PCLS By the Numbers:
2015 Annual Report

In 2015, Pope County Library System returned $8 in Library Services to the community for every dollar invested through public funds.
Dedicated to:
All of the Superheroes
in Pope County!

Thanks!
Welcome to the Pope County Library System

MESSAGE FROM THE JUDGE
The Pope County Library System consists of four branches located throughout the County. These facilities assist more than 158,000 visitors and patrons annually from not only Pope County but surrounding Counties and from across the United States who come to check out books for the pleasure of reading and to do research in finding ancestors, et cetera, and to use the research materials available for many needs and purposes.

Pope County supports its library system with a 1 mill tax and provides maintenance for all facilities in order to provide a gathering place for patrons and visitors to help create a literate society. Each facility is staffed with very capable personnel who will be happy to assist you.

MESSAGE FROM THE POPE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD CHAIR

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. There is so much to share there are not enough pages. I am honored to chair the Pope County Library Board of Trustees which is appointed by the Pope County Judge. Our job focuses on the Millage and its usage for the Maintenance and Operations of the Current Pope County system of Libraries in Atkins, Dover, Hector, and Russellville. Our libraries return $8 in Library Services for every dollar invested through public funding. Activities have included writers workshops, genealogy lectures, educational opportunities for technology, summer reading programs, and bookmobile, to name a few. Activities serve all ages and a myriad of interests. Library Services are a good return on our community investment.

Jim Ed Gibson, Pope County Judge

Karen Womack, Chair, Pope County Library Board
MESSAGE FROM THE SYSTEM DIRECTOR  The Pope County Library System (PCLS) started with humble beginnings and a superhero’s effort from the community and the County to coral resources to offer library services to the citizens of Pope County.

The 2015 Summer Reading Program theme “Every Superhero has a Story” reminds me of the System’s past struggle, and the System’s efforts to level the financial ground for the four branches.

Library Funding – A Community Effort: The library collection started as a collection of books in the front window of the Wiggs Drug Store in Russellville, which was later moved to the San Souchi (no worries) Women’s Club Room until funds were raised for a new library. Later, the Central Presbyterian Church found room for a small library building on the corner of their land on Main Street. In 1936, the Deaton family donated the land for the first brick and mortar library at 114 E. Third ST and with much fundraising, donations, and a Works Progress Administration (WPA) grant, the facility was built. The Pope County Library received a Library Services & Construction Act (LSCA) grant in 1975 to build a new library, but after the community had donated everything from the Perc test, loads of dirt, gravel, plumbing, concrete; many fundraisers were held: pennies from area children were collected to purchase the 86,000 bricks in the Pope County Library; cake walks, auctions and other fundraisers put on, only to be contacted that the LSCA grant was no longer offered. With the help of the Senator, Judge, and Board, the promised funds were granted. We are still grateful for this heroic effort.

Building a Foundation and Maintaining Services: The PCLS Library Foundation received its 501(c)(3) September 2014. Six months later, we worked to recoup funds to maintain services as $1 Million to over 400 libraries in Arkansas were mistakenly cut by the Arkansas Legislature in March 2015, due to the name of the State Aid Fund to Arkansas Libraries, called “Grants to Public Libraries in Arkansas.” Unintended consequences meant a cut in staffing hours, book budget, training, and computer purchases.

In 2016, State Aid will be reimbursed to Arkansas Libraries through emergency funding, and through the work of our Senator and Representatives, the title of the funding has been changed so that it will not get mistakenly cut in the future. Until then, our patrons are asking for more books, longer hours on Saturdays, programs, and services.

This was a year of learning: studying space reclamation and how we can streamline our customer service processes to reduce the hoops between our customers and the services we deliver. Improving improve customer service delivery will, in turn, drive our costs down.
Budget Overview:

**Expenditures per capita $19.59** – Expenditures per capita reflect the community’s financial support for the library in relation to its size. Operating expenditures (personnel, collections, and general operations) from other sources such as state aid and grants are also included. Capital expenditures that vary dramatically from year to year are not included. Expenditures per capita for the PCLS Libraries in 2015 was $19.59. According to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, “the average per capita expenditure for libraries in the United States was $36 in 2010.”
Funding Needs & Fundraisers

FUNDING NEEDS

We are asked often, “What are your funding needs?”

