

Stowe Free Library

Director's Report – April 2009

News

We held our first post-inservice full staff meeting in March, which led to much discussion and the expressed desire to have Lawrence come back to help the staff with some “ground rules” crafting. One outcome from the meeting was that the staff overwhelmingly wanted Microsoft Office on all the public access computers, rather than the free OpenOffice, and through some digging, Stephanie was able to purchase volume licenses very inexpensively.

The teen gardening club has started their seedlings, so that the library will have a (hopefully) more successful plot at the community garden.

Baby & Toddler Story time continues to be extremely popular, with 30 (or more) children often in attendance. One parent called to share how much she enjoys the program, and that she makes sure to have the day off so she can attend!

Stephanie and Mort updated three of our public access computers, hopefully easing some of the public's grumbling about the slowness of our computers.

Abel German of our Teen Advisory Board had an article in the *Stowe Reporter* about manga, and in response to the popularity of the format (and the lack of shelf space), Julie created a manga book truck.

Julie was a presenter at the Department of Libraries' annual Summer Reading Program; she spoke about involving teens and YA in the program.

Building Issues

Since our heat has been “fixed”, we have been absolutely roasting in the library, to the point where we need to have the front door open almost all the time. Justin and the two specialists working on the system are aware of the issue, and will be back in to try and resolve the issue.

Upcoming Programs

Face to Face: Meet the Author -- April 14 at 7pm with author and garden designer Gordon Hayward, discussing his book *Art and the Gardener: Fine Art as Inspiration for Garden Design*

Pre-school and Baby & Toddler story times continue, as do our monthly after-school programs with the Lamoille County Nature Center

The Vermont Humanities Council book discussion series, “When Cultures Meet,” finishes on Thursday, April 23

Upcoming Conferences & Meetings, etc

Vermont Open Source Conference, Friday, April 10 (presenter)
Vermont Library Conference, Wednesday, May 13 (presenter)

Statistics

	March	February	January	March 08
Circulation	9,943	8,810	8,981	9,655
Computer Usage				
Adult	1,082	879	888	790
Children	515	436	444	519
Programs	13	11	13	11
Program Attendance	248	236	210	218
Meeting Room Use	7	4	11	6
Meeting Room Attendance	28	58	138	80
New Patrons	44	44	38	117

- ❖ *Circulation for March 2009 was up 23% over March 2008*
- ❖ *Adult computer use was up 38% for March 2009 over March 2008 (and that's even with people not signing up!)*

Circulation

