

GREENVILLE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Annual Report of the Director
July 2004-June 2005*

*What is more important in a library than anything else—
than everything else—is the fact that it exists.*

Archibald MacLeish, "The Premise of Meaning,"

MISSION STATEMENT

Working cooperatively with other libraries and agencies, the mission of the Greenville Public Library is to provide comprehensive library services to the residents of Smithfield and surrounding areas, with emphasis on providing a common meeting place, general reference, and lifelong learning.

SERVICES

The Greenville Public Library provides information to the public to satisfy information and recreation needs, through a wide variety of print and non-print materials. The Library supports the school curricula, local business community, and specific and general needs of individuals, and is a repository of information, acting as the collective memory of the community.

The Library offers programs for all ages. There is special emphasis on introducing children to the wonders of books through story hours, crafts, tutoring and special programs, and providing homework assistance to students. We offer reference assistance, interlibrary loan, access to CLAN (Cooperating Libraries Automated Network) holdings, electronic books and databases, outreach services, exhibits, a homework and computer training center and many other services.

PROFILE

The Greenville Public Library is one of two public libraries in the Town of Smithfield, which has a population of 20,613. The Library was incorporated in 1882 for the purpose of providing library services to the Town. The original building was located near St. Thomas Church on the Greenville Common. A new facility was built on the present site in 1956 and two additions have been made to the building, one in 1966 and the latest in 1991. Membership in the Association is open to any adult for a fee of \$10.00, to families for a fee of \$15.00, and businesses for \$35.00. Members of the library association elect the Board of Trustees and its officers at the Association's annual meeting. Anyone living in Rhode Island can use the Library free of charge.

Annual operating revenues are derived from association dues, contributions, local tax appropriations, interest on investments, late fines, grants, and the State of Rhode Island in the form of grant-in-aid. The largest revenue appropriation comes from the Town of Smithfield, which funds 70% of the total budget.

OLIS (Rhode Island's Office of Library and Information Services) supplies interlibrary loan delivery service, and access to LORI (a network for librarians). The State also provides construction reimbursement money that is used to repay USDA and Town loans that were obtained for the expansion project completed in 1991.

The Library was open every day for a total of 54 hours per week during the school year, with reduced weekend hours during the summer. In May operating hours were reduced to 44, with the elimination of weekends, in response to unusually high repair costs and approval of an insufficient budget appropriation at the Town's budget meeting. Four staff positions were eliminated and several staff had their hours reduced.

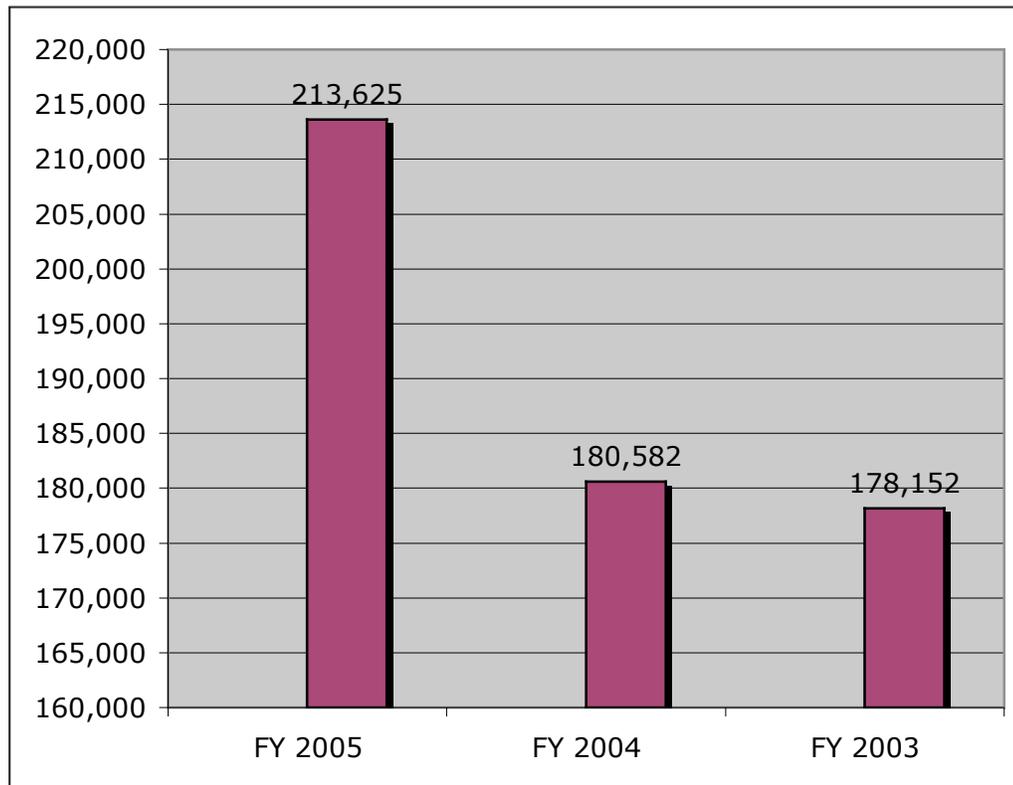
The Greenville Public Library staff consists of seven full-time and thirteen part-time employees, including five full-time and four part-time professional librarians holding a master degree in Library and Information Sciences.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We served 120,418 people this year, which amounts to 10,035 people per month.

