



MERIDEN LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2010

2010 was another year of change and progress for the Meriden Library. With the retirement of Jeanne Thompson in March, the trustees named Mary King as the new director. A Long Range Planning Committee was formed and began the work of developing a survey that would allow residents the opportunity to provide input for future goals for the Meriden Library. In early spring the survey was distributed to residents of Meriden and Plainfield with 131 completed surveys returned. In response to the feedback received by residents, the trustees of the Meriden Library moved forward with changes to improve service.

The first weekly Story Time for young children began in May. Every Thursday morning at 9:30 children and their caregivers are invited to join us for stories, songs and art. Our story time is the only on-going programming available for young children in the area. Hours of service were extended this year to include more evening hours and to make the closing times consistent. Beginning in September, three hours were added making the total weekly hours 24. The library is now open **Monday 1-7pm, Tuesday 1-7 pm, Thursday 10am-7pm and Saturday 9am- 12noon.**

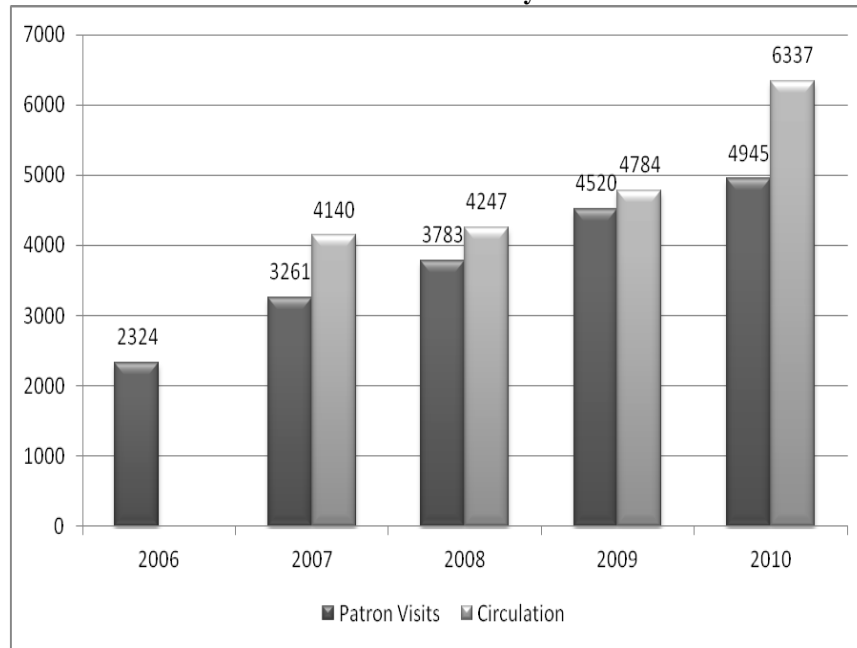
The library holds a permanent collection of more than 10,000 books, recorded books and DVDs. Our collection features current books as well as classics titles for adults in both fiction and non-fiction. For children, picture books and the fiction collection include many new titles as well as childhood favorites. The children's non-fiction section contains many topics including arts and crafts, biography, history and science. This year we applied for and received a grant from the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) which awarded our library more than 125 children's books and audio books. Duncan McDougall, the executive director of CLiF, presented these brand new materials at an event held at the Plainfield Elementary School in November.

A very important goal of the Meriden Library is to include more technology in the operation of the library. Towards that goal a web site is being developed. Work continues on the process to automate the library. All holdings are being cataloged with the state library so that electronic records will be available when we move to an integrated library system. What does that mean for you our patrons? All of our holdings

will be on an electronic catalog that you will be able to access through our website; either in the library or at home. You will be able search for a book, place holds on an item or renew items that you have checked out.

Again this year library use continued to grow. The number of both patron visits and circulation has once more surpassed previous years. As shown in the graph below the number of patron visits at the Meriden Library has doubled in the past five years. Circulation of library materials increased by more than 30% from the previous year.

**Library Growth Pattern
Meriden Library**



Circulation Not Reported for 2006

Many programs were held throughout the year for both adults and children. Our library participated in a state-wide Big Read Program that centered on *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. There are two adult book groups that meet regularly at the library. The Genealogy Club, supported by library assistant Lori Estey, meets monthly. We welcomed children to participate in the 2010 Summer Reading program and offered 5 weekly afternoon programs around the theme, **Make a Splash-Read**. In addition to the afternoon summer programs, we hosted three evening “PJ” Story Times. Also new this year, two Family Crafts Nights, fun evenings for families to join us to create decorations for Halloween and the winter holidays.

We continue to participate in services offered through the state library and our regional library cooperative, Librarians of the Upper Valley. Through the state wide interlibrary loan program we are able to borrow materials for our patrons that are not available at the Meriden Library. As a member of The New Hampshire Downloadable Book consortium we offer downloadable audio books and, new this year, e-books to our patrons. A

rotating video collection offers new DVDs to our patrons on a bi-monthly basis. These are very popular offerings at the Meriden Library.

So much of what was accomplished this year would not have happened without the work of some loyal volunteers. Judy Durant contributed numerous hours as our bookkeeper. Barb Wendt has worked diligently to catalog books. Amy Fraser created our beautiful new logo. Mike and Mary Lou Sutherland have committed their time and effort to make a web site possible. Rachael Stoddard, Jane Witzel and Muffy Gibson led the efforts to form a garden committee which held a spring plant sale and created garden spaces at the library. We are very grateful to them and all the other dedicated volunteers who gave their time this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Leeli Bonney Pam, Mark Pensgen, Kara Toms
Meriden Library Trustees



Halloween Fun at the Meriden Library

Photo M. King

MERIDEN LIBRARY PROPOSED BUDGET

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011 Budget</u>	
		<u>Zero Base Option</u>	<u>Recommended Option</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Town Appropriation	\$37,788	\$38,425	\$39,896
Town Approp-FICA	\$2,465	\$1,921	\$2,026
Trust Funds	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Gifts	\$0		\$0
Book Fines	\$100	\$100	\$100
Book Sales	\$200	\$200	\$200
Copier Income			\$0
Interest-Savings	\$100	\$25	\$25
Interest-Checking			\$0
Building Fund			\$0
Miscellaneous			\$0
Total	\$41,753	\$41,771	\$43,346
<u>Expenses</u>			
Salaries	\$24,648	\$25,110	\$26,481
FICA	\$2,465	\$1,921	\$2,026
Library Materials	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
Telephone	\$540	\$540	\$540
Electricity	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Fuel	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Water	\$500	\$500	\$500
Supplies	\$700	\$800	\$800
Postage	\$300	\$300	\$300
Professional Acitivities	\$400	\$300	\$300
Programing	\$200	\$400	\$400
Maintenance	\$2,000	\$1,400	\$1,400
Automation	\$0	\$500	\$600
Computer	\$500	\$500	\$500
Building Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$41,753	\$41,771	\$43,346
Percent Change		0%	4%