

Sutton Free Public Library

Annual Report

The Board of Library Trustees and Director of the Sutton Public Library respectively submit a report for Jul 1 2009 to Jun 30 2010 to the Honorable Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Sutton.

The Board of Library Trustees consists of three elected members: Rachel Tufts, Chair, Elizabeth Fritz-Keyes, Secretary and Jane Anderson, Member-at-Large. The Board and the Library Director meet monthly to ensure that library operations run efficiently and to review and update library policies.

Statistics

Library statistics continued to increase in FY11 which illustrates that the library continues to be an integral part of the educational resources of the community.

	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
Library materials owned	26,590	28,828	31,928	35,174	36,973
Circulation Transactions*	91,023	94,854	98,535	100,025	105,068
Interlibrary Loans	8,930	9,394	9,378	9,333	9,578
Borrowers	2,661	3,008	3,303	3,475	3,648
Programs	184	264	376	409	397
Program attendance	3,711	4,945	5,364	6,541	7,046

*Circulation transactions include checkouts, check-ins, renewals and holds.

Grants:

The Beginning Years Network provided a grant worth \$250 to the library. This money was utilized to provide one session of the popular music and movement program offered by Apple Tree Arts. The Sutton Cultural Council granted the library \$700 which helped fund programs by award winning storytellers Eshu and Motoko, and Grammy award winning musician Bill Harley, as part of the successful summer reading program.

The library was awarded a federal Library Services and Technology Act 'Serving Tween and Teens' grant. This grant is intended to fund equipment, books, audiobooks, magazines, video games and programs to enhance our collection and provide programs for fifth to twelfth grade students. In addition, the grant allowed us to hire a space consultant to give us advice to create more room for the library's young adult collection and a welcoming space for teens to use the library. The funds from the grant will be disbursed over a two year period, to be used beginning in October 2010 through September 2012.

Children's Programs

Two hundred and twenty-three children participated in the summer reading program, "One World, Many Stories." Children read stories from around the world and earned tickets in the summer reading raffles that included items donated by Cold Stone Creamery of the Shoppes of Blackstone Valley, Breezy Waterslides, Target, Walmart and other regional businesses and museums.

The Museum of Science of Boston donated a traveling program, again this year, that was well attended. The summer was filled with performances by storytellers and musicians, multi-cultural storytimes, craft programs and games from around the world. The first ever Sutton Library talent show was also held.

Year round programs included seasonal and regular storytimes, Apple Tree Arts music and movement programs, school vacation week activities, book discussion groups and author visits.

Young Adult Programs

Seventy-two teens participated in the Teen component of the Summer Reading Program. Cold Stone Creamery donated weekly prizes as well as a grand prize for this group. Teen programs included reference scavenger hunts, an Italian cooking class, and Worcester Art Museum programs on creative writing and Japanese bamboo drawing. An end of summer teen video game party, using items purchased with the LSTA grant, rounded out the summer activities.

Our Teen Advisory Group meets monthly the first Thursday of the month at 4 PM. The purpose of the advisory group is to get input from the teens in the community regarding what additional services and programming we can do for this age group. We encourage all interested teens to participate. Each group meeting includes an activity such as cupcake decorating, book bag designs and board games.

Other workshops we offered included a cartooning workshop as well a graphic design class where a teen logo for the Sutton Library advisory group was created. The Friends of the Library donated the cost of purchasing teen advisory group tee-shirts with the new logo design. In conjunction with the Millbury Public Library, we again offered a Financial Literacy for Teens series which was very well attended. We plan to offer more craft, cooking and movie programs in FY 12.

Adult Programs:

A series of genealogical programs, led by Roberta Rothwell, which covered topics from "Getting Started", Ancestry.com; Familysearch.org; Finding your Military Ancestors; Organizing your Data and a review of various genealogical software programs, was offered. In addition, one hundred adults participated in the summer reading program this past summer.

Organizations:

The Friends of the Sutton Library is a non-profit group consisting of individuals, families and organizations committed to supporting the library through an annual membership drive and several fundraising events. Ongoing sale items include the book sale in the library foyer, canvas tote bags and

unique greeting cards. The Friends utilize these monies to support the children's programs and other library needs. The Friends also purchase discounted passes to museums and attractions which are available for use by all Sutton residents. These institutional passes are for Higgins Armory Museum, Ecotarium, Mystic Aquarium and Roger Williams Park Zoo. We encourage you to join the Friends Group; membership forms are available at the library's circulation desk.

The Sutton Garden Club once again generously donated the ever-popular Tower Hill Botanic Garden pass. We thank them for their generous donation. In addition, we have the Massachusetts Park Pass which enables one to park free at all Massachusetts State Parks. This year the library also acquired a pass to the USS Constitution Museum in Boston.

In FY11 the library continued to participate in the Senior Tax Abatement Program. Ms. Jean Sullivan continued this past fiscal year as the facilitator of the weekly knitting group which meets on Wednesday afternoons between 1 and 2:30 pm in the library Reference Room.

Library Staff:

Looking at the statistics of library visits, transactions and interlibrary loans, it is obvious that the library continues to be a center of learning and social interaction for the community. The library continues to be served by its excellent library staff: Carole Anderson, Andrea Baker, Pamela Johnson, Judith Peladeau, and new hire Katie Lyons. Roberta Rothwell retired after over four years as Director of the Sutton Library and we are grateful for her dedicated service to the library. Youth Services Librarian Carol Anne Geary has taken on the role of Director since Ms. Rothwell's retirement.

The library is also grateful to the teen volunteers who help with children's programs and craft preparations. We have had some dedicated volunteers this year including those from the community service program at Notre Dame School.

Check out the library website www.suttonpubliclibrary.org to see what events are coming up, find out what new titles we have, register for a program or suggest a title you think we should purchase. You can link over to the CWMARS catalogue to check your account, renew materials, request items or pay your fines online (\$5.00 or more). If you want to learn how to use the catalogue more effectively, please ask the staff and we will be happy to show you some shortcuts. New to our library website is Wowbrary, where patrons can see what new materials have been added to the collection and sign-up for an email subscription to be informed of new titles.

Looking down the road the CWMARS network, which includes Sutton, is in the process of transitioning to a new software product starting in February of 2012 and we are looking forward to the transition and challenge.

Carol Anne Geary, Acting Library Director
Rachel Tufts, Library Board, Chair
Elizabeth Fritz-Keyes, Library Board, Secretary
Jane Anderson, Library Board, Member at Large