

Hunterdon County Library  
Director's Report  
August & September 2011

Extension Services & South County Branch

The Bookmobile went to *Miss Janet's Sunshine Schoolhouse* in Annandale on August 4<sup>th</sup> and the *Merck Child Learning Center* in Whitehouse on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Joan Bonham, Greg Slomczewski (August), and Cindy Boyer (September) gave the students a tour of the Bookmobile and helped them each pick out a book to check out.

Starting September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Bookmobile will once again be providing library service to the Franklin Township School on alternate Wednesdays as their construction continues.

Joan Brelsford and Jennifer Winberry did an outstanding job on the fair committee again this year. Several members of the department also participated in the fair this year and were disappointed the weather didn't allow them to finish out the weekend.

Hurricane Irene did not disrupt the courier routes. The drivers were able to navigate the roads and detours to keep library materials moving to the affiliate libraries before and after the storm. They were even able to make the regularly scheduled deliveries (which occur every eight weeks) to several nursing homes.

Summer Concert Series

The Outdoor Summer Concert Series at HQ was a big success this year. The Robert Murdock Band presented the final show, *The British Invasion and the American Response*, on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. All four shows were very well attended, despite the fact that one show needed to be moved indoors due to inclement weather.

Hunterdon County 4-H Fair

HCL was well represented with a booth in the Community Services tent at the Hunterdon County 4-H Fair, which ran from August 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. A variety of HCL staff members was there to greet fair goers and promote all of our great services and programs (see attached report by Mary Noone-Kozakiewicz).

September is National Library Card Month

For the third year, HCL will be partnering with area businesses to offer *Discounts with Your Library Card* during the month of September. Brochures detailing the specific discounts are now available at all our libraries and online.

## HCL Amateur Photography Show

Entries are now being accepted for the popular *Hunterdon County Library Amateur Photography Show*, to be displayed in the main gallery of our Headquarters Library during the month of October. Well-known New Jersey photographer and author Walter Choroszewski will once again judge the show. He will also present a program titled *Its on My List* on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, immediately following the Photo Show awards ceremony.

## Youth Services

*Summer Reading Club* was in full swing for the month of July. July is typically our busiest month in the YS Department and this year was no different. Overall, we had more than 120 programs at 10 library locations throughout the county. We had programs for all ages - birth up to high school. Performers at Headquarters and North County Branch included *Guitar Bob*, *Wild Animals with Rizzo's Wildlife*, a magician, a theater duo, a visiting petting farm, and *World Music with Daria*. The month of July flies by for all of us in YS!

The end of August marked the winding down of the 2011 *Summer Reading Club*. Countywide we had 977 children read more than 29,000 books - nearly 30 books per child! *Summer Reading Club* plus the attendance at all our programs equaled a very successful summer for the YS department!

North County Teen Café, headed by Ann-Louise Taylor is ending a very successful season of summer programming. Two of their biggest events attracted enthusiastic community involvement: *Around the World Festival* and the *3<sup>d</sup> Annual Teen Idol Talent Show*.

For the *Around the World Festival*, 11 Clinton area residents, born outside the United States, representing 8 diverse countries spanning 5 continents, captivated their audience of 39 young people with facts, fun, food, and stories of what it was like to grow up in their country of origin. The country representatives were enthusiastic in volunteering their time, knowledge, and culinary confections.

The *3<sup>d</sup> Annual Teen Idol Talent Show* drew a crowd of 90, including 16 contestants, who presented 12 individual acts from juggling and comedy routines to singing, dancing, and piano performances. The judges—all professional musicians-- included our library director, a library staff member, and a local musician. Prizes were generously donated by 11 local businesses along with world folksinger Daria, totaling \$240 in value. Bill Spear of the Hunterdon Radio Theatre returned as emcee.

Teen Café at HQ, newly restarted after a three year absence by Tanvi Rastogi, held five programs based around the this year's summer reading theme *You Are Here*. Each program focused around a particular era or culture: kids tie dyed t-shirts in celebration of the 1960's, crafted their own sugar skulls while learning about Mexico's *Day of the Dead*, made origami and candy "sushi" during *Japanamania*, designed and received their own Indian-style henna tattoos, and finally wrapped up the summer with a sundae and video

game party. The programs were all very popular and drew an average of 20 teens per event. Tanvi will be continuing teen programming at HQ throughout the school year.

We have spent most of August preparing for fall programs. Now that we have been able to increase the hours of two of our librarians, we will be adding more programs for more age groups. By fall, we will have something for every age group from 6 months old and up.

