

Cobleigh Public Library
Annual Report 2012

Thanks to the hard work, dedication and efforts of the Library Board of Trustees, library donors, volunteers, grantees, partners and staff, the Cobleigh Public Library was able to provide another successful year of service to our beloved community with your support. We take pride in the fact that the Cobleigh is a true community library, whose doors are open to all. Every day people come into the library wanting to learn, take out a book to read (or to download an e-book) attend one of our many programs, to explore, or to meet and visit with their neighbors. Our job is to ensure that we provide the necessary services and resources that will enrich lives and make the community of Lyndon a place where people want to come to live, to work, and raise a family or to grow old in. The Library Board and staff wish to thank all of our volunteers, community organizations and Town Officials for their renewed support this past year, helping to continue to insure the Cobleigh Library remains a vital part of the Lyndon community.

A New Bookmobile, Thanks to the Manton Foundation

In 2012 the library received the most wonderful news and is delighted to share it with everyone in our community. The Manton Foundation has offered the library a grant of \$150,000 for the purchase of a new bookmobile. Thanks to them, dreams do come true! How did this happen? Perhaps you remember the wonderful story that Charlotte Albright did for Vermont Public Radio (VPR) about the Cobleigh bookmobile program and how our old Books on Wheels II is no longer fit for the road. It's had the radish, as the saying goes. However, after meeting with the Child Care Network, the library Trustees committed themselves to raise \$60,000 to purchase a new vehicle we could turn into a bookmobile. Well guess what! National Public Radio (NPR) picked up the story which they aired, and the Trustees of the Manton Foundation were listening. The Manton Foundation was established by Sir Edwin and Lady Manton to support philanthropic efforts of interest to the family. The Foundation has made significant contributions in the fields of art and culture, education, equine care, health care and biomedical research, historic preservation, and land conservation.

The estimated cost of a new bookmobile is \$130,000 and the Trustees of the Manton Foundation have approved that the remaining balance be used for future ongoing maintenance of the vehicle. Books on Wheels III will soon be providing outreach services in Lyndonville and the surrounding towns of Burke, East Haven, Newark, Sheffield and Sutton and Wheelock bringing books and stories to young and old in the future!

Many thanks to the groups and individuals who offered help with fundraising including the Child Care Network, the Rotary, and the Ladies Auxiliary, the Friends of the Cobleigh, the Vermont Community Foundation, the East Burke Congregational Church, Charlotte Albright, and others. We live in a wonderful community and are proud to be able to offer services to community members that for whatever reason are unable to come into the library. The operating of the bookmobile will still need your support in the future, but we are off to a great start. Thank you to everyone who has supported the project over the years.

More good news, Green Mountain United Way and the Vermont Community Foundation have contributed small grants of \$3000 and \$1,000 respectively in our latest efforts to raise money for programming and operating costs for the bookmobile.

Some Partnerships & Programs

The library works with many organizations to provide services such as outreach, business services and children's programs. Below are just a few examples of groups and organizations that help us stretch our dollars and provide better library service to our community.

Through a partnership with the State of Vermont Treasurer's office, the library embarked upon a pilot money program. These were very well received and the books continue to be popular. If children complete a reading log, they would be eligible to send a completed reading log to the Treasurer's Office for entry in a statewide drawing for one of ten \$250 accounts in the Vermont Higher Education Investment Plan -- Vermont's official 529 college savings plan.

Through the State of Vermont Dept. of Libraries, the library was able to have, Blake Kincaid, who conducted programs and one-on-one training for people with technology needs. Whether you had a question about an android, your iPad, lap top or any other technological device, Blake has been available during certain times to answer and help you use your device. The good news is that through the Community College of Vermont (CCV), Blake is staying through April in 2013 for his CCV class credit. He is here every Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00p.m. - contact us for reservations.

Our partnership with Vermont Associates allows the library to have a training partner in exchange for staff time. The library trains and helps people become ready for the workforce by learning computer skills, and job skills. We have been happy to have Madeline Winfield through this program. Madeline works part time, training and working at the library. Vermont Associates pays, so the library saves money, and this program helps people enter or reenter the workforce.

The library was able to save funds and gain services through ServVermont. Kate Steward was able to join the Cobleigh staff full-time through August of 2013 as an AmeriCorps Vista. Kate is here at the library to build capacity by increasing our volunteer base and also to gain library funding by grant writing. We are fortunate to have this capable, college graduate join our library staff.

Computers & Technology

The Vermont Online Libraries (VOL) can be accessed at home or at the library on our web site (www.cobleighlibrary.org) with a free library card. Some new resources you may not be aware of include an online version of the Chilton's manual, Powerspeak languages which now includes Italian, Spanish, French and German, Russian, Mandarin, Japanese and Korean. English as a Second Language is also included especially from Chinese to English. There is a Small Business Resource Center which can help you manage your business and help with business plans, how to guides and articles and websites. The Jr. Editions and Student Editions now have e-books in

addition to articles. Educators Reference Complete has 450 full-text articles on educational principles, child development and psychology. This is only a very small sampling of what is available, so check it out.

Remember that the library has free loans of e-books available though Listen Up Vermont. The link is on our main page. If you have trouble downloading these books on your device, please call the library and we'll help you.

By August of 2013, the library may have even faster Internet access if the fiber line that Sovernet is building is completed as scheduled. This will be important to future computing endeavors such as Skype and other applications such as distance learning.

Many Thanks

The library has received many donations and gifts from donors over this past year and the library is very grateful for these generous contributions, thank you. Thank you to the library board for continued leadership and the volunteer efforts of the finance committee. A personal thank you to the library board for letting me heal from surgery, and to the wonderful staff who helped fill in at the library during my absence. Thanks are extended to the Early Childhood Council and Green Mountain United Way for their understanding and financial help. Thank you for the dedicated fundraising efforts, volunteer commitment, and financial contributions from the Friends of the Library. Thank you, volunteers, for helping with those everyday tasks that are not always easy or fun. Thank you to the library staff for their dedication to library services—you are the services. We truly have much to be grateful for in a constantly changing world of services.

Sincerely,

Cindy Karasinski, Library Director

Cobleigh Public Library Statistics for 2012

Library circulation of books and materials	56,231
Bookmobile circulation of books	11,214
Listen Up Vermont (downloadable audio books)	<u>890</u>
	68,335

Library Card Holders	1,977
Bookmobile Card Holders	<u>287</u>
Total Card Holders	2,264

614	Interlibrary Loan Requests
1,104	Interlibrary loans sent to other libraries
1,173	Reserves

Library Programs	248	Attendance	4,008
Library Meetings	313	Attendance	1,801
Bookmobile Programs	969	Attendance	11,792

Adult Education

Computer Class Participants - 480
GED Testing - 12
Distance Learning - 5
Tutoring - 201

Library Home Deliveries - Adult

Individuals	64
Group Settings	<u>25</u>
Total	89

Library Visitors - 69,986
Bookmobile Site Stops - 717
Computer Use - 33,191
Volunteer hours - 1,587