

Director's Report for January 2007

The new year brings increase in circulation. January's circulation statistics (5049) increased by 19% from the previous month (4228) and 67% from January, 2006 (3030). Outside of audio books, all other categories increased in circulation. Adult books increased by 17%, Juvenile by 50%, CDs by 81%, and DVD's by 6%.

75 new cardholders added in January. Most of the increase was in the adult category (53). 17 year-round residents became patrons while 15 non-resident homeowners received cards. There were 43 new patrons from Cape May County. The last bill received from the Cape May County Library indicated 7 new cards for December and January.

Dramatic increase in Computer use. There were 821 computer sessions in January, a 310% increase from the previous month (200). The increase utilization may be driven in part by an increase in after school use.

670 items weeded from collection. Weeded paperback books were donated to an individual who is sending them to troops in Iraq.

672 new items added to the collection.

The Library sponsored 48 programs in December for an overall attendance of 331. The highlights of January's programming included the Viaggiando in Italia language classes and the Acrylic workshop. The Discover Writer's workshop continued. Old books received new life in the Altered Book craft classes. The artist forum met twice. The American Girl series that met in November and December has evolved into a play. Play rehearsals are being held in the cafeteria.

The Bay-Atlantic Concert committee continues to develop the PR campaign. In January the Bay Atlantic Concert Committee met twice to begin planning for seating, promotion, and ticket distribution. Dave Coskey is providing support in development of these activities. A meeting was held on the February 2 with the Fine arts group and the museum. They agreed to selling ad's and printing the programs for the 3 orchestra events. Those organizations will also take care of a reception for Jed Gaylin, the symphony's director.

EBSCO is the new magazine jobber for the library. Due to issues related to the maintenance of our periodical subscriptions, the library has switched to EBSCO information services to handle our subscriptions.

New video and music resources added to Research Databases. The library has purchased a subscription from Alexander Street Press for the following databases: African American Song; Smithsonian Global Sound for Libraries; Classical Music Library; Theatre in Video. The music databases provide thousands of tracks that are

streamed on demand. Likewise Theatre in Video offers over 250 videos of full length plays that can accessed in their totality.

First meeting with library webpage developer. Library staff met with Lou Romanini, JSE Computers, to review our concept and requirement for a new website. By mid February, JSE will have a prototype online for us to review.

Larger book drop delivered.

New staff members hired. Jenifer Chesse and Deborah Devitt have been as part-time clerks. As a result of this addition to the staff. The library will increase its hours at the beginning of March to include: Monday – Thursday, 9am-8pm; Friday & Saturday, 9am-5pm; Sunday, 11am-3pm.