Facilities: Our primary concern in 2016 and 2017 will be to obtain funds to replace the Pope County Library’s 40-year-old roof so that the areas over the Teen area, Bookstore, and in the Genealogy area. Our current quote for $112,000 calls for a Thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) single-ply roofing membrane. To donate to the roof fund:

Make checks payable to:

Pope County Library Roof Fund
116 E Third ST
Russellville, AR 72801

Future Libraries: Looking to the future, we are raising funds to build a facility 4 ½ times the size of our current facilities in the Atkins, Dover, Hector, and Russellville communities. The size of our facilities is driven by patron usage, demand, and expected census. Visits to the libraries have risen 12,454 visits over 2012’s visitor statistics.

Permanent Reinstatement of State Aid:

We are grateful to the work of our officials in getting Library State Aid reinstated on an emergency basis and their continuing efforts to get it permanently reinstated.

Reduction in State Aid affected our: Hours – Pope County Library reduction in hours by 9 hours per week; Book Budget – Book budget was reduced (-$15,000). The dollar value of book requests was double the amount of the Book Budget line item before State Aid cuts; Training – Only free trainings were attended without
overnight or out-of-state travel (-$5,000) cut; **Computers** – Scheduled replacement rotation for PCLS’ 74 computers was interrupted until State Aid Funding and E-Rate funding could be replaced.

**Fundraisers**

**Branch Book Stores:** (year-round) replaced yearly book sales.

Branch book stores were created in the branches to allow patrons access to low cost used books and videos that had no item circulation in 3 years or more, or that were intended for libraries other than Public. Benefits to the patrons include year-round access to a book sale in a heated and cooled venue.

*Pope County Library Book Store*

**Programming Fundraisers**

Programming Librarians raised one-third of the projected needed cost for programming in 2015 through the first Annual 5K Race-4-Literacy, a Valentine Bake Sale, Genealogy Crafts, and a Teen Car Wash.

*PCLS 5K Race for Literacy*
Reclaiming lost funding

Recover fines and lost materials: PCLS has partnered with Unique Management Services “Gentle Nudge” approach to recover overdue fines and unreturned materials and long overdue materials.

OPERATIONS

In 2015, our servers went virtual saving about $12,000 - $15,000 per server for each of our four servers for the system, and a second Internet line was added to meet patron capacity.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are looking to expand the libraries and to reclaim space through purchasing more eBooks, but our patrons are requesting more paper books, programs, videos and databases. Patrons request more space, more hours, more computers and parking daily. We ultimately will need to expand to continue to meet services.

In Your Service,

Shawn E. Pierce
Shawn Pierce, Director
Pope County Library System
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Our Mission

The Pope County Library System is a center of community life, offering opportunities for people of all ages to: learn, know, gather and grow.
Our Vision

The Library System will make a significant contribution to the lives of people in Pope County through the vibrant and innovative delivery of high-quality leisure, cultural, learning, and information services and opportunities.

PCLS VISION
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES

As Director of Branches, I oversee both facilities and services offered at all branches. Our branches attempt to meet the needs of their communities to: “Learn, Know, Gather, and Grow” with limited space, staff, and facilities. Patrons range from the very young enjoying our early learning programs, to senior citizens continuing life-long learning. They come seeking continued education, employment, entertainment, shelter, testing, Wi-Fi, word processing, printing, copying, and fax services as well as social interaction using both the physical and virtual facilities. For the patron that lacks access to our facilities, we offer the Bookmobile and Books-by-Mail. Patrons can request materials from any of our branches and from libraries from around the world through our Interlibrary Loan program.

Dana Gann

$8 Returned in Library Services for every $1 Invested in Public Funds

Checkouts: 305,079, worth $7,627 M
Computer Use: 44,434 worth $898,900
Program Attendance: 28,666 worth $208,688
Interlibrary Loan: 1,210 worth $30,250

Pope County Library System
Our Statistics

Faster Delivery of Holds & Shorter Wait Times

PCLS has increased delivery of new books and books on hold to the branches as a result of Public Survey feedback.

Although we have no official Courier position to move the requested library materials from branch to branch, our staff deliver the items when they go to provide programming in the surrounding communities.

Books and other items are delivered twice per week to each branch and an additional delivery the day before a holiday for those last minute items.

We are thrilled to serve you!
--PCLS Staff
Genealogy

“I wish we had started here!”

At least twice a month, the library staff hears that exclamation from visitors to the Katie Murdoch Genealogy & Arkansas History room. Many visitors start in Little Rock at The Butler Center or Arkansas History Commission. Their funding is millions of dollars per year, and researchers find them easily and assume their collections are the best. They are good, but...

Let me tell you about our Genealogy Department which we have been told is one of the best in the state of Arkansas. The PCLS Genealogy Department archive is housed in the Pope County Library and has family records, obituaries, and county and state history in its extensive vertical files.

