

It's annual report time again and the library has had another good year. Library service has continued to increase as we have tried to reach all members of the community.

One way of measuring library use is to look at the total number of registered borrowers. As of June 30th that number was 5,791, or 285 more than last year.

Another indication of the library's progress is the annual circulation figure. This year's circulation was 64,468, or 596 over last year.

Comparative figures:

7/1/76 to 6/30/77

Adult	37,060
Juvenile	22,048
Non Book	<u>5,360</u>
Total	64,468

7/1/75 to 6/30/76

Adult	36,396
Juvenile	22,724
Non Book	<u>4,717</u>
Total	63,872

The greatest increase was in adult circulation with an increase of 1,028. Audiovisual media (records, puzzles, pictures) showed an increase of 643. To keep up with these increases we have added 2,045 titles to our collection.

As a part of its overall program the library has engaged in numerous activities and has offered other services, along with the acquisition, organization and circulation of print and non-print materials. Other services offered have included:

1. Our reference materials have helped to meet informational and recreational needs of our users.
2. News items submitted weekly to the Observer and Journal-Bulletin to keep the community informed of services, special events and other items of interest.
3. A newsletter, detailing the events at Greenville and East Smithfield is issued monthly.
4. We continue to rely heavily on interlibrary loan. This year 1,035 requests were made to the Regional Office, of which 847 were filled.
5. Films continue to be available to local groups through the R. I. Library Film Cooperative. This year 74 films were provided for nursing homes, religious groups and other organizations.

Library services provided outside the library include service to Waterman Heights Nursing Home, Heberts Nursing Home, Elmbrook Nursing Home, Greenville Manor, and service to the homebound.

A book review was given by the librarian at the Cranford Club in April when the Club presented their annual memorial book.

DSLS has provided us with regular books, large print books, and 8mm films on long term loan.

Services provided at the Regional level include the inter-library loan already mentioned, loans of art works, and collections to accompany exhibits.

The hall exhibit case continues to draw approving comments for its attractive and well thought out exhibits. Exhibits this year included: Revolutionary War Soldiers, Fan Collection, Wood Burning, Tin Can Art, Tole Painting, Christmas Ornaments, Leather Crafts, Fabric Flowers, Embroidery, Dough Art, Sand Painting and a Doll Collection.

Additional exhibits and shows have included photographs by Gordon Rowley, Wilfred Anderton, Linnea Toney and David Meurdter, along with the String Art of Harvey Whipple and an art exhibit by Jeanne Chimani. In May a tea was held to open an art show by Arlene Birtwell.

Children's services included the Saturday Morning Story Hour beginning in October, and two first grade story hours. Pre-school story hours were held for the Library Forum, Head Start, Tri-Town Day Care, Fun for Fives, Pied Piper Nursery School and Stepping Stone Nursery School.

Other Children's Programs included a Summer Reading Program (1282 books read), Green World Reading Program, a Book-a-Thon, Red Cross Mother's Aide Course, Summer Film Shows, Saturday Morning Film Shows, Winter Vacation Film Show, and a play by the elementary school children. The library also sponsored a Green World Puppet Show, a Puppet Workshop performance and a puppet show for Children's Book Week. There was also a Mother Goose Mystery Contest, a Cub Scout tour and story hour, a Girl Scout tour and story hour, and visits from 12 school classes. A total of 1940 children participated in these events.

Six exhibits have appeared in the new exhibit case in the Children's Room. An exhibit of model colonial buildings by the children of Winsor School also was displayed.

The library's adult programs were again well attended. The Library Forum held from October through May hosted programs dealing with Tin Can Art, Tole Painting, Christmas Ornaments, Leather Work, Flower Making, Embroidery, Dough Art, and Sand Painting.

Sunday Afternoon Programs continued to be appreciated. In this year's travels we visited Southern England with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Steere, to Peru with Jack Dawson, to Yugoslavia with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Carlson while Mr. Mario Paolini presented a slide show entitled "The Development of American Art".

Other adult programs included an 8 week crochet course sponsored by the Apple Valley Junior Women's Club and the Great Decision Series. Total attendance at these programs was 653.

National, State, local and regional meetings have been attended by the librarians and trustees. These include the NELA annual meeting. RILA annual and spring meetings, Trustee Seminars at DSLS, media workshops, Film Cooperative meetings, and other cooperative ventures.

Improvements in service and facilities over the past year have included new lighting in the auditorium and meeting room and the meeting room was painted.

The 1977 Comptons Encyclopedia was added to the Children's Room while the Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Early Records of the Town of Providence were added to our Reference Department.

The library received an incentive grant from DSLS in order to index the Observer. The grant of \$2000. was used to purchase a microreader, the Observer on microfilm, and the hiring of an indexer.

The Board of Trustees continues to work hard to improve library service. The staff is also doing a splendid job including our new addition Miss Lauren Vogel.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew J. Higgins
Librarian