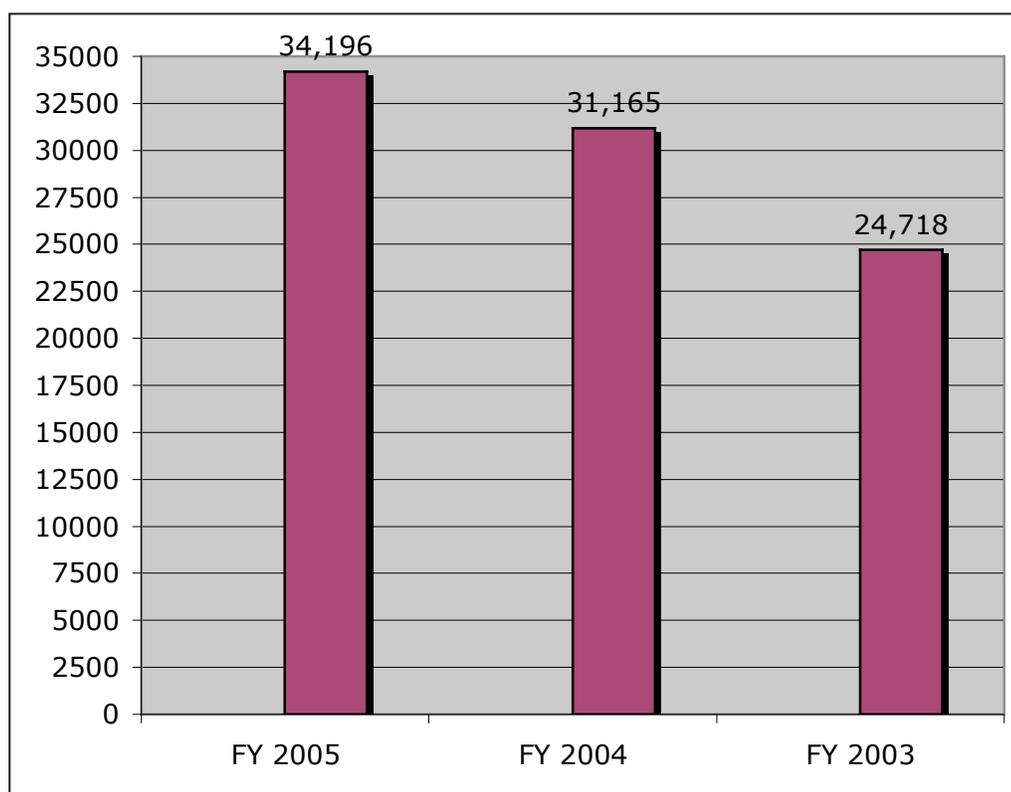
CIRCULATION

There was an 18% increase in the number of materials borrowed this year as compared to last, despite a decrease in users. Following is a chart of books, magazines, and audio/visual materials loaned:



REFERENCE

Reference requests have increased by 3,031 or 10% from the previous year. Staff answer questions in person, via e-mail, fax, and by telephone. The number and complexity of reference questions to which the Greenville Library staff respond rivals that of much larger public libraries in the state. Our staff is required to be computer savvy and well versed in the use of many different electronic databases and Internet sites. We are the only public library in the state that offers its patrons access to a live reference librarian 24 hours a day, via a paid-service.



