

MONTHLY REPORT

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- Our prototype experimental online catalog system based on the \$50 APC single board computer (SBC) has been performing quite well since its inception late last year. In an effort to not only gain better performance, but to also hopefully provide inexpensive express use public access computers, we have also purchased a Raspberry Pi SBC (\$35) as well as APC's top of the line SBC known as Rock (\$80). The Raspberry Pi is definitely out of consideration for use as an OPAC, as its performance was found to be unacceptably slow and unreliable; however, we may still find use for it in The Edge's makerspace for various projects. The APC Rock is as yet untested, but as it has greater memory and a faster processor than our current prototype system, I expect its performance to be quite good, and at this point will most likely be the model to be installed throughout the Library to serve as our new catalog kiosks. It is also hoped that it will be robust enough to serve as express use terminals.
- We were given a live demonstration of a Library app called Capira Mobile (<http://capiratech.com/>). The app, available for both Android and Apple iOS devices, would provide many convenient features for our patrons, including the ability to scan a book's ISBN barcode at a bookstore and then automatically search our catalog for that item. Also available for an additional cost is the ability for patrons to use their Apple or Android device as a mobile self-check device. It is under serious consideration for us to offer it as a valuable service to our patrons.
- Because funds are now forthcoming through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) grant, the original quote from the audio-visual contractor, Bytec, has been referred back to them for re-specification. This is for the audio-visual renovation of the auditorium (due to the lengthy amount of time since the original quote was presented, some equipment models that were specified are no longer available). We will be reviewing new specifications with Bytec while doing our best to provide updated technology within the scope of the original grant proposal.
- We have updated the CyberSpot's coin/bill acceptor (CBA) to now accept currency up to ten dollar bills. This was to accommodate the new ability to pay fees and fines which tend to be greater in amount than what patrons usually pay for print jobs at the same coin/bill acceptor. The CBA at The Trove's Compass Desk will be replaced and reprogrammed to provide the same accommodation. We have a spare CBA on hand, so there is no additional cost involved in this upgrade.
- The IS Department has replaced several of the Library's phones which were functional but very problematic. They have also restored our ability to make conference calls.