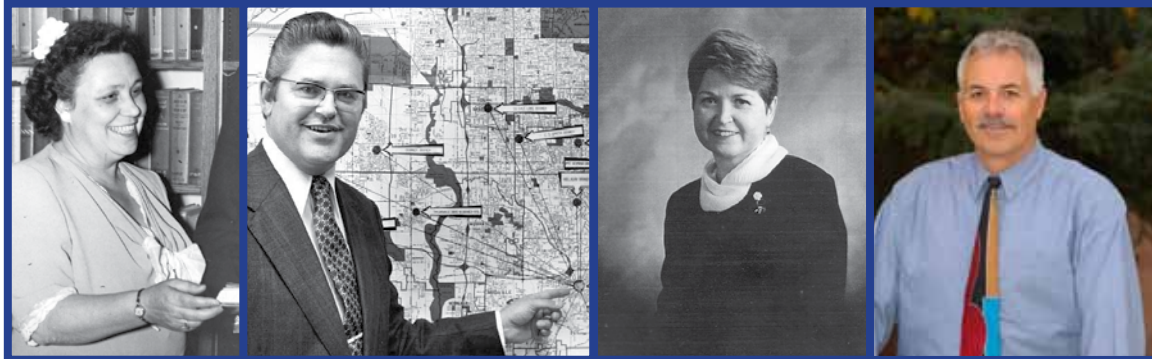


# LIBRARY HISTORY

## Salt Lake County Library Directors

1939-  
2010



Ruth Vine Tyler  
1939 - 1971

Guy Schuurman  
1971 -1987

Eileen Longworth  
1987 - 2000

James Cooper  
2001 - present

We envision all Salt Lake County residents having library services that are **Relevant, Enriching, Accessible, Dynamic and Sustainable**. Salt Lake County **READS!**

**T**he mission of Salt Lake County Library Services is to make a positive difference in the lives of our customers by responsively providing materials, information and services at community libraries located throughout the Salt Lake Valley and/or via the Library’s website.



First  
Headquarters  
building in  
Midvale



Library  
Headquarters  
moved to the  
Whitmore  
Library  
building in 1974

In early 1939, the Salt Lake County Library opened in two rooms of the old Midvale School. Its popularity was tremendous and within four months the library had issued a library card to more than 1,700 patrons. Today over 70% of area residents hold a library card with an average of 175 new cards issued every day.

To serve the needs of a growing and diverse population, Salt Lake County operates 19 libraries and two reading rooms. Our neighborhood locations allow libraries to meet systemwide goals while providing the flexibility to tailor collections, programming and services to unique communities throughout the valley.

In 2009 the number of items checked out topped 15 million with almost 5 million people visiting our libraries.

Despite the fact that library taxes have not increased in over eight years, library use is on the rise and Salt Lake County Library regularly receives praise for the exemplary delivery of services. In 2009 we were recognized as the 4th most efficient and effective library system in the nation serving populations greater than 500,000.

Advancements in library technology has allowed express check-in at several locations, self-checkout at all libraries and access to the world of electronic information through a new library website. On average we receive 26,000 hits to our website per day.

Library staff demonstrate a high level of professionalism and a commitment to seek out and offer the best possible library resources. The library is the community partner the residents of Salt Lake County have always been able to rely on.



Responsible financing has enabled the library to regularly remodel or replace outdated facilities. In 2009 renewal projects were completed at Riverton, Sandy and Taylorsville Libraries. New building projects in Magna, East Millcreek, Herriman and West Jordan were initiated. This latest building program will add over 95,000 sq. ft. of space to the library system.



An anchor of the Herriman Town Center, the new library will open in the fall of 2010.



Library administration will be housed in the new West Jordan Library complex along with a large community meeting space.