Reference Questions Answered

VIRTUAL TUTORS

Greenville is the only public library in Rhode Island to utilize the services of on-line tutors. Our subscription allows students to receive live homework help from professionals via our web site between the hours of 2 and 10 p.m. daily. During the school year 592 children were tutored on-line, an increase of 30% over last year!

ELECTRONIC DATABASES

The Library subscribes to several electronic books and databases that are accessible via our website to anyone holding a Greenville CLAN library card. These databases include full-text magazine articles, reference sources, the *Providence Journal* archives, and a genealogy database that also offers census records and electronic books. Use of our on-line databases increased from 6,564 to 8,467, an increase of 29% over last year!

COLLECTION

There were 5,559 materials added to the collection this year and 2,341 weeded from the collection, for a net gain of 2,341 items.

Books	68,694
Magazines	1,420
Print Total	70,114
Audio	3,319
Video	4,066
E-books	8
Databases	14
Other	57
Grand Total	77,578

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The Library borrowed 16,622 items from other libraries through interlibrary loan to fill requests for patrons that could not be filled from the Library's own resources, an increase of 6% over last year. The Library loaned 58,023 materials to other libraries, an increase of 152% over last year! The large number of items being received and shipped out requires many hours of staff time for identifying items, pulling materials from the shelves, packaging, and processing. We are currently utilizing the homework center staff person, as well as circulation staff, for processing interlibrary loans. OLIS provides a delivery service to transport books and other library materials between most of the libraries within the state up to five days per week. In-state interlibrary loans are free to library users. Books from out-of-state are mailed and the borrower charged for the postage.

PROGRAMS

Programs presented: 502 Attendance: 6,161

There was a 25% increase in programs offered over last year, while total attendance dropped slightly.

We would like to thank those who presented programs at the Library during the year, and the Friends of the Library who funded many of the Children's programs.

CHILDREN'S

Story hours:

There were 248 children's programs attended by 4,129 people (an increase of 5% over last year).

Story hours were presented to preschoolers, toddlers, and pre-toddlers.

The Summer Reading Program this year was entitled, "Book an Adventure @ the Library". 151 children registered and 47 completed the requirements. Weekly drawings were held for children who completed reading during the week. A grand prize drawing was held at the final performance and the winner received a Barnes & Noble gift certificate.

Preschool and school age programs:

Title	Presenter
Music Together Demo Class	Anne-Marie Forer
Dare to Read	Smithfield Police Dept.
Children Around the World	Catherine Rickert
Ezra Jack Keats Program	Staff
Ezra Jack Keats Poster Contest	Staff
Art classes	Adele Karbowski
Art classes	Staff
Flower arranging	Apple Blossom Garden Club
ReActors Stories on Stage (Teen Theatre Ensemble)-- ReActor Theatre	Ensemble
Travel Through the Continents	Sharon Thompson
All-Star Readers Contest	PawSox
Holiday Stories & Craft	Staff
Reading Tutors	Bryant Students
Junior Detective	Staff
Brownies/Tiger Cubs Visits	Staff
Magic Palooza	Lon Cerel
Create-a-Card	Deborah Sutherland
Audio Book Month Contest	
Chess Club	Homeschoolers
Homeschoolers Art Class	Adele Karbowski

FAMILY

Title	Presenter
Magic	Ronald McDonald
Magic	Chris Carbone
Storyteller	Joe Theroux
Storyteller	Mark Binder
Letterboxing	(various libraries)
Puppet Show	Sparky Davis
Stories/ Cartooning	Keith Munslow
Weather Program	T.J. Del Santo (Channel 12)
Tunes'N'Tales	Anne-Marie Forer
Rainbows & Snowstorms	Harry Leaman

OUTREACH TO CHILDREN

Title	Presenter
Magician Tri-Town Show	Bruce Kalver
Healthy Kids Day@YMCA	Staff
School & Public Librarians/	Staff
Homeschoolers meetings	Staff
Prov.Performing Arts Center Contest	
Winsor After School Enrichment	Staff

YOUNG ADULT

There were 89 teen programs that were attended by 816 people.

