

**PHILIP READ MEMORIAL LIBRARY**  
**Trustees Report – Calendar Year 2009**

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 and programs occurring during the year, and many patrons and visitors browsing through the library.

Story time for the younger children continues to be a very important part of the life of the library. Diane Rogers continues to be the main reader and shares her storytelling gifts every month. We again had a special story hour in December-- Santa came to visit and read. Currently, the Plainfield Water District holds its monthly meetings at the library. Other groups meeting regularly or occasionally are the Plainfield Energy Committee, Plainfield 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, the Town Selectmen and the Plainfield Historical Society. The library is a testing site for U.S. Census jobs.

The summer reading program “Summertime and the Reading is Easy” was spearheaded by Katie Sheehan; programs were: Frozen T-shirt Contest, Painting on Rocks, Making Windsocks, Sunflowers and Nature Crafts, in addition to reading lots of books. As part of the summer program, we also held a Plainfield Historical Scavenger Hunt jointly with the Meriden Library. The library also had visits from Harold, the iguana, and Edna, the chicken. We sponsored an O’Shi A craft workshop by Karen Gritzke. Since Halloween was on a Saturday night this year, the library trustees at the suggestion of the library director decided we would make a special effort to be open for Trick or Treaters. We had over 160 visitors!

Programs held this past year were: “Wood Stoves & Generators” with Fire Chief Frank Currier (twice by popular demand); “Maple Sugaring,” tasting contest and actual tapping of our maple tree with Chris Mabey; a job workshop (resume writing and interviews) with Bev Widger; co-sponsored the Children’s Theater programs during the summer at the Plainfield Town Hall (8 plays, attendance ranged from 65-135 at each show); and took part in the Townwide Read of Disrupting Class jointly with the Plainfield School, Meriden Library and KUA. We had two book author presentations: Steve Kelly (Plainfield native), author of “Star Trek—the Collectibles” (autographed copies are available); and D.B. Johnson and Linda Michelin (former Plainfield residents), with their newest book “Henry’s Night” (autographed copies of all their books available). We continue to have a monthly book discussion group. The Connecticut River Joint Commissions presented a program on conservation.

The cleanup of Rte. 12A through the Adopt-A-Highway Program was managed again by a group of dedicated volunteers. The Plainfield and Meriden Libraries’ float for the July 4 parade won 1<sup>st</sup> prize. George Adams and Teagan Atwater are working together to improve our webpage. Dennis, Corrine and Nick Girouard replaced the old tarred walkway with a new brick one, matching our other walkways, donating their time and materials.

Our library director, Nancy Norwalk, attended the New Hampshire State Library Convention, the bi-monthly Librarians of the Upper Valley (LUV) meetings, and the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) conferences. Two of the Philip Read Memorial Library trustees attended the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association's annual meeting.

Our main fundraising events were our Annual Book and Bake Sale; the Maxfield Parrish Vintage Print Sale (jointly with the Stage Set Committee); sales of Maxfield Parrish items and Sue Smith's handmade greeting cards.

Library use and number of patrons continues to increase. Computer use by patrons is 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.

We added one more public computer, which was a donation. The additional morning hours have been successful. Other services available at the library are passes to the Currier Art Museum (Manchester) and the Windsor Precision Museum, trash and landfill stickers available for purchase, Fax, copier, public computers with hi-speed Internet, wireless network, interlibrary loan, and a new service—"Kill a Watt Energy Detectors" available for loan. We continue to collect food for the Plainfield Food Pantry. We also participated in the "Toys for Tots" program this past year, with plans to do so again.

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 regular volunteers put in 48 hours each month. 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.

We are striving to finish the basement level which will hold a meeting room, the junior and teen rooms; we have held meetings and interviews with contractors and our architect consultant. A fundraising letter was mailed in the summer and donations have been coming in, albeit slowly. As promised, we have been raising the funds to finish this work and will not ask for tax dollars. Contributions are welcome to the general building fund as well as to "The Alice P. Hendrick Memorial Children's Room."

One last item to announce: We wish to welcome Bernadina Webber as our newest trustee and wish to thank Beth Williams for all her time, dedication and effort as trustee and volunteer.

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 Trustees: Anita K. Brown, Dennis Grouard, Bernadina Webber



**Harold, the iguana, visited the Philip Read Memorial Library in September. Watching are Caroline Sheehan and Clare Falcone. Photo by Bernadina Webber**

**PHILIP READ LIBRARY PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<b>Budget 2009</b>	<b>Actual 2009</b>	<b>Proposed 2010</b>
<b>Opening balance 1/1/10</b>			
Checking account	750.00	749.35	441.74
Encumbered purchases	1,812.00	1,812.21	3,000.00
Subtotal	<u>2,562.00</u>	<u>2,561.56</u>	<u>3,441.74</u>
 <b>Income:</b>			
Town appropriation	56,330.00	56,330.00	59,608.56
Trust fund income	3,200.00	3,200.00	3,200.00
Fines and damaged books	500.00	65.60	500.00
Gifts	100.00	14.00	100.00
Books sales	725.00	735.40	725.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	218.00	0.00
Income	<u>60,855.00</u>	<u>60,563.00</u>	<u>64,133.56</u>
Total	<u>63,417.00</u>	<u>63,124.56</u>	<u>67,575.30</u>
 <b>Expenditures:</b>			
Salaries	31,356.00	30,694.15	31,356.00
Payroll Liabilities	2,399.00	2,348.12	2,399.00
Library materials	7,675.00	8,135.87	7,830.00
Audio-visual materials	1,335.00	1,261.94	1,360.00
Supplies	1,500.00	1,510.51	1,600.00
Postage	250.00	243.05	250.00
Computer tech./out services	1,100.00	1,366.87	1,600.00
Professional activities	885.00	601.01	2,675.00
Programs	400.00	519.59	600.00
Electricity	3,435.00	2,909.06	3,435.00
Telephone	1,080.00	1,046.20	1,080.00
Fuel	5,400.00	4,460.61	5,400.00
Water	290.00	217.60	290.00
Maintenance	2,700.00	3,074.61	2,700.00
Elevator	1,000.00	2,506.34	1,200.00
Miscellaneous	300.00	274.45	300.00
Furnishings & equipment	500.00	493.47	500.00
Transfer to sick pay	0.00	0.00	0.00
Encumbered funds	1,812.00	1,812.00	3,000.00
Expenses	<u>63,417.00</u>	<u>63,475.45</u>	<u>67,575.00</u>
Checking Account Dec. 31, 2009		3,441.74	