

## **Cobleigh Public Library Annual Report 2010**

The Cobleigh Public Library is a quality service community library thanks to the staff, trustees, our many volunteers, The Friends of the Cobleigh and our many partners and community committees. Community involvement helps the library serve community members.

The library was able to complete much needed building work through a \$30,000 Preservation Trust grant in partnership with the Freeman Foundation. The basement windows were refurbished and new weatherization was added--the Children's Room is much warmer in cold weather. Some window frames were completely rotted. We also completed work on the upper reaches of the building on the eaves and soffits, and then they received a long needed painting. We added a ridge vent to help prevent ice build up in the winter and did work to the front steps. Two rooms and a stack area wall on the main floor had repairs and painting. During this work it was found that the library needs further repairs.

Computer classes and computer help during regular hours when people require it continues to be important. Many state agencies have cut personnel and the library is a site where people fill out on-line applications. Many people use library computers to apply for a job on-line. Vermont Online Libraries and Heritage Quest are available at home for anyone with a library card and an Internet connection. Library cards are free to the public.

Listen Up Vermont, the Internet based audio books through Overdrive, is increasing popular and E-books have been added to the collection. As we make our way through the ever changing devices we can use, the popularity of this program is only growing.

The bookmobile provides outreach services and programs. Bookmobile programs help children gain literacy skills. AmeriCorps members continue to play a major role in the library's bookmobile service. This year AmeriCorps saved us more money than usual due to receiving stimulus funds to help with the stipends.

The library continues to work with the Chamber of Commerce in a mutual partnership by answering incoming calls and questions about community information and completing work for the Chamber, whereas, they then pay the library some income to help defer the costs of staff involvement.

Cobleigh Communities Read and the Vermont Humanities Council put on a wildly successful program this past year. Our partnership with the afterschool program led to the knowledge of the Newark Balkan Afterschool Chorus. Many thanks to the children of the Newark Afterschool Chorus and to Sue Winsor and Elly Barksdale, chorus coordinator, for bringing children and their families together to the delight of audience members and Katherine Paterson. Frank Green led a participatory discussion of the book "*Day of the Pelican*" although there were over 100 people in attendance.

Our Caledonia North Supervisory Union (CNSU) partnership along with Building Bright Futures, Headstart, Umbrella, and the support of childcare providers helped provide information and resources to families and also assisted the library in obtaining grants for outreach programs, a parenting grant, and other resources. As a group we have also put on a Early Childhood Spring Conference for many years.

The Lion's Club helps with funds for large print materials for a reading population that is growing daily. The Rotary has helped with funding for the bookmobile in the past and they have been helping with books for the children inside the library and on the bookmobile for a number of years in honor of their speakers.

Headstart joins the library in many programs including Baby and Toddler time, and parenting groups. Through PAKRAT (Parents and Kids Read Aloud Together) we were able to fund kindergarten transition bags, parenting programs in Headstart and funding for the bookmobile. Many local agencies send information over email so the library can share it with community members.

The library, one of the first 30 libraries in Vermont, took part in an Early Childhood Literacy Initiative this year and the training continues in 2011. This program adopted from the American Library Association's program "Every Child Ready to Learn," makes our programming for young children involving parents more in their children's early literacy education.

We are more mindful about sharing what we do and why with parents to encourage their participation with their children at home. Baby & toddler time and storyhour focus on six early literacy skills and a letter of the day. We hope to spread this important work to bookmobile programs. Parents have also benefited from free books and materials for their families. Childcare providers are next on the agenda for 2011.

The Friends of the Library work tirelessly all year long to raise funds for the library. They are very organized and always looking for members. If you wish to join them or our other volunteers, please stop in the library.

Of the many programs and services from the library, whether through the bookmobile, the children's room, the computer lab, or adult programs, all have had community participation. Their success is owing to the success of community members making life better for other community members through service. The library is able to do everything it does because of community involvement and participation in programs and services. Thank you everyone!

Sincerely,

Cindy Karasinski, Library Director

Cobleigh Public Library  
Statistics 2010

Library circulation of books and materials	48,270
Bookmobile circulation of books and materials	14,556
Listen Up Vermont (Internet Audio Books)	<u>625</u>
Total Circulation	63,451

3,345 Library Card Holders  
372 Bookmobile Card Holders  
3,717 Total Card Holders

770 Interlibrary Loan Requests  
982 Interlibrary Loans sent to other libraries  
942 Reserves

Library circulation of books and materials

Library Programs	245	Attendance	4,349
Library Meetings	225	Attendance	1,625
Bookmobile Programs	1,280	Attendance	16,570

Adult Education

Computer Class Participants – 303  
GED Testing students – 37  
Distance Learning Exams – 17  
Tutoring – 86

Library Home Deliveries – Adult

Individuals 35  
Group Settings 26  
Total 61

Bookmobile Visitors – 21,078  
Library Visitors – 61,691  
Bookmobile Site Stops – 1,000

Computer Use – 32,579