

## BERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Berlin Public Library offers a variety of services to fulfill the various needs of the community. We provide organized collections of books and related materials for both educational and recreational use. The library provides use of computers with internet access, microfilm of local newspapers, audio books, and movie collection, access to interlibrary materials from the libraries of the NHAIS network which is maintained by the New Hampshire State Library. Most resources are offered free to residents of Berlin. We also have a fax and copier service available for the public for a small fee.

The 2008 Fiscal Year brought some staff changes to the library. After 15 years of dedicated service, we were sorry to see Sylvia Nadeau retire from her fulltime position at the library. We are lucky that Sylvia agreed to remain on the "On Call" list and to help with special projects. Betty Domino acquired the Full Time Desk Clerk position. Betty's vacated part time position was filled by Pam Luckern who was formerly on the "On Call" list. We also hired as new "On Call" persons Helen Gemmiti, Angelina Mooney and Virginia Grondin.

People passing by the library could see the improvements being made on the outside of the building. In May, Alan Peabody began work to repair the deteriorating bricks on the

front and sides of the library building. The two chimney tops were rebuilt as well as the chimney base near the children's department side entrance. The chimney was cleaned and a smoke pipe to the boiler was replaced. Alan's repairs restored some of the former beauty of the library building. More work needs to be done to the back of the building and is scheduled for next spring.

With safety in mind, railings and a chain were added in our furnace room to help prevent anyone from dangerous falls. In the adult department, an additional shelf was custom built by Dave Landry from Public Works making the best use of limited space and leftover wood from previous projects.

The Children's 2007 Summer Reading Program theme was "Reading Road Trip USA" and was made possible by The NH State Library and the Saul O. Sidore Memorial Foundation in memory of Rebecca Lee Spitz. Beginning June 27 through August 10th, the children's program began with a Kickoff Party held at the Recreation Dept. featuring "Peter Boie Magician". This program attracted 137 children and 53 adults. There was a special outing to the Fire Dept. where The Boston Museum Traveling Science Show presented "The Night Sky". National Forest Service presented the Ranger Becky with an animal program. The children participated in weekly programs held at the library including a closing party for the summer reading program. In total, there were 16 programs with 562 children and 233 adults in attendance. A group from The Berlin Recreation Department also came in weekly during the summer to enjoy a program with Kathy. The weekly Story Hour for young children returned in September and lasted until June.

A grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council made it possible for the Berlin Public Library in conjunction with the New Hampshire Community Technical College (now called White Mountains Community College) to hold two series of book discussions at the Fortier Library. The Fall 2007 series, entitled "Speculate" focused on science fiction and included four book discussions featuring Craig Doherty and Marion Schafer as the discussion leaders. The Spring 2008 series entitled "What's Love Got To Do With It?" focused on romance and literature and also featured four book discussions. Discussion leaders were Ingrid Graff and Craig Doherty. Books for these discussions are available at both libraries during the program periods and are open to the public at no charge.

As an experiment, the adult department sponsored activities for patrons in early 2008. A tea tasting event with baked goodies was held in January. In February, Eric Pinder, author of several local books, gave a presentation on his experiences while working on top of Mt. Washington. In March, a workshop on genealogy was presented with the help of Jackie Nadeau to help patrons get started in their searches. Betty Domino highlighted the resources available at the library. These programs were well received and are something we would like to do more in the future. Also, as a monthly feature, a small bookcase was set aside to highlight special book collections, such as holiday books, cookbooks, gardening, selected authors, etc. to focus more attention to some of the resources in the library.

Computers continue to be a very popular resource at the library for patrons as well as tourists. At the end of the last fiscal year, Andre Caron helped us acquire three discarded computers from the AVH hospital.

These were installed in November 2007 and replace three of our oldest computers.

The library accepted a donation from Maurice Mailhot of Berlin. Donated were 4 replicas of historic churches from the Danbury Mint which belonged to his brother who had recently passed away. The four churches are: The Vatican of Rome, Notre Dame in Paris, France, St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City and Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico. These are on display at the library.

We took advantage of a blog workshop offered by the NH State Library to create a library blog site (<http://www.berlinpubliclibrary.blogspot.com>) to complement the city website (<http://www.berlinnh.gov>). These sites are interlinked. The blog is designed to help keep patrons current with the latest library acquisitions as well as resources, events and information. The site is interactive and allows patrons to send us comments and to make book requests and renewals.

Work on the inventory project for automation of the card catalog continues. Inventory of books and patron records in the adult department is nearing completion. The book inventory in the children's department is nearly complete and the patron entries have begun. When these are complete, we will then begin the barcode process and eventually put the system into full use.

The Staff at the Berlin Public Library appreciate and thank the community for their continued support and invite all the come in and make use of the valuable resources available at the library.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Denise Jensen*

Library Director

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JULY 1, 2007 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008

TOPICS	ADULT	JUVENILE	TOTAL
GENERALITIES - 000	32	42	74
PHILOSOPHY - 100	126	57	183
RELIGION - 200	80	22	102
SOCIAL SCIENCES - 300	375	163	538
LANGUAGES - 400	67	25	92
PURE SCIENCE - 500	74	578	652
TECHNOLOGY - 600	565	330	895
THE ARTS - 700	216	417	633
LITERATURE - 800	105	95	200
HISTORY & GEORGRAPHY - 900	231	107	338
TRAVEL - 910	28	7	35
BIOGRAPHY	164	122	286
FICTION	7,506	6,775	14,281
PERIODICALS	1,115	44	1,159
VIDEOS	2,980	0	2,980
DVD	7,563	0	7,563
AUDIO BOOKS	4,138	39	4,177
MUSIC CD	36	0	36
PAPERBACKS	273	0	273
TOTALS	25,674	8,823	34,497

Walk in Patrons	17145	10443	27,588
Phone Inquiries	3705		3,705
Computer Users	4787	994	5,781
Interlibrary Loaned	978		978
Interlibrary Borrowed	232		232



Summer Reading Program



Summer Reading Program – Park Ranger