

## **REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

In the last year the Fremont Library has seen continued growth. Recent surveys tell us that during a downed economy public libraries throughout the country have seen a increase in readership. Our Town is following the nationwide trend. In 2008 our readership has increased and more people are visiting our library. We have also had more public programs for our patrons.

The major event in the children's room continues to be the Summer Reading Program. This is a six-week theme-based program, designed to get children excited about reading during the summer months. Research consistently shows that any reading a child does during summer vacation - even one book - better prepares him/ her to succeed upon his/ her return to school in the fall. The program includes story times, craft activities, performances by local musicians, storytellers, theatre groups, etc.

This year close to 60 children actively participated; i.e. actually read books, kept logs, and earned prizes. (By contrast, the first year's program involved only about 20 children). There were many more families who attended the Special Events (musician Steve Blunt, puppeteer Martha Dana, the Majestic Theatre, Massabesic Audubon Society.)

During the program, 551 picture books, 268 chapter books, 216 nonfiction books, and 167 easy readers – a total of 1,202 Children's books – were checked out.

Also, throughout the year, there are three different Story Times: Teddy Bear Tales for 3's Preschool Story times for 4's and 5's, and an After School Poetry Group for ages 6-8. These also run for six-weeks, four times a year and are themed-based as well.

These groups faithfully attended; there has been an interest expressed by parents to do more children's programming throughout the year. For the first time this year, there will be a special Thanksgiving program with Martha Dana; and a Christmas Sing –A- Long with Steve Blunt.

In addition, any preschool/kindergarten groups within the community are welcome to make field trips to the Library for a Story time. For many homeschooled children in the town, the Parenting Section of the Children's Room continues to be a vital resource.

The Young Adult Section continues to grow as demands and interest within the community are ever-increasing. Graphic Novels have become a popular favorite as well as teen fiction series. Suggestions and requests are always welcome.

The Library also does outreach work to the local assisted living facility and delivers books to them or invites them to come to the Library as weather and health permit.

The Library held two major fundraisers for 2008. The eighth annual golf tournament was held on September eighth at Apple Hill Golf Course. We thank all the players and sponsors for their continued support as well as my wife Holly for helping coordinate this event every year.

The Friends of the Library also held their annual book sale. The Friends work very hard on their fundraising to help hold special programs for the children and the community. We would like to give a big THANK YOU to all the Friends of the Library.

In closing, I would like to recognize my fellow Trustees Eric Abney and Meredith Patrick; all of our staff Barb Bassett, Lynda Miller, Cathy Murdock, Marlene Emery and Dick Rand; for a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,

John J Hennelly  
Library Trustee Chairman

### **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

#### **CIRCULATION REPORT**

Adult Materials	7,925
Young Adult and Juvenile Materials	11,683
Miscellaneous Items	66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,674</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara B Bassett  
Librarian

*"Some men see things as they are and say "Why?"  
I dream of things that never were and say, "Why not?"*

~ Robert Kennedy  
(1925 - 1968)