Recently, Ms. Emily, our Children’s Librarian, arranged an early Thursday morning tour for a class of Pope County youth. We did not open to the public for a couple of hours. These adolescents are in alternative classes because of getting into trouble in the past.

Ms. Emily, gave the teacher and aids an overview of each area of the library, our services, and what each section holds. When they got back to Genealogy and Arkansas History Department, the Genealogists introduced the students to the topics and family files in the archive.

As the Genealogists brought them around to the Family and Genealogical files and books, the students started asking questions, “Smiths, do you have Smith?” “How about Carnahan?” “Lee?” “Franks?” the calls went on. What started out as a slow and quiet morning was soon bustling with activity and excitement.

One of the kids who found some of his family in the files, went to Ancestry.com. When he hit a roadblock, he texted his Dad and started asking about family names, and got a little history. Suddenly, Dad and son had something to talk about. Continued on pg.15 – see Genealogy
The Pope County Library Bookmobile serves 11,399 visitors in Atkins, Dover, Hector, London, Russellville, and Tilley. The Bookmobile gives programs at the area day cares, nursing homes, and home schools during its 24 weekly stops. For patrons who are not able to attend programming at our four branches or make it out to the 504 programs per year due to a disability, we are still able to serve by our Books-by-Mail program.

**Genealogy (Continued from pg. 14)** -- The PCLS Genealogy archives serve people from all over the world. Many visitors come from other states, because we have information that cannot be found anywhere on-line. It is such a good feeling to hear people say, “I found it!” and one of the most common things we hear from those who are on an ancestral pilgrimage through Arkansas is: 'We should have started here.'
Interlibrary Loan (I.L.L.)

The Pope County Library System provides local users with global library resources in conjunction with the Online Catalog of the Library of Congress (OCLC) through a service called Interlibrary Loan. In the face of a limited budget, we reach out to the largest cooperative of resource-sharing libraries in the World to supply our users with the resources they need. Our ILL Service supplies resources from thousands of libraries in a global library collection. We have sent books as far as Norway, and Italy, and have received ILL’s from libraries as close as Dardanelle.
Our Branches: Your Connection

During 2015, the Branches truly became their patrons’ connection for all things related to library programming. Up to 2015, the Headquarter Branch of the Pope County Library System has provided programmers and programming to all four branches including the Bookmobile. After programming blossomed from 287 programs in 2012, to over 1,100 in 2015, the Pope County Library staff started mentoring the branches so they could give their own programs.

As a result, programming has not only maintained in the branches, but has increased by 19%.

The primary purpose of the Libraries is to supply access to information and services not provided by the typical County & City Services. Library services include, but are not limited to: a Collection of materials at its four locations; Interlibrary Loan; Bookmobile; Wi-Fi; eBooks; and other resources that promote literacy.

The Pope County Library System utilizes County tax funds to its branch libraries to provide library service to all County residents. It also provides central technology support to our library partners as well as courier delivery, reference support, youth services support, outreach, and more.
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Thank You to Our Volunteers!

- A -
Aimee Dixon
Aleigha Young
Alex Baumgardner
Alex Whitbey
Allison Earnhart
Allyson Paul
Alyssa Houle
Amanda Miller
Amber Light
Ambyr Moody
Andrea Nicholson
Andrea Pitts
Andrew Freeman
Andrew Homsley
Andrew Raymond
Angelina Valentine
Anna Bloodworth
Ashley Anderson
Ashley Gallagher
Ashley Peters
Ashley Savage
Ashlyn Elliott
Aubrey Holt
Austin Sewell
Austin Sutterfield

- B -
Bailey Pollard
Bailey Shaffer
Barbara Ragsdale
Bayley Cox
Ben Skoglund
Bethany Swindell
Beverly Ritchie
Bill Parton
Billie Jones
Branden Williams
Brandi Gagen
Brandon Zverina
Brianna Walker
Brooke Knoles
Bruce Roberts

- C -
Caitlyn Beasley
Caleb Judd
Carmen Meadows
Caroline Baughn
Carrie Comstock
Cassity Hogins
Cathy Goodwin
Chad Kline
Charleigh Kennamore
Chase Carradine
Cheryl Booth
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Cheyann Trantham
Cheyene Whitlow
Chloe Hughes

- D -
Debbie Trujillo
DeChristian McKinney
Destiny Crumley
Donell Lee
Drake Brainerd
Drake McMillian
Dustin Williams