Title	Presenter
Academy Award Contest	Staff presented all programs
Chess and Checkers	
Classics Club	
Craft and Program helpers	
Ductigami: duct tape craft	
Halloween Village	
Party Game Day	
Rhode Island Teen Book Award Election	
Teen Advisory Library Council	
Teen Book Chat	
Teen Movie Chat	
Teen Reading Week Bookmark Contest	
Who Wants to be a Chocolataire?	
Win, Lose, or Draw: Pictionary for teens	

Summer Reading Programs

Book Buddies	Staff presented all programs
Book Buddies training	
Classics Club	
Craft & program helpers	
Harry Potter Jeopardy!	
Hieroglyphs workshop	
Internet workshop	
Introduction to Runescape	
Medieval Masquerade Ball	
Gaming by E-mail	
Questions of the Week	
Statewide Pen Pal Program	
Teen Book Chat	

ADULT

There were 147 adult programs attended by 1,216 people. Included in these numbers are 6 programs for seniors (41 attended).

Title	Presenter
Scrabble Club	Carol Riordan
Mystery Book Club	Dorothy Swain
Blue Cross Medicare	Becky Pinnocchio
Cesareo's Circle	Patti Folsom
R.I. Blood Center	Nina Boethio

ROOM AND COMPUTER USE

Twenty groups used the Library's meeting rooms a total of 137 times, not including the Trustees, Friends, and those presenting Library sponsored programs.

Our quiet study room, which is used for tutoring, tax return assistance, and quiet study, was used 189 hours this year.

Library computers were used by 78,208 people to access the Internet and electronic databases, which is more than triple last year's usage! 2,675 young people used the homework/teen tech center during the school year. Free public access to Library computers allows everyone in the Town the opportunity to have an e-mail account and to obtain important information from our electronic databases and the Internet.

EXHIBITS

The Library is fortunate to have people in the community willing to share their collections and art works with the community. We would like to extend our thanks to the following for exhibiting their works and collections at the Library this year:

CHILDREN'S BUBBLE

Exhibitor	Exhibit
Erik Brenner	Matchbox cars
Kathryn Elfast	Seashells
Kaitlyn McCann	Horses
Allyson & Caryn Rickert	Dolls of Many Lands
Phillip Konyeaso	Frogs
Sarah Thompson	Snow globes
Sue Folcarelli	Girl Scouts Annual Cookie Display
Jacob Eldred	Bionicles
Rowan Eldred	Marbles
Shannon Fortier	Horses
Christina Demopulos	Batman
Hayley Tartaglia	Dolls
Zachary Tartaglia	Football memorabilia
Michael White	Egypt
Robert Jackson	Baseball helmets
Luke Thompson	Star Wars
Lauren Paul	Turtles

CASTLE DISPLAY CASE

Exhibitor	Exhibit
Sharon Thompson	English Toby Mugs
Yelena & Anoushiravan Khaze	Star Trek Collectibles
John Chamberlin	Ceramic Mirrors
Jim Cook	Sculptures

Library Friends
Library Friends
James Ignasher
Kira Trainer
Little Rhody Rembrandts

Holiday Store
Gift Baskets for raffle
Airplane Instruments
Handmade Books
Crafts

DISPLAYS

Many of the displays in the Library were done by the staff to reflect seasons or subjects of celebration. The staff also did several book displays each month.

We thank Diane Maione and her Girl Scout Troop #544 for decorating the trees in the Library's lobby throughout the year, Laura Zucker and the students at Greenville Nursery School who decorated the children's room throughout the year with their arts and crafts projects, and the home schooled who displayed their artwork in the Children's Room periodically.

ARTWORK

Exhibitor

Rebecca Rowley
J. Bruce Whyte
School students
Martin Resnick
John Chamberlin
Jim Cook
Carol Pentleton
George Laurie
Don Lacasse
Edward H. Olausen

Exhibit

Photographs
Photographs
Youth Art
Oil Paintings
Ceramic Mirrors
Paintings and Sculptures
Computer Art
Mixed Media
Watercolors
Watercolors

OUTREACH

The Library provides books to residents of retirement and nursing homes. The residents of Greenville Manor, Wildflowers Nursing Home, Hebert Nursing Home, the Village at Waterman Lake, Dora C. Howard Adult Day Care Center, and North Bay Manor receive materials throughout the year. Staff and volunteers (Friends) bring books to some of the residences, as well as to individuals requiring home delivery due to illness or incapacity.