### Technical Services & Reference

Technical Services continues to order, receive, catalog and process materials as we start the last quarter of our ordering year. Everyone is very busy.

The Reference Department is holding weekly meetings to bolster information flow among department members at our two locations that have Reference service (HQ and NCB). Reference is trying to burnish its customer service skills so that the public feels welcomed and able to ask us questions.

Recently members of both departments took part in a Book Group Kit day and helped to make 20 new Book Group Kits.

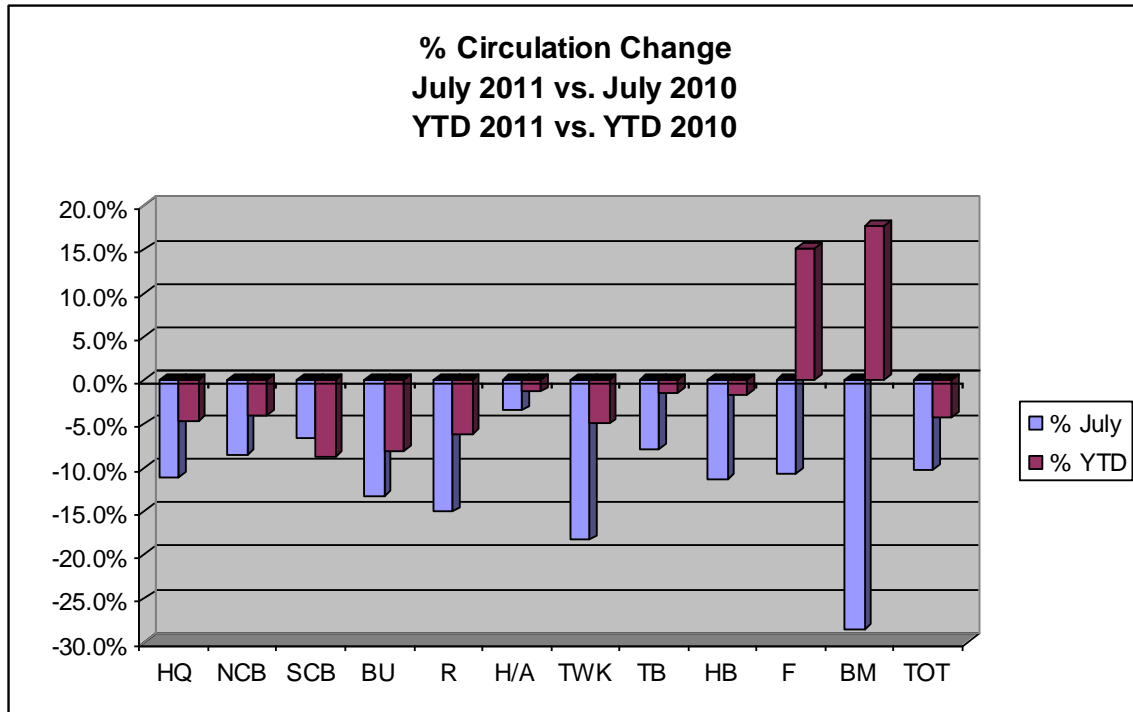
### Circulation Services

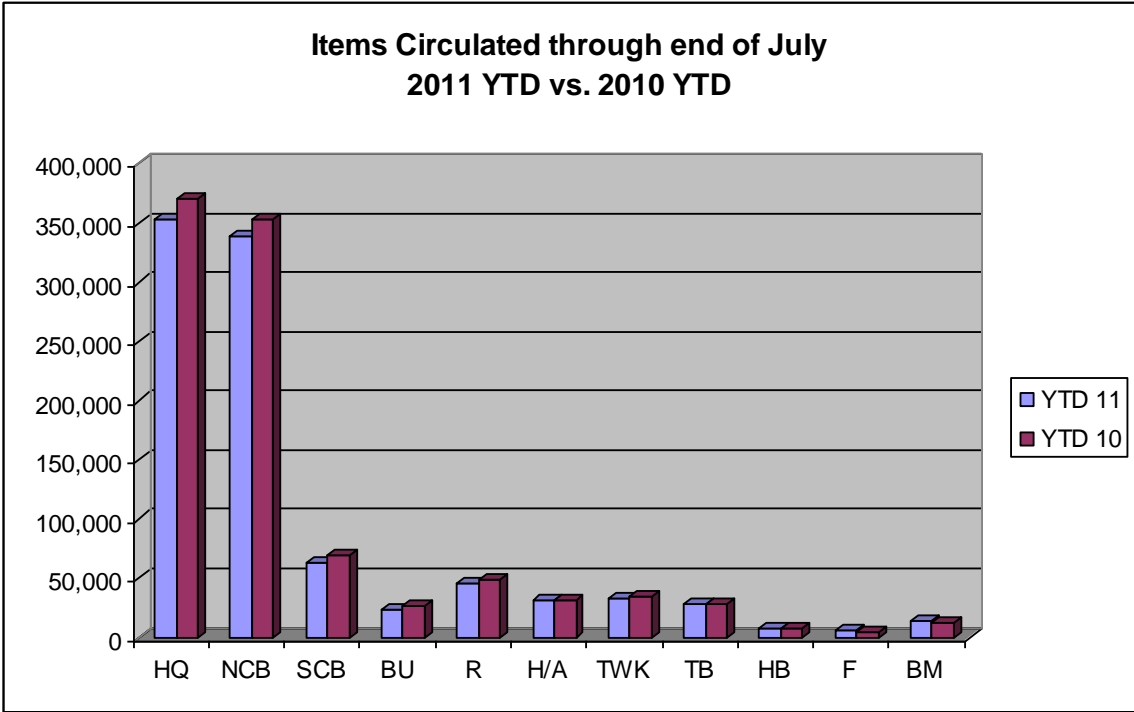
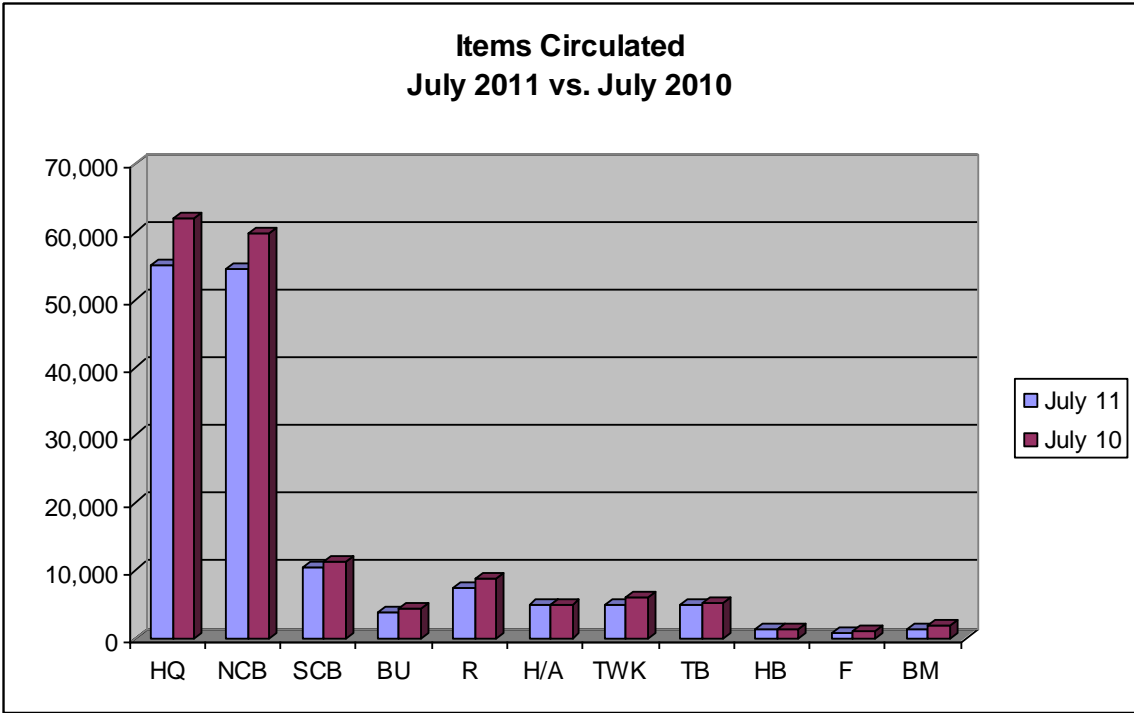
Lee Comella has been working with Kristin Momberg and Jennifer Winberry on the Book Kits. The Book Kits will now be listed in our online catalog so that patrons will be able to put requests on them. Circulation staff will be checking the kits in and out, this will make circulation of them more streamlined and free up Reference staff from having to deal with them.