- E -
Eddie Harris
Elizabeth Kearns
Elizabeth Lilley
Elizabeth Rehm
Elizabeth Tullos
Emma Scarbrough

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Jennifer Rogers
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Jeremy Renfro
Jerry Delone
Jesse Undermehr
Jessica Holman
Jill Fields
Joe David Turk, III
Joe Kelley
Joe Thompson
John Holt
John Masters
John Sisco
John Vogler
Jonah LaGrange
Jonathan Linam
Jonathan McConnell
Jordan Gardner
Jose Tellez
Joseph Lambert
Joyanna Wohlgeguth
Julie Whitt
Justin Drittler

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Kathy Swanner
Kayla Thompson
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Khushli Amin

- L -
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Laura Ridgeway
Lauren Duran
Leigh Ann Veach
Leslie Blanchard
Lindsey Pryor
Lindy Young
Loren McCarthur
Lynn Cox

- M -
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Maily Anraca
Mary Moran
Mary Morgan
Megan Goodnight
Megan Spirey
Meggan Dickey
Melissa Moorhead
Melissa Storm
Michelle Bowden
Millie Clayton
Myra Aguilar

- N -
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Natalie McCormick  Seth Siebenmorgan  Valerie Enchelmayer
Nathan Judd  Shannon Core  Victoria Morris
Nick Wayman  Sharon Aiken  - W -
Nicole Domagalski  Shelby Lowery  Wanda Payton
Nicolet Schroeder  Shirley Carr  Whitney Wilkins
Noah Delashaw  Spencer Hurlburt  - Y -

- P -  Susan Damon  Young Mi Kim-
Prince Johnson  Sydnee Clark  Henderson
Prosper Kom  Sydnie Henson

- R -  Tanya Schroeder  - Z -
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Raina Jackson  Taylor Naegle  Zino Schroeder
Rebecca Sanders  Teresa Mathews
Renee Delone  Terrie Cowan
Richard Haley  Tiffini Harris
Robin Ballard  Tim Beirne
Robin Kendle  Tobe Okafor
Roy Morris  Toni Phillips
Ruth Lykins  Tony Hernandez
Rylee Nesbitt  Tony Wagner

- S -  Tori McVay
Sara Jondahl  Trevor Coats
Sara Simmens  Trey Sutton
Sarah Neihouse  Tristan Phillips
Sarah Norfleet
Sasha Roberson  - V -

Volunteers, Donors, and Sponsors List: While every effort was made to ensure complete accuracy, please contact the System Library Director at: Pope County Library System, 116 E Third ST, Russellville, AR  72801; 479-968-4368, or director@popelibrary.org for corrections.
Our Sponsors!

Arkansas State Library
Centennial Bank
Connie & Steve Zimmer
Connie Scott
Dennis & Sonya Lee
Diverse Fitness
Dover Lions Club
Feltner’s Athlete’s Corner
Hughes Community Center
Jan Dixon
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Kroger
Lee Anne’s Fine Jewelry
Nacole Waldo
PCLS Foundation
Pine Ridge Gardens
Planet Fitness
Pledger Insurance
River Valley Writers
Roy Morris
Russellville Booklovers
Simmons Bank
Sports World
Textbook Brokers
Tried & True Tattoo
UEC Theaters
Vintage Books
Wm. H. Bowen Family Foundation

Volunteering is at the very core of being a human being. No one has made it through life without someone else’s help.

HEATHER FRENCH HENRY
Pope County Library (PCL Headquarter Branch)

The Pope County Library (PCL) welcomed 1,501 new patron card holders in 2015. The Russellville facility received 110,183 visitors, and 35,952 computer users. 15,378 patrons attended the Headquarter branch’s 386 yearly programs.

Visitors to the Pope County Library are looking for a gathering place, a sense of space, a meeting space on neutral ground, and equal access to information regardless of education or income.

**PCL Collection “turned over” 2.83 times** -- PCL boasts a circulation of over 202,000 checkouts of its 71,288 volumes of books, videos, fishing poles, free programming to the community and more.
Programming

Children’s: 196 Programs
Adult: 144 Programs
Teen: 46 Programs

Book Clubs
Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)
Tween Advisory Board (TW.A.B.)
River Valley Writers
Teen Writers Group
Family Game Nights
International Games Day
Writers Retreat
Summer Reading Program
NaNoWriMo

and other special events...
Atkins Branch

Atkins Centennial Library boasted 11,440 visits last year. Patrons drop in for the 65 Children’s Programs including Story Time, as well as the 55 Adult Programs and 13 Teen Programs.

The Atkins Branch provides a rotating collection for the area schools.

