

2000

ALTAMONT FREE LIBRARY

Altamont, New York • (518) 861-7239

The Altamont Free Library celebrated its 83rd birthday in 2000. It was registered as a public library on July 19, 1917.

The library has continued through the years to service Altamont and the surrounding communities. Approximately 48% of our 1,354 registered borrowers live outside the village.

In 2000, 19,124 people visited the library. The library staff received 901 reference questions and provided 1,248 computer use sessions to members of the public.

The library added 1,079 new items to the collection. After withdrawing worn and outdated materials, our holdings are 13,795 items. Our collection size is necessarily limited by our available space. In addition to materials physically present, the library has access to material through interlibrary loan. We borrowed 968 items from other libraries and lent 901 items to them for their customers. The library also has access to 10,070 newspapers, magazines and health publications on-line in cooperation with Upper Hudson Library System.

Our circulation was 23,014 items. In addition, 3,903 items were used in the library without being borrowed.

The library budget was \$68,400. Actual expenditures were \$66,804. Staff costs were lower than expected due to unused sick leave. Staff costs were \$44,871. Building, insurance and telecom charges were \$8,037. Cooperative fees to Upper Hudson were \$1,451. Library materials cost \$9,639 and a new computer was purchased for \$1,032. Program expenses were \$930. The remainder of the expense was office supplies, fundraising expenses, board matters and petty cash.

The library received \$31,000 from the Town of Guilderland, \$22,000 from Altamont and \$2,000 from Knox. State aid and system grants were \$2,899. Library charges added \$7,103. Donations, memorial gifts, and fundraising brought in \$4,658 designated for the library's capital fund. The capital fund earned \$3,000 in interest.

Library hours are 10 to 5 Monday through Friday and 9 to noon on Saturday. We are also open Monday and Wednesday evenings until 8 for a total of 44 hours a week.

Staff members are Helen King, director and library assistants Adriene Bush, Ann Cartmell, Andrea Dean, Thelma Elgie, Ruth Painter, and Susan Thompson. Margaret Gardam, Jessica Jones, and Jeremy Rue left library employment during the year but their services were also appreciated. The trustees of the library are Christine Capuano, Jean Forti, Walt Fuller, Joan Gage, Joe Giambo, Peg Jones, Sue Jones, Anne Linendoll, Judy Rothstein, and Pat Spohr. Trustees serve 3-year terms and may serve no more than 2 consecutive terms. Those interested in serving on the library board in the future may call 861-7239 for more information.