The Library staff keeps lines of communication open with the staff and residents who live at Harmony Hill School, Farnum House, and Mater Ecclesiae International Center of Studies. We encourage library usage by the residents of these facilities and offer materials that meet their special needs and interests.

GRANTS AND GIFTS

The Apple Blossom Garden Club donated beautiful floral arrangements throughout the year and two wreaths that hung on either side of the entrance doors at Christmas time.

A grant was obtained from the Champlin Foundations for \$43,100 worth of computer equipment.

Annual Grants

We receive several grants on an annual basis, the money derived from bequests that generate investment income. We are grateful to the following individuals:

Thomas K. Winsor Memorial Fund (from the estate of Kay Kirlin Moore): \$2,234 was used to purchase books.

Mattie A. Walcott Memorial Fund: \$4,502 was used to purchase books and equipment.

Designated Funds

Muriel and Samuel Place Fund: \$5,000 plus interest to be used for the Children's Room expansion.

Leona Wilson Fund: \$1,230 for adult literacy materials.

Shirley Steere Memorial Fund: Interest from the fund is used to purchase books and furniture for the children's room: \$300 was used to purchase, *Peoples of Eastern Asia* 11 volumes.

The David and Eleanor Battey Campbell Fund: \$6,000 donation from Janice and Richard Lindsay in honor of Mrs. Lindsay's parents, former residents of Greenville. Interest from the account is used to purchase children's materials. \$300 was used to purchase: a seven volume set of continent books by Mike Graf, *Gregor the Overlander*, by Suzanne Collins, *The Blue Roan Child*, by Jamieson Findlay, *Kira-Kira*, by Cynthia Kandohata, *Saffy's Angel* and *Indigo's Star* by Hilary McKay, and *blue Jasmine* by Kashmira Sheth.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The following repairs and improvements were made this past year:

--All of the buildings lights and ballasts were replaced, including fire exit signs and exterior entrance lights, utilizing the RISE program in conjunction with Eastern Utilities, which paid 75% of the cost. Electrical cost savings are estimated to be over \$2,500 annually.

--Two toilets on the main level were replaced.

--New paper towel and toilet tissue dispensers were installed in all of the restrooms.

--Wall section was repaired in the recital room after it was damaged when water came into the building during a rainstorm.

--Rapid Circ. Self checkout machine was repaired under warranty.

--Roof was patched following severe leakage from a flat roof area, and shingles replaced.

--Sewer backup in lower level restrooms happened twice.

--A thermostat for the main heating and cooling unit was replaced and relocated.

- Front sign blew over and was repaired and repainted.
- Outside faucet was replaced and a back flow valve put in the sprinkler line.
- Smoke detector was replaced.
- Emergency light batteries were replaced and charging units rebuilt.

NEW EQUIPMENT

- Xerox C2424 copier, printer, and scanner for the public in the reference area.
- 22 new computers, switch, and a bandwidth modulator were purchased with Champlin grant
- Dehumidifier for the staff lounge
- Replaced the public payphone
- Replaced a defective multiplexer on our video security system.

OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS and ACHIEVEMENTS

We operate with the philosophy of continuous improvement and continue to be a leader among public libraries in the Rhode Island. Some of the many improvements and successes of this year include:

- We purchased electronic books, which have been made available to the public via our web page. We have a set of reference books that includes: *Arts and Humanities Through the Eras*, *Videhound's Golden Movie Retriever*, *College Blue Book*, *Dictionary of American History*, *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia*, *Witchcraft in America*, *New Catholic Encyclopedia*, and *Plant Sciences*, as well as 104 more books geared toward students and teachers. In addition to these titles are 3,000 classics that are out of copyright restrictions. All of these books are available to patrons 24 hours a day from their homes, offices, and schools as well as within the library. We continue to provide more library services to our users wherever and whenever they need them.
- Providence Journal* archives are now available to patrons at home via our web page. Previously it was only available in the library.
- We continue to offer a genealogical database via our web page, paid for by the Rhode Island Genealogical Association.
- We continued a highly successful tutoring program that matches Bryant University work study students with local young people who need reading assistance.
- We are the only public library in the state to offer on-line tutoring for school students, free of charge. The service is available from 2-10 p.m. daily and was used by 592 students this past year for homework assistance.

