

**Altamont Free Library
1993 Annual Report**

Altamont Free Library completed its 77th year in 1993. The Board set some difficult goals for 1993. In most cases, our goals were met; in others, strides were taken, and all under the capable leadership of Board President Yvette Terplak and Library Director Helen King

TRUSTEES

The Library Board met 12 times during 1993. Members, their offices, and their terms are:

Office	Name	Term Expires
President	Yvette Terplak	1996
Vice President	Nancy McNiven	1996
Corresponding Sec.	Mary Hughes	1994 resigned
Recording Secretary	Barb Sargent	1995
Treasurer	Mark Wilson (resigned 6/93)	
	Dick Andress	1994
Margaret Hout		1994
Pug McCutcheon		1995
Pat Spohr		1995
Sue Zucker		1995
Debra Barnes-Breitenbach		1996
Merritt Glennon		1996
Steward Linendoll		1996
Betty Tomasik		1996

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Publicity: Helen King
- Adult Book Selection: Helen King, Martha Gallup
- Children's Book Selection: Helen King, Sue Zucker, Pat Spohr, Margaret Hout
- Building and Maintenance: Stu Linendoll, Mary Hughes, Mark Wilson
- Activities and Programs: Nancy McNiven, Barb Sargent, Sue Zucker, Regina McCutcheon Sue Zucker, Dick Andress
- Computer: Stewart Linendoll, Yvette Terplak, Mark Wilson, Tom Breitenbach
- Policy: Deb Breitenbach, Sue Zucker, Stu Linendoll
- Fair Display: Pat Spohr, Barb Sargent, Regina McCutcheon
- Historian: Dick Andress
- Memorials: Margaret Hout, Mary Hughes

Summer Reading Club: Betty Tomasik, Margaret Hout, Helen King
Sponsorships: Merritt Glennon, Pat Spohr, Yvette Terplak
Finance: Mark Wilson, Stu Linendoll, Yvette Terplak, Dick Andress

Mark Wilson moved out of the area in June and the Board deeply appreciates the dedication and service he gave Altamont Free Library as Treasurer and a prime organizer of story hours. The Board is very grateful to Dick Andress for assuming the difficult responsibilities of treasurer.

FINANCES

The library receives the major portion of its funding from the Town of Guilderland, the Village of Altamont, and the Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS). In January, the town of Guilderland appropriated \$22,546.00 to the library and \$12,470.00 was received from the village of Altamont in December. As a result of the increase in funds appropriated to the library, the Board considers it a significant achievement to upgrade the library director's salary to a level more comparable to a full time professional library director.

The annual financial report showed receipts of \$44,404.48 and expenditures of \$39,965.84.

CIRCULATION

Librarian Helen King reported the total circulation and holdings as follows: Book holdings 13,483 circulation 21,474.

During the course of the year, Helen has sorted out 2,000 books from the library collection, many of which were sold at the village garage sale. She has also significantly increased the library's video and audio cassette holdings. Story hours have been increased to twice a week on Thursdays and Fridays. Another ongoing project is the revision of the card catalog in conjunction with the inventory and audit of the library holdings.

It should be noted here that the library was the recipient of 300 books on antiques from the Roger Keenholts collection, which Helen spent much effort selecting and cataloging. We now have a valuable resource center from a much beloved friend of the library.

AFFILIATIONS

The library belongs to the Upper Hudson Library System, which offers us financial and technical support, consultant support, and inter-library loan services. The Board has also continued its membership with the New York Libraries Association, which keeps us updated on pertinent legislative issues.

ACTIVITIES

The accomplishments of our various committees underscores the goals set forth for 1993. Those goals and activities were as follows:

TO BRING CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMMING TO THE COMMUNITY USING ALL GRANTS AVAILABLE TO US.

The Program Committee offered ten programs this year, all partially funded by the NYS Council on the Arts Decentralization Grant. These programs offered craft, music, and theater experience to young children, travel and music entertainment to older children and adults, and three widely attended family programs in the park. The summer reading program was entitled "Book Banquet" and attended by 75 children throughout the summer. It was decided to dedicate an annual program on local history in memory of Roger Keenholts. A three week baby-sitting course was conducted by the Guilderland police. One of the most notable programs sponsored by the library was the Candidates Forum held March 7th to highlight the candidates and issues associated with the village elections. The library also sponsored a community Halloween event this year.

TO DEVELOP WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR A BETTER GOVERNED LIBRARY

The policy committee developed a procedure for any challenges to a book selection and a Videocassette Circulation Policy. In doing so, the Board accepted Freedom to Read, Freedom to View, and a Library Bill of Rights statements. All are available for public inspection upon request.

TO CONTINUE TO BE A RESOURCE OF CURRENT INFORMATION AND A LOCATION OF COMMUNITY IDEAS AND INTERESTS.

In January, the Computer Committee purchased an IBM computer, monitor, CD Rom, and software which is available for public use. An introductory class was offered to acclimate the public to this new equipment and will be again.

TO MEET WITH PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE/ORGANIZATIONS OF ALTAMONT TO SECURE UNDERWRITERS FOR PROGRAMS.

The Board expresses its deep appreciation to all the businesses who furnished supplies for our various programs.

TO CONTINUE TO POLL PATRONS ON SERVICES THEY NEED

A formal survey was conducted by the Village of Altamont early in the year with overwhelmingly positive feedback on library services. The Board is currently reviewing suggestions for better service.

TO MAINTAIN A DYNAMIC BUILDING AND PROGRAM

Presently, the Board is working to insure a secure financial future for Altamont Free Library and its programs as we know it. We feel the residents of Altamont and outlying areas want and need and deserve the best library services we can and will continue to offer, including home delivery of books to the housebound, reference, and inter-library loan.

The Board expresses to Helen King our deep gratitude and appreciation for the professionalism, dedication, and vitality she brings to our library. We extend thanks also to Thelma Elgie and Alice Parks for the cheerful and dependable service they always give.

Presently, there are two vacancies on the library Board of Trustees. We welcome and encourage volunteers or nominations to fill these positions. We need representation from the vibrant citizenry of our community to help our library thrive.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Sargent