



Director's Report (4th Quarter)

DATE: February 10, 2025

Administrative

This will be my last report as the Director. It has been my pleasure to serve the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library system for over 31 years. My main goal as the Regional Director was to establish a strong system to serve our communities. I believe that is what we have accomplished together and I know that with the new leadership it will continue to grow. As you can imagine, the majority of my time was spent familiarizing Hunter with the day-to-day tasks of the Director. Our Collection Developer has been out on Family Medical Leave for 12 weeks. During this time, Jennifer Knight took on the bulk of the buying responsibilities and I picked up the rest. We have at least managed to keep new books flowing to the branches. Hunter will bring you up to date on that situation.

Technology & Branch Updates

The new inside mural in the Monticello Library has been completed. The mural was funded in part by the Ross family and is in honor of Elgenia Ross and her dedication to the Region and the Monticello Library. It is wonderful and I hope everyone has a chance to see it.

The Region hosted a Craftstravaganza: 2025 Color Our World Summer Reading Program Workshop in conjunction with the Arkansas State Library. The workshop focused on the 2025 SRP theme, "Color Our World" and provided ideas for setting the scene for the theme with decorations and theme craft ideas.

Community Engagement & Outreach

In November, I participated in the All-In Leadership workshop "The Art of Innovation", conducted at the Clinton Presidential Library.

We implemented Craftsy in November as part of our ecollections. Craftsy is an online learning platform with classes on a wide variety of art and craft related topics. This includes drawing, painting, garment sewing, quilting, knitting, crochet, weaving, baking, cake decorating, and more. Craftsy is available through the Libby app.

I ended my last week as Director with a training session at the Crawford County Library in Van Buren, where I conducted a training session on how to create a building book for their branches.

Meetings & Workshops Attended

Arkansas State Library Board Meeting – Little Rock, AR, November 8, 2024

All-In – Little Rock, AR, November 14, 2024

Crawford County Library Training – Van Buren, AR, January 28, 2025