

**Librarian's Report  
Freedom Public Library  
November 10, 2009**

The downstairs was not getting up to temperature and the workroom was overly warm, so Walter came to see what the problem was. Turns out "two wires were crossed" and now the system seems to be working properly. Contrary to what Walter had said when the furnace was first installed, it takes quite a while to get the zones up to 68 after they've been turned down to 55 when the library is closed. I have the thermostats set to 68 beginning 1 hour and 15 minutes before opening and still the temperature is not quite there. The slowness to get up to a comfortable temperature is an issue when groups meet here outside of library hours. To prevent frostbite, they will either need to come by ahead of time to turn up the heat, or we need to program the thermostat ahead of time (and remember to change it back). Would like to discuss how best to handle this.

I have reconfirmed the prices for the automatic patron counter we had asked the Friends to buy. The prices remain the same: \$400 + shipping for the wireless counter and \$725 + shipping for the CompuCount server. The counter itself tracks numbers through the door. We would need to look at the counter every day and re-set it. The CompuCount server permits viewing of the data from any standard web browser. Data is stored on a half-hour, hourly, daily, weekly, and monthly basis. The Friends authorized the purchase of the counter with the possibility of upgrading with the server in the future. I know Peg had considered using some of the Jim memorial money for the counter – am wondering if we would want to use some of that money for the server part of the purchase and buy both at once?

I am happy to say that Maureen Elliott is being trained and is working Fridays from 12-2 at the front desk. Gail Bizer has been coming at the same time to do organizing-type jobs. She cleaned and organized the upstairs closet, re-installed the shelves in the workroom and cleaned one of the downstairs bathrooms. She is ready to help with the donated books when given direction. This Thursday she begins a 5-week beginning knitting class for grades 4 and older. So far 5 have signed up and I hope that we will have a full class (8) by the time class begins.

Nancy Griffin gave her 12-2 shift to Maureen and took the Tues 5-7 shift but has written me to say that today will be her last Tues night shift because of another obligation. She says she will fill in as needed and will take Dick's Thurs 5-7 shift when Dick leaves for Florida. I will miss Nancy's regular presence in the library.

In other volunteer news, I hear that it was Peter Park and Dean Robertson who cleaned out all the underbrush behind the library yesterday. It's very very cleaned out now! That must have been a lot of work. Obviously, the Friends recruitment push has been successful. We have parking lot lines too!

Joel from Freedom Computer is coming to work on our computers this week. He has been ill and can only work partial days. He will install two new computers in the computer room and replace the catalog search computers in the lobby with the computers he replaces in there. The search computers are very old and have been

causing us problems recently. I recently had to buy a new wireless router as the one we had stopped working.

I thought the Freedom Village Store was going to sell used paperbacks for us and I removed all the books from the revolving paperback rack that stood near the elevator in anticipation of its moving to the store. The store's board, however, decided that at least at this time they do not want to sell paperbacks – if anything they are more interested in selling gift quality hardback books. Now that the rack is gone, however, we like the spaciousness of the lobby and I'd prefer not to use the rack anymore. What do you suggest we do with the rack?

I opened the library on Halloween for trick-or-treaters, candy supplied by donations from area residents. Lee Allison and Lisa & Hannah MacLeod helped me. I took pictures of all those in costume and have sent 104 pictures out for developing. The children are excited to see this year's pictures displayed in the library!

I will be going to the school to read the Ladybug Picture Book Award nominations to grades K-3 on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The new school librarian Jodi Perry, the 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher Mary Ellen Holmes, reading teacher Terry Drew and I will read the 10 books. Children will each vote for their favorite book and I will submit the votes to the NH Center for the Book. Votes from across the state will be tallied and there will be an overall winner. I did this a few years ago at the school and am excited to do it again!

I was approached by Wayne Marshall about having a Christmas program at the library: reading of "The Best Christmas" by Lee Kingman, a gentle family Christmas story set on the seacoast of NH. I like his idea, and will be recruiting readers for each of the nine chapters of the book. I will call upon the Friends to see if I can get help with season-appropriate refreshments. I have not yet set a date, so if you have an opinion about this, please let me know.

The next Pizza & Movie night is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00. I will be showing the recent animated movie from Pixar "Up." For adults, I'll be showing "Food, Inc." on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00.

Beginning the Saturday after Thanksgiving, I am going to set up two tables in the lobby (I think I will move the copier temporarily over near the elevator) with a variety of card-making supplies so that people of all ages can drop in and create their own gift cards or Christmas cards. I think I will probably leave the tables up through the following week.

Lots going on!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director