

**Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
January 22, 2009**

I interviewed Nancy Griffin, a woman who moved to Freedom last fall with her husband, who contacted me about being a volunteer. She is a retired professional interested in becoming involved in the Freedom community. I will be training her as a front desk volunteer in February. She will initially fill in for Dick Many, who will be away for two months, and Sylvia Bouvé, who will be away for six weeks. Nancy has been a corporate trainer and is very computer literate. In addition to working the front desk, she is also interested in teaching computer classes. She has a lot of enthusiasm and I am looking forward to working with her.

The Freedom Flicks Film Series kicked off on January 11th with 14 attendees here to see "The Visitor". There had been a snow storm earlier in the day which I think affected attendance, not that 14 is bad. Our second film, "In the Mood for Love" is this Sunday. Monthly pizza and movie nights have been very successful with 30 or more attending each time.

I have focused on the children's biography section in the last few weeks, culling numerous old, worn and outdated titles and purchasing more appealing replacements. The 5th and 6th graders' are choosing a biography for their next book report so this freshening is good timing.

There has been an increase in use of the library as meeting space. Freedom Cares, Green Mountain Conservation and the Freedom/Ossipee Brownie Troop have all used our facilities in the last month.

John Shipman and Sylvia Carney renewed the library's group membership to the Portland Museum of Art for 2009.

Dick Many, Peg Scully, and I (with input from Judy) met last week to discuss how to proceed with the circulation desk renovations. We decided that we will start with a major decluttering and reorganizing effort and add two additional shelves in the cabinets above the back counter. Then we will see what other simple measures we can take to further organize our supplies and materials. We also came up with some ideas for rather simple construction changes we may recommend in the future, such as putting access doors on the outside of some of the storage areas, installing curtains or doors to reduce eyesore and adding additional shelves in some storage areas for improved use of space. Dick will write the result of our brainstorming to report to the Friends at their annual meeting this spring.

I was selected to be on a jury for a trial. It is only expected to last a day and a half and is scheduled for Thursday January 29th and Friday, January 30th. This will be the conclusion of my jury duty service. I will make sure we have adequate coverage for the days I will be away.

There were 543 audio downloads by Freedom patrons during 2008. We have one of the most active libraries for downloads. See attached sheet for comparisons of download activities of the area libraries.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director