

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The 155th annual report for the year ending December 31, 2008

The Staff and Trustees of the Groton Public Library are happy to report that library use is up and that the people of Groton are using their library at rates that are among the highest in the state. We continue to strive to respond to library users changing needs while maintaining a place for meeting, study and reflection that is "Open to All". Below are some figures that reflect the use of your library:

1 Anime and Manga group was started for teens. 30 young people attended the first meeting.

3 books a minute, or 172 books per hour, were checked out each Sunday in March.

4 new library cards were given out each day for a total of 1,374 this year (a 39% increase over 2007).

7 book groups were held monthly (3 adult, 2 teen & 2 children's). The Book Bears group for grades 2-3 was added.

10 laptops were purchased by the GPL Endowment enabling 7 workshops and their use by students on school ½ days.

24 books per person were borrowed from GPL; one of the highest per capita uses in the state.

\$33.00 is the average savings per family per visit to one of 25 museums; passes were borrowed 1,032 times in 2008.

94 storytimes (including PJ and Sundays) introduced children to books and reading.

110+ people attended each of our author visits, filling the third floor. Authors included Anita Diamant, Kate Braestrup, and Dan Shaughnessy.

292 participants attended one of eight events held during our town wide reading program, Groton Reads. Two hundred copies of "A Walk in the Woods" were distributed.

720 children and their grown ups attended 9 Tales and Tunes, filling Sibley Hall to capacity (80) each time.

774 meetings or events were held by local groups in the meeting rooms – an average of 14 per week.

902 (551 children and 351 teens) participated in the Summer Reading Program - almost 10 % of the towns overall population and 3-6 times the number per capita for comparable communities.

1,078 adults attended 91 programs (a 28% increase over 2007). Programs included historic glass slides of Groton, poetry, digital camera and photo-shop, and a Spanish language group.

4,625 attended 24 special events for summer and school vacations (including wolves, sled dogs and a petting zoo).

\$23,670 is the amount of fine money added to the town's general fund.

245,457 books, (CDs, DVDs, downloaded books, kits, software, etc.) were borrowed from GPL.

Respectfully Submitted, Trustees of the Groton Public Library

Mark Gerath, Chairman
Kristen von Campe

Jane Allen
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