

GLEASON PUBLIC LIBRARY

2001 Annual Report

2001 was the first full year of library services in the expanded and renovated Gleason Public Library.

Circulation of library materials reached the highest levels ever, as patrons and staff enjoyed the “new” Library. Despite a longer loan period begun in December of 2001 in response to patrons’ requests, borrowers checked out more books, videos, audiocassettes, magazines, museum passes—and in the last half of the year, DVDs. Internet access at the Tech Center continues to be a much-used service, and local non-profit organizations are finding the Hollis Room a convenient and comfortable space for meetings.

The Trustees and a landscape architect worked on a plan acceptable to the Historical Commission for the Library grounds, to be planted in the spring of 2002. The Trustees also inaugurated the program “Arts at the Gleason” which brings wonderful art exhibits to the Library.

Five weekly story times with 112 sessions were held during the school year in an effort to expand service to more children. A full summer reading program—Passport to the Caribbean—enjoyed great success, with four summer performances sponsored by the Cultural Council and the Friends of the Gleason Public Library. Total attendance at performances was 310; and 255 children attended other summer events. Local daycare centers made monthly visits for story times and the Cub Scouts visited the Library, and October witnessed another successful Pumpkin Spectacle with 88 creative entries.

Library staff worked with the Carlisle Historical Society, Town Clerk, and Great Brook State Park on a grant from the Massachusetts Record Advisory Board to survey and begin to organize the local archives collections. An afternoon tea was held for the teachers and staff of the Carlisle Public Schools.

The Library staff roster did not change during 2001.

Greater circulation means more items to shelve, and the Library is very fortunate to enjoy the volunteer services of several shelveers. The Friends of the Library continue their funding of museum passes, as well as author programs—and in April sponsored a delightful murder mystery fund-raiser in the Library. The Library staff continues to be the primary reason for excellent library service in Carlisle.

GLEASON PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS

Number of titles, December 2001	44,872
Number of items, December 2001	49,737
Number of patrons, December 2001	5734
Circulation, 2001	98,615

2001/Fine money of \$8176 was paid to the Town Treasurer