

## **PHILIP READ MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

### **Trustees Report**

As always, thank you for all your support in various ways to the Philip Read Memorial Library. The library is a thriving community center with circulation increasing again this year, more meetings occurring during the year, and many patrons and visitors browsing through the library. In response to several queries and in keeping with our long-range goals, we are planning to open the library for an additional two hours every Wednesday (5:00-7:00 PM), start date to be determined.

Story time for the younger children continues to be a very important part of the life of the library. Diane Rogers shares her storytelling gifts every month on the third Wednesday at 3:30 PM. Former Plainfield residents author Linda Michelin and her husband, illustrator D.B. Johnson, visited in November to read Linda's new book "ZuZu's Wishing Cake." Don drew one of his illustrations from the book for the over 50 children attending. Don is well-known for his "Henry" series. Autographed books are available at the library.

The summer reading program "Treasure Reading" had 58 children participating and the books read totaled 603. The summer program was complemented with a Pirate Story Hour led by Diane Rogers; a craft program led by Trustee Jen Frederick and a "Treasure Show & Tell" led by Diane McDonald. The Sea Shanty songs and games led by Heidi Jaarsma and her accordion, and a treasure hunt designed by Teagan Atwater added the finishing touches to the summer program.

We were awarded a grant of \$1,400 worth of children's books from the Children's Literacy Foundation. Eighty (80) children and parents attended the presentation and storytelling by Foundation Director Duncan McDougall.

The book discussions this past year were a series on "The Chronicles of Narnia" led by Suellen Leugers and two programs on "Humor Here and There" sponsored by the library and a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council and led by humanities' scholars.

The cleanup of Rte. 12A through the Adopt-A-Highway Program was managed again by a group of dedicated volunteers. For the July 4 parade, our float "Dr. Seuss Country" took fourth prize. Our library director, Nancy Norwalk, attended the Public Library Association National Convention held in Boston this year. It was a wonderful opportunity and very beneficial. She also attended the Librarians of the Upper Valley meetings and the fall CLiF Conference. As in past years, Trustees Beth Williams and Anita Brown attended the annual NH Library Trustees Association meeting.

The Friends of the Library sponsored a variety show with 40 performers sharing their talents to the appreciative crowd. The library took part in the Meriden Library's town-wide yard sale, as well as collected used books at the town-sponsored Father's Day Recycle Day. We held an Open House during National Library Week in April and the library was open for tours during the Plainfield School reunion in June. John Taylor presented a program on "Upper Valley Trails and Campsites."

The Plainfield Water District, the Town Finance Advisory Committee, as well as other town groups use our meeting spaces. The new Brownie troop is meeting regularly at the library. The Ladies Group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM for coffee and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

Our main fundraising events were our Annual Book and Bake Sale; the Maxfield Parrish Vintage Print Sale (jointly with the Stage Set Committee); and the Quechee Polo Team game. Another benefit for the library was a dance. Diane Sangermano and Richard Caruso led afternoon dance workshops followed by an evening dance with DJ John Tomeny. We had gift baskets filled with goodies generously donated by a library patron and raffled off during the course of the year.

Circulation (items loaned out) increased again this year--14,277 items being checked out; an increase of 4.6% over last year. Patron visits increased by 12.5%. Computer use by

patrons has doubled over last year. The additional hours on Monday have been very popular. We are always looking for ideas for items to be displayed in our exhibit case each month. If you have ideas or any collections, please contact Nancy Norwalk.

The trustees and library director are very thankful for all the help given to make the library so vibrant. Thank you to the many residents who donated books, tapes, videos and magazines, as well as other needed items. Donations of books are always welcome.

Our usual volunteers put in 48 hours each month, some of that time in the library and some at home doing tasks, such as typing catalog cards. We rely heavily on our volunteers; and, in fact, continue to look for more volunteers. The Friends of the Library are always willing to assist us and new members are welcome.

Finishing the basement level is our next priority with plans to have the downstairs operational within the next two years. What an added bonus that will be when complete. Contributions are welcome to the general building fund as well as to "The Alice P. Hendrick Memorial Children's Room."

As we have stated in the past and continue to believe, the foundation of our success is twofold—the tremendous effort put in by our many volunteers and the solid support of community members. For these, we are truly grateful and say thank you on behalf of the library.

Submitted by,

Anita K. Brown, Jennifer Frederick, Beth Williams. Plainfield Library Trustees



**Director Duncan McDougall reading to children some of the books awarded to the Plainfield Library through a Children's Literacy Foundation grant.  
Photo credit: Nancy Norwalk**

**PHILIP READ MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUDGET 2007**

	Budget	Actual	Proposed
	2006	2006	2007
Encumbered Purchases	0.00	0.00	694.00
Checking Account	87.00	87.00	450.00
Subtotal	<u>87.00</u>	<u>87.00</u>	<u>1,144.00</u>
Town appropriation	46,412.00	46,412.00	49,537.00
Trust fund income	2,750.00	2,700.00	2,800.00
Fines and damaged books	400.00	929.00	500.00
Gifts	100.00	170.00	100.00
Books sales	725.00	738.00	725.00
Grants	0.00	1,909.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	234.00	0.00
Income	<u>50,386.00</u>	<u>53,092.00</u>	<u>53,662.00</u>
Total	<u>50,474.00</u>	<u>53,179.00</u>	<u>54,806.00</u>
Salaries	24,604.00	24,080.00	27,532.00
Payroll Liabilities	1,882.00	1,842.00	2,106.00
Library materials	7,025.00	7,529.00	7,235.00
Audio-visual materials	1,225.00	881.00	1,265.00
Supplies	1,500.00	1,806.00	1,500.00
Postage	250.00	219.00	250.00
Computer tech./out services	600.00	562.00	600.00
Professional activities	1,300.00	1,481.00	885.00
Programs (includes grant exp.)	150.00	500.00	400.00
Electricity	2,500.00	2,679.00	2,895.00
Telephone	1,080.00	1,072.00	1,080.00
Fuel	4,000.00	3,731.00	4,000.00
Water	325.00	290.00	290.00
Maintenance	1,800.00	1,520.00	2,300.00
Elevator	829.00	1,299.00	900.00
Miscellaneous	150.00	2.00	300.00
Furnishings (includes grant exp.)	300.00	1,642.00	500.00
Encyclopedia	885.00	829.00	0.00
Transfer to sick pay	68.00	71.00	74.00
Encumbered purchases	0.00	0.00	694.00
Expenses	<u>50,473.00</u>	<u>52,035.00</u>	<u>54,806.00</u>
Checking account Dec. 31, 2006		1,144.00	
Total		<u>53,179.00</u>	<u>54,806.00</u>
Balance in Sick Pay Account Dec. 31, 2005		583.36	
Balance in Sick Pay Account Dec. 31, 2006		657.36	