Library Report
November, 2011
Circulation: 9,084
New Patrons: 81
Reference Questions: 144
Computer Sign-ins: 919
Special Requests: 23
Downloads: 315 (218 ebooks/97 audiobooks)
Cataloging: 400 (300 purchases/100 donations)
Cataloging edits: 123
Repairs: 41
Meeting Room Usage: 45 /Study Room usage: 30
Bills for unreturned materials: 17

The library has received a grant from the Maine Humanities Council for a 5
session Civil War series, "Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the Civil War”.
The series was developed with the American Library Association for the 150th
anniversary of the Civil War. The grant provides the books, essays and
articles to be discussed as well as a scholar-facilitator. The monthly program
will begin the last week in January. Publicity for it is in the works.

Preparations were underway for the 40th anniversary celebration of the
Windham Public Library. The week of December 12th will feature history,
displays and activities. Oh, did I mention refreshments too?
The display will give library patrons and others visiting the library a sense of
how the library has developed over the years. Art students and student
musicians were contacted to participate. A teen Wii program and the Library
Tea will also add to the festivity of the week.

Planning for the First WPL Teen Group taking place December 8th also was in
the works during November.

Cataloging and technical services staff worked extra hard to keep up with
the numerous bestsellers released in November in time for the holidays.
Boxes of new titles arrived to be cataloged, covered and processed with our
stamp, spine labels and date due slips.

The book discussion group met and discussed the work of popular author
Anna Jacobs. Her contemporary and easy-going reads made for a good
selection during busy holiday times.

Three local artists are currently featured at the library. Stop by and view the
work of local residents Susan Walker, Lynda Wilson and Richard Anzelc. The
display case features a collection of nutcrackers from Eri Martin. Alongside,
check out the beautiful holiday quilt featuring figures from the “Nutcracker
Suite.”
I attended two library meetings this month: the Southern Maine Library District meeting which focuses on York and Cumberland County area libraries and the Maine Library Commission which deals with statewide library issues.

Windham town department heads have been engaged in taking a course on Performance Management. The weekly meetings to listen to the online instructor, review readings, do exercises and talk about what we are learning with each other at weekly meetings will no doubt, speaking for myself, be very helpful in library planning and measuring how we are doing as well as improving other skills.

Reference Question of the Month: What are the top recipes for the driest gin martini? Barbara’s source was our volume of “Mr. Boston: Official Bartender’s and Party Guide”. Extra dry martini:

2 oz. gin and ¼ dry vermouth. Stir over ice cubes and strain into cocktail glass with lemon peel or olive.

Happy Holidays!

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