- We are the only public library in the state offering on-line reference assistance 24-hours, seven days a week.
- We initiated the first programs in the state for home schooled children, and have taken the lead in coordinating programs with other area libraries. We also provide space for parents/guardians who home school to meet.
- We had another highly successful teen summer reading program.
- Wireless Internet access is offered to the public from anywhere in the Library.

PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

The professional staff is encouraged to join and participate in state and regional library organizations and to attend the annual Rhode Island Library Association conference. The Director is a member of the American Library Association (ALA) and the Public Libraries division, as well as the New England Library (NELA) and Rhode Island Library Associations (RILA). Other professional staff also belongs to RILA, and Aaron Coutu also belongs to ALA and NELA.

The staff attends meetings and workshops held throughout the state and participate on appropriate committees. Aaron Coutu is a member of the R.I. Teen Book Awards Committee and a member of the Statewide Summer Reading Program Committee and the Young Adult Round Table.

The director represents the Library at CLAN meetings and other statewide library meetings. He chaired a CLAN committee whose charge was to standardize policies and procedures among member libraries. He was elected vice-president/president-elect of RILA at its annual meeting in June, a position he will hold for two years.

Staff is encouraged to attend continuing education classes and library conferences. OLIS offers many continuing education classes free of charge, and the Library has a small budget to pay for work related courses. All of the professional and many of the support staff attended continuing education classes this year.

Professional journals are made available to the staff for book and other media reviews, and to keep them aware of issues and technologies affecting information delivery and libraries.

COOPERATION

Cooperating with other libraries and agencies expands the type and quantity of services and materials that can be offered. Following is a list of cooperative ventures and services:

- Greenville Boy Scouts provided services to the Library by participating in the Earth Day Cleanup, cleaning litter and tree limbs from Library grounds in the Spring.
- We provide space to AARP to assist the elderly and low-income patrons with tax return preparation.
- Interlibrary loan with other libraries, public, academic and school.

- We offer a convenient site for Northwest Home Care to provide flu shots.
- Book collection boxes are put in the schools during Student Amnesty in May and June. Student late fines are forgiven for Library materials returned to these boxes.
- Meeting rooms are offered free of charge to town government agencies, librarians and non-profit organizations for meetings and workshops.
- We are the state repository for books belonging to the R.I. Genealogical Society.
- East Smithfield Public Library provides us with additional large print books on long-term loan to supplement our collection that cannot meet patron demands.
- We provide outreach services to residents of Wildflowers and Heberts Nursing Homes, Greenville Manor, and the home bound.
- We provide services to the teen residents of Harmony Hill, Farnum House, and Mater Ecclesiastic.
- We participate in Town goal setting.
- We host and attend North Central Chamber of Commerce meetings.
- Mrs. Leaver read stories at Tri-Town, the YMCA and Christmas stories to children at the Senior Center, and set up a special summer reading program for children attending Tri-Town.
- Mrs. Swain and Mrs. DeCristofaro presented a reference workshop on genealogy sources at Greenville Library.
- We collected nonperishable food in place of fines for overdue materials during November for the Smithfield food bank.
- Library staff works closely with the schools in Town on projects.
- The director assisted an employee of the East Smithfield Library with a graduate school assignment.
- The director presented a program at the League of Cities and Towns annual conference on services and resources the public library offers that could assist town employees
- The director participated in Dora C. Howard fashion show fund raiser.
- The Library and the Smithfield YMCA participated in a joint fund raising sampling of food from around the world and art auction.
- The Friends of the Library ran a very success "Taste of Smithfield" fundraiser, which involved local restaurants that donated samples of their menu items.

VOLUNTEERS

The Library depends on its regular volunteers who perform many hours of work at no cost to the Library. These dedicated individuals make it possible for the Library to offer programs and services that would not be possible without their assistance.

The Library offers a place for students in the high school and area colleges who need to perform community service as part of their curriculum, and we are grateful for their help.

Special thanks go to those who volunteer their services to the Library. We relied on 76 volunteers, who donated 1,243 hours of work to the Library. A few people volunteer on a weekly basis and are scheduled like paid staff. We especially thank the following for their dedicated service to the Library:

Janice Ward	Works on reference projects i.e. Song index Helps with checking book status on Dynix
Lillian Migneault	Puts jackets on books, helps out with technical services.
Lillian Nelson	Helps with technical services jobs: labels, jackets, stamping, etc.
Helena Moran	Helps with shelving of books, and pulling of holds
Kathy Flynn	Helps with putting away periodicals, stamping the newspapers
Elizabeth Piette	Works for Children's Room, cutting, pasting, and helping Pauline.
Anna Martin & (assistant) Rosemary Grace Parisault	Prepares circulation packets and stamps blue slips. Prepares circulation packets and stamps blue slips.

