

Report of the Library Trustees

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

We are proud to submit the report of the Avon Public Library for the year 2009.

Highlights of 2009

Library Circulation increased by 9% in 2009 to a 3-year high of 36,312. Of this number, 16,877 were to nonresident users.

In January of 2009, the Library became a **Picturing America** award recipient. **Picturing America** introduces citizens of every age to our nation's history and culture by bringing great works of American art into classrooms and libraries. The fulfillment of the grant will take place by May 31, 2010. More information may be found at www.PicturingAmerica.neh.gov.

Special Events

- 2009 began with an Inauguration Party for President Barack Obama. Residents observed the festivities on television while enjoying refreshments in the Reading Room.
- On February 12, President Lincoln was remembered with a "Birthday Tea" in honor of his two-hundredth birthday. Patrons enjoyed period foods including cucumber sandwiches, homemade cookies and desserts, including Mr. Lincoln's favorite vanilla cake.
- The second annual "Poem in Your Pocket" day was held on April 30, 2009.
- The Public Library and the Avon Middle High School library collaborated on a "Job Search" seminar on May 20. The interactive program was designed to aid in resume writing, internet job searching and applications and job interview techniques.
- Various artist exhibits adorned the Reading Room throughout the year.
Artist **Anne Davey** and her photography of D.W. Fields Park – January and February
Janelle Art Studio (Janet Borden) Students- May
Octogenarian, **Elizabeth Ellis Ryan** -Famous acrylics - July
Hull's **J. Marshall Dyke** - August
Betty Rogers' original watercolors exhibit "Homecoming"- November and December
- The newly revived "Friends of the Avon Public Library" met on December 1 to start planning their agenda for 2010. All residents are encouraged to become a Friend of the Library. Watch for upcoming meetings on our website calendar at www.avonpubliclibrary.org.
- Switched at Birth, a biography written by local author Frederick George was the topic for a book discussion in September. The story depicts a mix-up at birth, which assisted Mr. George finding his birth family through DNA testing.

Children's Programs

Story Hour resumed in the spring and continued through December. 486 children attended Library programs throughout the year.

Martians invaded the Library during July and August claiming to be part of **Starship Adventure**, the statewide summer reading program. Massachusetts Regional Library Systems and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners sponsor this annual program. The summer line up concluded with "Rockets, Here and Back" presented by the Boston Museum of Science. The Avon Friends of the Library support all Children's programs.

Library Staff

Library Staff continued their education with SEMLS sponsored workshops, and attended their various OCLN committees and roundtables.

Michele Cunningham returned to her former position of Part-time Circulation Assistant after a year's absence. She replaced Thadeous Washington who moved on to a full-time position in the private sector.

Brian DeFelice joined the staff as a Saturday Circulation Assistant. Brian works full-time at the Thomas Crane Library in Quincy.

Library Facts

The Library has 2677 registered borrowers. Of that number, 2126 are Avon residents.

Interlibrary Loans provided *to* other Libraries totaled 14,430. Interlibrary Loans received *from* other Libraries totaled 5,620 making the Library eligible for compensation through the SEMLS net lender program.

Attendance in the Library peaked at approximately 52,000.

The Library continues to be open six days per week for a total of 42 hours.

Did You Know?

Along with the Library website, www.avonpubliclibrary.org, you can now follow us on Facebook and on our blog at www.WordPress.com.

World Book Online is now available through our website for home users or on any computer at the Library. World Book is an addition to our current reference databases: On-Line Book Club, Literary Reference Center, Global Warrior, A-Z Maps and Shmoop.

Museum passes are available for the New England Aquarium and the Sports Museum

In closing, the Trustees would like to recognize the Library Staff for their dedication. We wish to thank the Selectmen, Town Administrator, and Finance Committee, but most of all, the citizens of Avon for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilma Macdonald (Chair)
Charles Comeau (Co-Chair)
Ellen Nagle (Recording Secretary)

Trustees of the Avon Public Library

Read the best books first, or you may not have a chance to read them at all.
[Henry David Thoreau](#)

