

Annual Report 2005 – Altamont Free Library

Mission Statement

The Altamont Free Library is a state, town and village funded Library, which provides for the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of patrons living within the stated area of the Library charter. To this end, the Library provides print and non-print materials, interlibrary loan and reference services, and programs to its users.

The Altamont Free Library is open forty-four hours a week with one full time Librarian and five (.86 FTE) Library Assistants.

Summary

The year 2005 was a year of transition for the Altamont Free Library. We hired a new director, and took a major step toward realizing a new home for the Library.

Property Acquisition: The Board entered into a contract to purchase the former Altamont train station building in January. We closed on the contract in July. The Town of Guilderland holds the bond. Janet Null, of Argus Architecture, was hired as the project architect in December.

New Library Director: Judith Wines started as the new Library Director in June.

Special Programs: January, Winter-Sing-Along with Daniel St. Amour; March, League of Woman Voters facilitated a Meet the Candidates program introducing the candidates for Altamont Village Mayor; May, Saving Corporal Smith was presented by Ray Smith; June, Community Meeting to brainstorm about move to train station; July, Music in the Park program with two members of Albany Symphony Orchestra; August, Summer Reading Club Magic Show; August, Tune up you Bicycle with New York Bicycling Coalition; October, Mourning Walk; November, American Architecture Slide show; December, Nancy Payne told stories at Victorian Holidays.

Ongoing programs: Pre-School Story hour (twice-weekly all year except the summer), Annual First Grade Library visits in June; Infant Lap sit (starting in November) Two kids' Book Clubs (starting in October) Computer Classes for Adults (starting in September) weekly Summer reading Club craft programs (total of 10), Read to a Dog (Starting in November), visits to the Guilderland Center Nursing Home, two Library affiliated adult book clubs, monthly community use of display case.

Community Participation: Display at Altamont fair, Community Caregiver's Quilt Show, Victorian Holidays, Village Puppet People Presentation.

Circulation and Holdings

For the year 27,610 items were circulated. The total Library holdings are 12928 items. 1094 items were added to the collection and 678 items were withdrawn.

Finances

Primary sources of income were:

Town of Guilderland: \$41,000

Village of Altamont: \$36,500

Town of Knox: \$4,000

Library Fundraising -\$4755.00

LSTA \$4,000.

A copy of the full financial report is available at the Library.

This amount was raised from traditional fundraising ventures including Election Day bake sale, book sales, quilt raffle, library lights and chicken barbeque. A copy of the full report is available in the Library.

Building Fund-\$10,245

This amount was raised through individual and business donations for explicit purpose of the purchase and renovation of the train station as the future home of the Altamont Free Library.

Personnel

Director: Judith Wines - June-December 2005

Interim Director: Elaine Clark-April-June 2005

Director: Ginny LaJeune - Resigned effective March 31 2005,

Library Assistants: Ann Cartmell, Norma Dean, Thelma Elgie, Ruth Painter and Susan Thomson.

Board of Trustees

President: Barbara Quackenbush, Vice President: Tony Kossman, Secretary: Karen Armstrong (January-May), Mary Dornbush (June-December), Treasurer: Elizabeth A. Ketcham

Trustees: Anita Burock , Daniel Capuano, Elaine Clark (New-Member July), Lou Damonico (Resigned in July), Anne Linendoll , Judy O'Rourke, Maureen Ramirez (New member-September), Pat Spohr , Lynne Strnad.

Future Goals

Now that we have acquired the train station, we will pursue ways to increase our fundraising efforts and sources with the end goal of providing the community we serve with a modern and accessible Library facility to better meet their needs. We will continue to work with community partners and to extend Library services to our patrons through outreach activities.