Lee Comella, Jennifer Winberry, and Julie Hrinyak have completed an update/revision of the Circulation Manual. It has been streamlined and now only holds the policies of the Circulation Desk. For trouble with Polaris, staff can refer to the online help, or go directly to the Polaris manuals.

Circulation Statistics July 2011

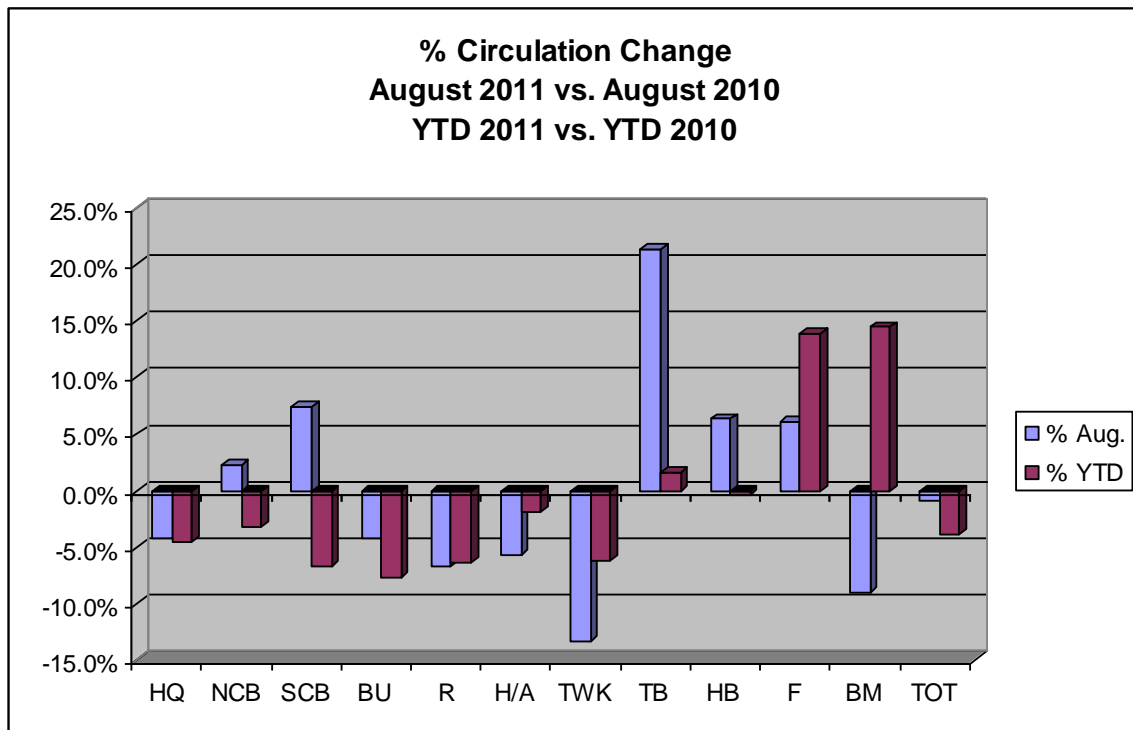
|     | July 11 | June 11 | % Change | July 10 | % July | YTD 11  | YTD 10  | % YTD |
|-----|---------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| HQ  | 55,137  | 50,419  | 9.4%     | 62,063  | -11.2% | 353,364 | 370,597 | -4.7% |
| NCB | 54,618  | 50,897  | 7.3%     | 59,680  | -8.5%  | 338,862 | 353,055 | -4.0% |
| SCB | 10,551  | 8,919   | 18.3%    | 11,296  | -6.6%  | 62,893  | 68,953  | -8.8% |
| BU  | 3,718   | 3,685   | 0.9%     | 4,290   | -13.3% | 24,070  | 26,202  | -8.1% |
| R   | 7,397   | 6,770   | 9.3%     | 8,715   | -15.1% | 45,648  | 48,686  | -6.2% |
| H/A | 4,851   | 4,390   | 10.5%    | 5,028   | -3.5%  | 30,910  | 31,324  | -1.3% |
| TWK | 4,889   | 4,895   | -0.1%    | 5,986   | -18.3% | 33,113  | 34,852  | -5.0% |
| TB  | 4,873   | 4,574   | 6.5%     | 5,294   | -8.0%  | 27,960  | 28,363  | -1.4% |
| HB  | 1,210   | 1,143   | 5.9%     | 1,364   | -11.3% | 7,534   | 7,656   | -1.6% |
| F   | 848     | 799     | 6.1%     | 950     | -10.7% | 5,842   | 5,071   | 15.2% |
| BM  | 1,284   | 1,732   | -25.9%   | 1,797   | -28.5% | 14,109  | 11,979  | 17.8% |
| TOT | 149,376 | 138,223 | 8.1%     | 166,463 | -10.3% | 944,305 | 986,738 | -4.3% |