Also, area writers utilize space in the Library to “Come Write In” for the annual National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) in November each year.
ATKINS BRANCH

Atkins Library Programming

Atkins Centennial Library Circulation
Eighteen thousand, seven hundred thirty-nine visitors came to the Dover Public Library in 2015. The Dover Library averages 120 programs per year, including a Book Club, Story Times, and Summer Reading Program (SRP) and 3,221 computer users. Last year’s SRP theme: “Every Superhero has a Story”, featured the Dover Rural Fire Department, Smokey the Bear, Dover Chief of Police Barry Walker, and Santa to name a few. Last year, 181 new patrons applied for their library card at Dover.
Dover Branch

Dover Rural Fire Department

Barry Walker, Dover Chief of Police
Hector Branch

Hector Public Library (HPL) celebrates its 20th Anniversary in 2016. It is Pope County Library System’s best kept secret in that it may be small, but it is mighty. In the two previous years, HPL has reclaimed 1% of Adult Circulation from each of the other branches. HPL had 75 programs per year and 2,138 computer users, and issued 69 new library cards in 2015.
HECTOR BRANCH

6,592 VISITORS

STORY TIMES, TEEN PROGRAMS
National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)

Happy 20th Anniversary,
Hector Public Library!
Thanks to our Donors!

The Pope County Library System is grateful to the following individuals who contributed in 2015.

A.G. & Bettye Barton
Alexander S. Brown
Alta Cheek
Amy Aikman
Arkansas Comm. Foundation
Barbara & Steve Hughes
Bill Newsom
Bill Parton
Bill Vaughn
Bill & Millie Chevaillier
Bob & Polly Hardin
Boyd Barton
Carolyn & George McLellan
Catherine Young
Charity Park
Cliff Eaton
Connie Zimmer
Cynthia Jovel
Cynthia R. Hudson
Daniel Huckabay
Danny & Virginia Smith
Dawn Collier
Dennis & Virginia Bernier
Don & Ila Hudson
Don & Jacqueline Erwin
Don & Linda Gifford
Donna Eubanks
Donna Pryzbys
Dr. Matt & Martha Stephen
Dr. Van Tyson
Elizabeth Latham
Elizabeth & Sarah Reilly
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G.M. O’Neal
Gary & Kerri Couch
Georganne Peel Rollans
Gretchen Douthit
Harvey Young
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Hugh & Mary Silkenson
Jacqueline Duvall
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Janet Wiley
Jason O’Donnell
Javier Soria
Jeanie Gray
Jeff Scherer
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John William Peters
Johnna M. Morley
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Karen L. Riddell
Karen & Sid Womack
Katherine Tyson
Kay & John Sunderland
Keireigh Roberds
Kristi & Robert Bayer
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Lori Latimer
Louis G. Painter
Lynn & Steve Wiman
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Mary Jo Pledger
Megan Musgrove
Nicholas & Wendy Ledbetter
Pat McCallister
Paul Phillips
Peggy Jones
Pope County Comm. Foundation
Randall Gray
Ray Orvalene
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Rebecca Haas
Rebecca Pierce
Rebeckah Cox
Richard & Katherine Kluender
Robert & Jessica Hefley
Robert & Suzy Griffin
Roberta Gifford
Sandra Howell
Sara Daily
Sarah Reilly
Shawn Pierce
Shirley & Geneva Dixon
Steve Higgins
Susan Chesser
Susan & Scott Jordan
Suzanne Alford-Hodges
Suzanne & Jerry Yelverton
Taylor Welch
Teresa Gallagos
Tony Hernandez
Tracy McCullar
Trevor Coats
Wayne Van Buren
William Erwin
PCLS Teen Writers

...because there are dragons that need slaying, love that needs finding, and lives that need saving!

@ the Pope County Library
• Work With Published Author • Get Published
• Win Autographed Book • Improve Your Writing
  Learn About Writing-Based Scholarships

Russellville Hours:
Mon-Wed: 8:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M. • Fri: Noon-5:30 P.M.
Thurs: Noon-6:00 P.M. • Sat: 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

116 East 3rd Street • (479) 968-4368 • www.popelibrary.org

NaNoWriMo
National Novel Writers Month

November 2015

http://www.popelibrary.org
Our Administrative Team:
Shawn Pierce, System Director
Dana Gann, Director of Branches
Charlotte Goodwin, Finance

PCLS Library Board:
Karen Womack, Chair
Jeanie Gray, Vice-Chair
Bob Hardin, Board Member
Mariola Payne, Board Member
Kay Sunderland, Board Member