

**Special points of interest:**

More than 21,000 people came to the library in 2009

Over 3,000 people used our public access computers or wireless internet connection.

29,328 items circulated from our library in 2009., up over 10,000 since 2006.

More than 800 people attended one of our 79 program sessions!

Schroon Lake Public Library

2009 Annual Report

ADULT SERVICES

This year the library was able to increase its large print and book on CD collection for our adult patrons due to a generous donation from the Schroon Lake Lion's club. Approximately 75 new book titles were added in mystery, western, general fiction and non-fiction. We were also able to purchase approximately 20 new book on CD sets.

Through a partnership between NYS, Plattsburgh Public and CEFLS, we are now able to offer a new database to our users called the Learning Express Database. This database provides unlimited free access to interactive skill-building courses and a broad range of practice tests based on such official exams as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, Police Officer, Postal Worker, and Cosmetology. The database also provides job search resources, such as resume writing and interviewing skills courses.

Netlibrary, downloadable audiobooks, continues to attract a small but grateful group of patrons. With the addition of more titles available for download onto I-Pods rather than MP-3 players, I predict we will see an increase in usage of this service over the next few years.

Delivery to the homebound continues to be very helpful to patrons that are unable to come to our library. Staff will choose books for patrons or patrons will give a list of items desired. This year we had 5 people participate.

Coordination with the Senior Van enables residents that live in Lake Side Manor the ability to visit our library twice a month. Drivers pick-up residents two Wednesdays a month and bring them to the library. We currently have 3-4 residents who use this service regularly.

CIRCULATION AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

This year we were able to add over 1,600 cataloged books to our collection. This includes children's, young adult and adult titles. Through a cooperative collection development policy initiated by CEFLS, our library is focusing on updating its medical and technology collection including books and audiovisual materials.

In addition we added over 270 audiovisual titles to our collection which includes DVDs, videos, audio CDs and

music CDs. A good number of these items were donated by patrons, many were purchased with funding from the Friends of the Library.

Our wireless and public access computers continue to be in great demand in our library. Patrons come in to research jobs, look up information and use email.

Over 3,140 patrons used our computers and wireless access in 2009.

YOUTH SERVICES

On November 14th, our library was able to participate in National Gaming Day @ Your Library. Children were encouraged to test their skills with an assortment of strategy games. such as Blokus, Ticket to Ride and the classic, Battleship. This year we had over 20 adults, teens and children participate.

With a generous donation from Stewarts Shops during their Holiday Match campaign, we were able to purchase a great assortment of educational toys for our children's area. Puzzles, sorting blocks, and matching games were among a few of the items purchased.

Our Side-by-Side program, which is run by Sue Yoekel, was offered to area preschoolers on Tuesday mornings from September 22nd through mid-December. This one-hour program teaches early literacy skills to preschoolers and their parents through play, stories, songs and activities. We had 40 children attend the program.

This was the fourth year our library has participated in The Battle of the Books program. This program, for 5th-7th graders, is a jeopardy style competition between area libraries testing their knowledge about 6 preselected books. This year we sent two teams up to Plattsburgh to compete in the Battle.



Learning about change over time during our Math/ Science Club for Preschoolers.

During the Spring the library offered a six-week program, What's the Big Idea: Math and Science for preschoolers. Each week children learned a different math or science concept using books and manipulatives that were provided through a grant from the Vermont Center for the Book and the National Science Foundation. Themes explored were counting, patterns, change overtime, special relations, sorting, and building.

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

It was another busy year of programming at the Schroon Lake Public Library. This year we were able to offer 29 adult programming sessions, 17 young adult programming sessions, and 33 children's programming sessions. A total of 819 people attended these sessions.

On July 30th Beth Bidwell from the Wildlife Institute of Northeastern NY visited the library with an array of birds and reptiles indigenous to our area. American Kestrel, Red-Tailed Hawk, American Black Snake and Snapping Turtle are just a few of the animals that made an appearance.

In August a two-session watercolor painting class was offered by artist Amy Kutell. Adirondack landscapes and still-life painting were the two themes that were explored. This class was open to both children and adults; 19 students attended both sessions.



Children Get Creative @ Their Library making sand-art pictures during the Summer Reading Program!

A two-part computer training for beginners was offered during the month of August. The first class taught the very basics of computer usage such as how to use a mouse, how to turn on a computer and how to get onto the internet. The second class taught students more about internet searching and how to create and maintain a web-based email account. 10 people attended these sessions.