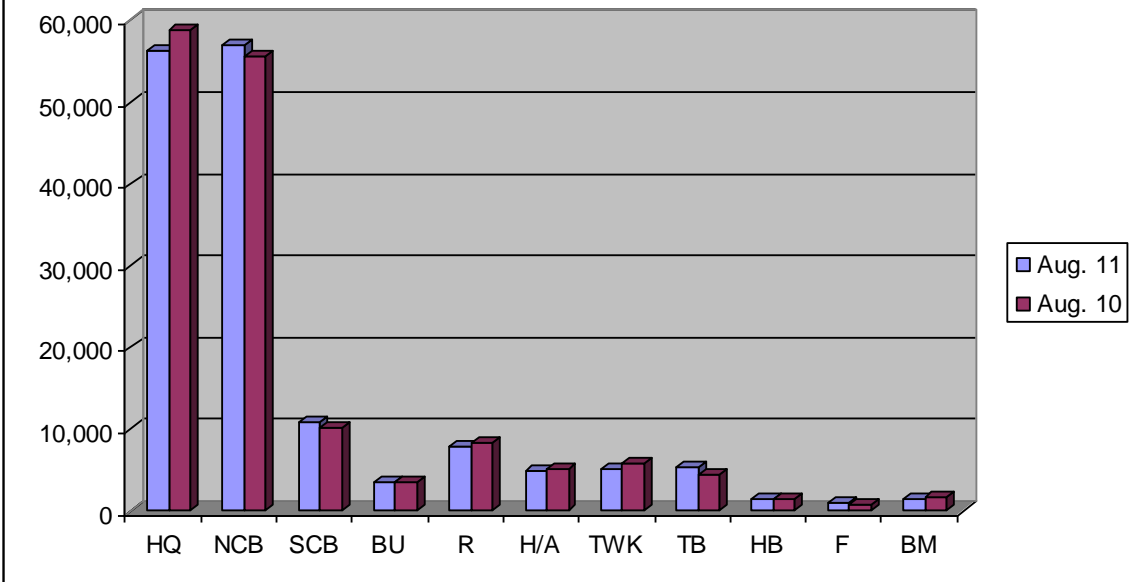


Circulation Statistics August 2011

|     | Aug. 11 | July 11 | % Change | Aug. 10 | % Aug. | YTD 11    | YTD 10    | % YTD |
|-----|---------|---------|----------|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| HQ  | 56,331  | 55,137  | 2.2%     | 58,800  | -4.2%  | 409,695   | 429,397   | -4.6% |
| NCB | 56,913  | 54,618  | 4.2%     | 55,664  | 2.2%   | 395,775   | 408,719   | -3.2% |
| SCB | 10,854  | 10,551  | 2.9%     | 10,110  | 7.4%   | 73,747    | 79,063    | -6.7% |
| BU  | 3,458   | 3,718   | -7.0%    | 3,609   | -4.2%  | 27,528    | 29,811    | -7.7% |
| R   | 7,820   | 7,397   | 5.7%     | 8,385   | -6.7%  | 53,468    | 57,071    | -6.3% |
| H/A | 4,868   | 4,851   | 0.4%     | 5,159   | -5.6%  | 35,778    | 36,483    | -1.9% |
| TWK | 5,012   | 4,889   | 2.5%     | 5,783   | -13.3% | 38,125    | 40,635    | -6.2% |
| TB  | 5,397   | 4,873   | 10.8%    | 4,449   | 21.3%  | 33,357    | 32,812    | 1.7%  |
| HB  | 1,477   | 1,210   | 22.1%    | 1,389   | 6.3%   | 9,011     | 9,045     | -0.4% |
| F   | 890     | 848     | 5.0%     | 839     | 6.1%   | 6,732     | 5,910     | 13.9% |
| BM  | 1,534   | 1,284   | 19.5%    | 1,687   | -9.1%  | 15,643    | 13,666    | 14.5% |
| TOT | 154,554 | 149,376 | 3.5%     | 155,874 | -0.8%  | 1,098,859 | 1,142,612 | -3.8% |



**Items Circulated  
August 2011 vs. August 2010**



**Items Circulated through end of August  
2011 YTD vs. 2010 YTD**

