

## GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Vanessa Abraham, Director

Hours: Tue, Wed, Thu 10am-9pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-3pm; Sun 1pm-5pm (Sept-Apr); Mon Closed

Trustees Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7pm | [gpl.org](http://gpl.org) • [info@gpl.org](mailto:info@gpl.org)

Main: 978-448-1167 • Children's: 978-448-1168 • Reference: 978-448-8000 • Fax: 978-448-1169

### **2013: Groton Public Library's 160<sup>th</sup> Annual Report**

The Groton Public Library's mission is to provide free access to collections, services, and programs that enrich the lives of all in our community and to provide this in a professional, friendly, and confidential environment that also promotes the joys and benefits of reading and learning. Here are some highlights from 2013:

#### New Services

- **Joined the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC).** We joined the MVLC network of public libraries as a full member on October 1, thanks to funding approved at Spring Town Meeting. We were the last standalone library in Eastern Massachusetts; now we share a catalog system with 35 other libraries. Sharing a system allows for the semi-automation of resource sharing, which has increased collection use and significantly decreased wait times for holds and interlibrary loans. **In 2012, we handled 1,990 interlibrary loans; in 2013, with only 3 months in MVLC, we handled 14,956!**
- **Fall Sunday Hours.** We were open Sundays 1-5pm Sept-Dec for the first time, thanks to State Aid funding.
- **No More Limits.** We removed limits on the number of items patrons can borrow.
- **Lowered & Simplified Overdue Fines.** Print 10¢ per day; non-print: 25¢ per day; max. fine per item: \$3.
- **OverDrive.** Expanded our downloadable ebook and eaudiobook offerings with access to OverDrive.

#### New Programs & Activities

- **Local Authors' Fair.** Our first-ever fair with 20 authors attracted a crowd of over 100 interested readers.
- **New Youth Clubs:** Minecraft, Minecraft Jr., and Magic the Gathering Clubs were added to meet demand.
- **Creative Kids Drop-In Crafts.** Our Children's Staff offered drop-in freestyle crafts every Tuesday this fall.
- **Winter Reading Program.** Teens were invited to participate in our first-ever Winter Reading Program.
- **Seed Library.** "Check out" our seeds, plant and grow them, then harvest new seeds and "return" to us.

#### Library Highlights

- **10,033 people attended library programs,** our highest number ever, and a **16%** increase over 2012.
- **Meeting room use** was its highest ever. Our rooms were used **1,766** times, a **34%** increase over 2012. We ranked **2<sup>nd</sup>** statewide for meeting room use for the 52 public libraries serving our population group.
- **We ranked FIRST in teen program attendance** statewide for libraries serving our population group in 2012. Our numbers were up from 2012 to 2013 by 13%, with **1,972** teens attending **89** programs
- **Young Adult Summer Reading Program (SRP) attendance increased 68%** in just the past 2 years. We held **20** SRP programs for teens, which attracted **400** young adults to participate, the most ever.
- **2,031 adults attended 145 adult programs,** which represents a **38%** increase in program attendance over 2012. We held 11 lifelong learning courses and read *On Writing* by Stephen King for Groton READS.

#### By the Numbers

- Circulated **216,263** items to patrons. In statewide rankings, we were **3<sup>rd</sup>** in circ. per capita, **5<sup>th</sup>** in direct circ., and **6<sup>th</sup>** in both print and non-print circulation for the 52 libraries serving our population group.
- Welcomed **100,946** visitors to the Library
- Delighted **6,030** children at **253** library programs
- Registered **574** children for the Summer Reading Program
- Taught **23** classes, or **508** students, from schools about library resources and services, and supplied every child with a library card.
- **285** teens signed up for the Summer Reading Program and they read **2401** books
- Users searched our databases **12,216** times
- Provided assistance with **5,150** reference, readers' advisory, and technology questions
- Patrons downloaded **1,915** ebooks and eaudiobooks and **10,509** digital songs for free
- Collected **\$16,672** from fines, fees, and services

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees of the Groton Public Library: Susan Hughes, Chair; Kristen von Campe, Vice-Chair; Jane Allen, Secretary; Mark Gerath; John J. Kelly; Nancy Wilder