

Ashland Town Library

Ashland Town Library “by the numbers” for 2018:

- **Patron visits:** 5,870
- **Programs offered:** 73, attended by 278 people
- **Items circulated:** 9,655
- **Items downloaded (audio and ebooks):** 1,128
- **Computer users:** 591
- **Home visits:** 27

The Library Trustees continue to pursue the purchase of the Old School, which is still on the real estate market. In the 2018 election, the capital reserve warrant article passed, adding \$25,000 to the Capital Reserve Building Fund, bringing the total of the fund to \$75,000. It is hoped that private donations will continue, and that the voters will vote this year in favor of adding \$20,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund and funding the purchase and renovation of the Old School in the future.

In addition to the 73 programs mentioned above, the library continues the tradition of community involvement by hosting the Halloween parade for children and hosting Santa Claus photos on Christmas Night in Ashland (sponsored by the Friends of the Library). Other programs offered include reading groups for adults and teens, knitting, pre-school story time, and rock painting. Movie nights and other programming for teens were popular. Summer programs included “American Folktales and Songs” by the Hampstead Players, and a program from the Science Center on “Animal Sounds”.

The Friends of the Ashland Town Library are an organized group of volunteers that help support the Library through fundraising, donating materials for the library’s collection and supporting programs and other services for the community. The Friends held a book sale and 50/50 raffle in July and again in September during the Town Wide Yard Sale. This year the Friends purchased new shelving for the growing DVD collection to make the collection easier to access. They also sponsored a New Hampshire Humanities program about Oney Judge Staines, at one time owned by George Washington, who escaped to live free in New Hampshire, "If I Am Not For Myself, Who Will Be For Me: George Washington's Runaway Slave". The Friends of the Library are a registered non-profit with the state of New Hampshire. Membership is free and new members are welcome.

Many thanks to the Scribner Memorial Trustees for their work on the library building and grounds, including replacing exterior lighting. Thanks also to Meredith Village Savings Bank for their sponsorship of passes for the Squam Lakes Science Center.

The Board of Trustees of the Ashland Town Library would like to especially thank the very hard-working library staff, Sara Weinberg, Terry Fouts, Lisa Rollins, Robert Binette; and the many volunteers that donated a total of 34.25 hours to the library this year. All the above-mentioned accomplishments are due to a commitment to bring the best possible service and information resources to the citizens of Ashland.

Visit the library website at <http://www.ashlandtownlibrary.org/>, and make a donation to the library building fund at <http://www.ashlandtownlibrary.org/library-building-program.html>