bookland Explorers and they read a total of 4,310 hours. We had over 200 children participate in various crafts and activities in branch throughout the summer and we handed out over 4,645 book draw tickets over the seven weeks, for children to get a chance to win a new book. We felt that the program was very successful this year and cannot wait till next year. We also had a children's author visit: Nikki Kroetsch Bergstresser stopped in and shared her Lila Lou's Little Library book with us. We were very glad to have her visit.



Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell & Kieran Reid

It was a great summer with 73 kids register, 1772 hours read, 580 book draw tickets handed out, 1372 grand prize tickets awarded and 249 attending programs. Fun Day was back with 95 children attending along with their parents. Thanks to the many volunteers and support from the community and businesses who made this day such a success. Thanks to Golden West Radio for broadcasting from our Fun Day. 3 weeks in London and southern France ended the summer for the Branch Admin! 😊

Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

Summer has officially wrapped up and August was quite a busy month for Miami.

Our total amount of participants for Bookland Explorers was 49, and we had a lot of kids join us for programming throughout the month. Daphne and Alana did a great job over the summer, and kept the kids busy with 16 different sessions in August. Our windup for BEC was an after-hours movie night at the library. We all had fun watching Planet 51 while snacking in our PJ's. This is something we'd like to continue in future years for our windup. Thanks to Miami Variety, Call Insurance Brokers, SJ Agronomy and Pearson Farms for their contributions towards our fundraising for this event.

We also held two author visits. Nikki Kroetsch Bergstresser shared her story Lila Lou's Little Library and E. Reimer shared a few chapters of her novel The summer 10. Both did a great job and had a fun QnA session afterwards. We were very glad to have them stop by our library.

Miami's book club meeting was pushed back until September to accommodate for our author visits, but that and Lego club will continue into our fall programming. We are hoping to start some sort of crafting/hobby club in late September where patrons can come join fellow hobbyists and sip tea while they chat and work on current projects.

Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand

Wow. 7 weeks, 430 enrolled kids, 28 scheduled activities/crafts attended by 290 participants later we are through the summer! Thanks to our amazing summer programmers, we had a very successful summer program. On most weeks, our door count was double the normal and I'm looking forward to seeing August's circulation stats because we were drowning in books being returned every week. As a reward for hitting our half-way goal for reading hours we had an ice-cream party where the kids got to build their own sundaes. When we hit our final goal, we hosted 2 sessions at Sharptooth Adventures, thanks to Dana MacPherson for her generous discount so we could do that for our patrons!

We hosted a well-attended author visit by Jeff Schmidt who grew up in the Morden/Winkler area. He was a very engaging speaker, and everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening. Nikki Kroetsch Bergstresser also did an author visit to promote her new children's book and was very entertaining.

The last days of August will also wrap up the vacation season. Thank you to everyone for their flexibility and willingness to fill in. We're all a little frazzled from the busier than expected summer and the downtime was well earned. Thank you again to Cathy for the extra hours for the last weeks for clerk time. It took a bit of the pinch off and helped everyone get through that last rush of summer.

Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

Summer was VERY busy in the Winkler Branch. We had 582 kids participate in the Bookland Explorers program and they read over 12,121 hours. We also ran 27 workshops and story times and had 652 kids attend.

Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens – continued

As part of the summer program, we also attended the Harvest Festival and had 391 people stop by the tent. The last two years we have shared a tent with the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre but next year the plan is to have our own booth set up as a rest/craft area. For our Bookland Explorers windup we had a movie night and showed the movie *Lightyear* and had 85 people attend. NOTE: Over the course of the summer, we spent \$0.11 cents per child on workshops. This is not sustainable, and we were lucky we had craft materials leftover from previous programs.

Our summer teen program also had 25 participants and they read 946 hours. We are hoping to run the program again next year and add a few events for the teens.

E. Reimer, and Nikki Kroetsch Bertresser were local authors who visited and the patrons enjoyed being able to ask the authors about their writing process.

There were three Bookmobile visits, we went to Schanzenfeld twice and Plum Coulee once. It was well received and next summer we are planning to start the Bookmobile earlier in the summer.

Our fundraising raffle went well, and we raised \$1242 for the reading garden. Unfortunately, our reading garden was vandalized, and the fence lattice was pushed out, one of our tables had initials burnt into it and our cushions were stolen and later found in the park bathrooms. Fortunately, I was able to fix the damage and the people responsible have been apprehended. One of them came in to apologize and will be helping us prep the garden for winter this fall. Support from the community was immediate.

Kenton Dyck, a local resident, recently purchased a large telescope and is enthusiastic about community programming. We have held two events so far. One was a demonstration at the library of how a telescope works with 37 people attending. The 2nd viewing was of the August super blue moon and the rings of Saturn at the Emerado School playground with over 100 in attendance. We are planning more events in the coming months at the Emerado School, and we are hoping to use their warming hut at the rink so we can continue to observe celestial events in winter. I will also be reaching out to the schools and sending them the astronomy info since it is such a unique opportunity.

The final program we had this month was an after-hours Nerf battle at the library. We had 12 people attend and they had a great time. One of the parents had previous experience with similar programs and has generously volunteered his time so we are going to make Nerf battles at the library a monthly event.

In September we are starting registration for our fall preschool story time session so we will be preparing crafts for that. Lego club continues to grow in popularity on early dismissal days. We're hoping to add an additional Saturday each month for Lego club in the new year.

Books & Brew will be continuing in fall, and we'll be meeting the last Thursday of every month. We have decided to cancel our Yarn with Friends as a month program and instead will be focusing on events. Currently we are planning a series of huck weaving workshops for September/October and are hoping to hold a crochet-a-thon to make lap blankets for Eden Mental Health in January. I will be starting to plan a book sale for November. We are hoping to hold it at Winkler Arts and Culture since they have a larger space and have a combined book and art sale. There is a lot of programming coming up, but we are excited about it.