We want to thank the Apple Blossom Garden Club whose members donate beautiful floral arrangements throughout the year, and made wreaths which hung outside the front entrance during the winter holiday season.

We thank the Rhode Island Genealogical Society for donating an electronic subscription to *Heritage Quest*, a genealogical database. The public performed 1,429 searches on the database this past year, most from home via our web page.

We thank Trustee, Milo J. St. Angelo, for donating potted plants to decorate the public service areas all through the year, in addition to his financial contributions and computer instruction.

We thank the Friends of the Library for all of their work, bringing books to nursing and retirement homes, helping with special events, and fund raising. Their services are vital and much appreciated. Dorothy Swain deserves our gratitude for leading the Friends and putting countless hours into fund raising events. This has been our most successful year ever for raising money, which is a credit to Mrs. Swain, the Friends, and Board President, Domine Vescera Ragosta, who were responsible for the highly successful art auction program held at Imagine Galleries.

Domine Vescera Ragosta, deserves special mention and thanks for all of the time that she has devoted to the Library as Board President, in addition to her own job and family responsibilities. She has managed to have weekly meetings with the Director and to attend an endless array of meetings. This past year has been very challenging. Mrs. Ragosta has maintained her vision and stayed the course. She has rallied the Trustees and staff and continues to move everyone toward a building project.

All of the Trustees must be recognized and thanked for their dedication to the Library. They have volunteered their time and expertise, attended monthly Board meetings, served on committees, worked on fundraisers, and supported the Library financially. They have kept the Library a vital institution in the community.

The Library's staff deserves special thanks for their commitment to serving the public in a courteous and professional manner. They have had to endure disappointments and in some cases reduced hours and even layoffs. They are always courteous to the public and one another, and are the Library's main asset.

The Greenville Public Library is an essential service organization in the Town of Smithfield. It serves as the Town's repository of information and its collective memory. The Library provides homework assistance to students, instills the love of reading in children, and provides Internet access, recreational reading materials, reference assistance, and meeting space to the entire community and surrounding areas. The goal for next year will be to secure adequate funding to maintain the current schedule of hours, and hopefully enough to reinstate Sunday service.

Respectfully Submitted:

Christopher La Roux
Director

Positions as of June 30, 2005

TRUSTEES

President	Domine Vescera Ragosta
Vice-President	Virginia Harnois
Secretary	Susan Marineau
Treasurer	Bruce Hallworth
	Milo J. St. Angelo
	John Bucci, PhD
	Stephen Cicilline, Esq.
	Elaine Farley
	Barbara Lysik
	Dr. Julianne Shaw Ip

STAFF

Director	Christopher La Roux
Assistant Director	Dorothy Swain
Children's Librarian	Pauline Leaver
Children's Assistant	Kathleen England
Young Adult Librarian	Aaron Coutu
Reference Librarian	Beth DeCristofaro
Reference Librarian	Carol Gallant
Reference Librarian	Rhonda Hevenor
Reference Librarian	Rosemary Rose
Reference Assistant	Deborah Adler
Reference Assistant	Bethany Davies
Technology Coordinator	Ray Hetherington
Circulation Supervisor	Rebecca Rowley
Circulation Assistant	Norma Salzillo
Library Assistant	Carol Mulzer
Library Assistant	Karalyne Rothwell
Library Assistant	Sandra Williams
Library Assistant	Sarah Paquet
Technical Services	Shirley Eagleson
Administrative Secretary	Lydia Lapierre
Page	Katelyn Courtot
Page	Brittney Leporacci
Page	Laura Rothwell
Page	Julie Whelan

FRIENDS

Debbie	Adler
Eileen	Adler
Elaine	Farley
Carol	Gallant
Helen	Gaudreau
Laura	Goudreau
Beth	Hurd
Leslie	Jaffe
Donna	Langton
Grace	Lemon
Susan	Marineau
Kathy	Melvin
Sarah	Paquet
Karen	Piccoli
Dorothy	Swain
Jean	Trivioli
Emily	Westcott