

# History of the Nauvoo Public Library

The Nauvoo Public Library will celebrate its 95th Anniversary on May 15, 2010. The Library has been through many changes throughout the past 95 years. The first home of the Nauvoo Public Library was a room in the Niciase building, which was an Icarian building located on the east side of the Temple Square. In 1915 it moved to the second floor of the National Bank building. In 1939 it moved to its present location at 1270 Mulholland Street, which was the former Addie Reibold building.

When we first started, we were a subscription-based library. In 1976 we became a tax funded entity. By using tax funds and donations, we now have books for adults, teenagers, and children. We also carry videos, audio books, magazines and local newspapers.

We were a member of the Great River Library System which allowed us to share collections with area libraries. In 1994 we became a part of the Alliance Library System and we now have access to over 2.6 million items in 198 libraries throughout Illinois. If we don't have what you are looking for, we can request it from a library that does. We receive deliveries from other libraries every Monday and Wednesday (excluding holidays).

Around 1998, the library started offering Internet access to library users. We have three computers available for users to access the Internet or type documents. Users can print their documents in the library. The library also offers fax services as well as copy services.

We went from a paper system to an online system in 2007. This simplified cataloging procedures as well as circulation procedures, which saves time, money and trees! With the new online system, barcodes are used to identify the books rather than cards. We no longer have to type cards for the card catalog or books. When books are checked out, the barcode identifying the patron is scanned and barcodes identifying the books are scanned. With this system, the library is saving money by not having to purchase the cards, and it is also helping to save our environment by not using as much paper.

With our new paperless system, our card catalog is available online. This means that wherever the Internet is available, users can browse our card catalog to see what we

have. All they need is their library card number and personal identification number. Users can place a hold on an item they would like to check out and we will pull it off the shelves and hold it for them. They can pick it up at their convenience. They can also renew their books online. This online card catalog is great since the Nauvoo Public Library is part of the Alliance Library System. Our patrons can see what is available from all 198 participating libraries. If another library has an item they want (book, movie, audio book, etc), they simply place a hold on that item and it will be sent to our library where the patron can pick it up. This online system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (Deliveries are made every Monday and Wednesday, excluding holidays.)

In May 2010, our patrons will have access to the Alliance Digital Media Library. With this service, patrons can read eBooks, listen to audio books, listen to music, or watch videos on their own computer, MP3, iPod, or other supported device. Patrons will need to know their library card number and personal identification number. For more information, go to [alliance.lib.overdrive.com](http://alliance.lib.overdrive.com).

As the needs of our community continue to change, the Nauvoo Public Library will strive to meet those needs. It is with the use of your tax dollars and donations that this can be done. Thank you for your support and thank you for the opportunity to serve you.