

Amherst Town Libraries – Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report
The Jones Library, Munson Memorial Library, North Amherst Library

Vision Statement: We believe in the freedom to read, learn, discover, and change lives.

Mission Statement: We serve and inspire people of all ages by providing multi-cultural resources for lifelong learning. We welcome everyone to our historic buildings. We celebrate Amherst history and literary heritage, including local poets Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost.

New Beginnings

The beginning of FY12 (July 2011) was a time of interviews with Library Director candidates and of clarification of the use of the Woodbury Fund money and with a corresponding investment policy. Newly produced documents from the Trustees included a Director's contract, a Director's evaluation procedure, and a resolution to join the Business Improvement District (BID).

On August 9, 2011, the Jones Library Board of Trustees unanimously voted to hire Ms. Sharon A. Sharry, Director of the Greenfield Public Library, as successor to Ms. Bonnie Isman who had retired in December 2010.

Ms. Sharry began work on October 3rd and it quickly became apparent that she would need to draw upon all her thirteen years' directorial experience to meet the many challenges presented by The Jones Library, Inc. Her first tasks involved creating a search team to hire a new Head of Collections (a position which had been vacated in January of 2011), filing the application for State Aid with the Board of Library Commissioners, overseeing multiple building projects, and reorganizing the administrative offices.

Ongoing Events/Programs

- Every Child a Reader: Funded by the Friends of the Jones Library System (Friends), this program brings every public school second-grade class to the Library on Monday morning when the Library is closed to the public. After a tour and a story time by Library staff, each child gets a book to keep, a Library card, and a snack.
- Jones/Jubilat: Funded by both the Friends and the Amherst Cultural Council (ACC), this program provides the public with four poetry reading sessions (eight poets).
- Summer Reading Clubs: The Jones, the Munson Memorial Library, and the North Amherst Library all hosted summer reading clubs with reading-related activities and a closing party in August.
- The Burnett Gallery: Staffed by a hardworking volunteer committee, the Burnett Gallery continues to host 12 months of exhibits, often featuring more than one artist. Receptions during the Thursday Art Walk give people a chance to meet the artists.
- Children's Music Series: Funded by the Friends, this winter tradition brings many and various free concerts to young and old alike.
- Story Time and Story Time in Spanish: Story Time for toddlers is always held on Thursday mornings at The Jones, but this year, Story Time in Spanish was added on six Saturdays.
- Chess Club and Sing with Your Baby: These two much loved programs are given to us by the Friends.
- English as a Second Language (ESL): Tutor training and matching tutors with adult English language learners continues, augmented with daily Conversation Circles to assist with learning.
- Patrons are encouraged to make appointments for a tour of Special Collections.
- The Jones Library welcomes and conducts tours for local groups such as Round the World Women's Club, high school ESL students, and charter school students.

New at The Jones

- We have created a collection of music CD's to augment our Local Authors Collection.
- There is a scanner for public use, which dovetails with printing from the Internet and making copies.
- The Friends of the Jones Library System approved using Woodbury funds to renovate the Large Meeting Room and rename it the Woodbury Room. The Trustees of The Jones Library, Inc. approved the plan and renovation began August 2012.
- Our "Portrait of an English Gentleman" was restored by Bill Myers and his students from Smith College.
- The circulation of ukuleles and other musical instruments has been very popular.
- The staff of the Munson Memorial Library continued to tell people about new electronic reading devices, such as Nooks and Kindles, by instructing patrons in their use and circulating these devices.
- Our English as a Second Language program helped many people learn how to speak English, pass their citizenship tests, and get jobs.
- Facilitated by Library staff, the new Wednesday Classics Book Club allows people to discuss books of interest.
- Over the Memorial Day weekend, The Jones Library migrated to a new open source integrated library system called Evergreen. Benefits to using the new software include: one search interface for both western and central regions; significantly lower total cost for managing and operating the system; greater flexibility in the design and customization of the catalog; and greater ability to add additional services to the catalog such as further integration with services like Overdrive for ebooks.
- The beautiful North Amherst Library garden, maintained by a group of volunteers, appeared as a stop on the Amherst Garden Tour.
- The Jones uses BPA-free thermal paper in its receipt printers.
- We added a Google Groups widget to our webpage so that patrons can register to receive emails regarding Library news and events. To register, please enter your email address at www.JonesLibrary.org
- The Jones participated in several community events including "World Book Night," the Amherst Educational Foundation's "Trivia Bee," and "Kids' Day at the Mullins Center."

Business Improvement District

The Jones Library and its Trustees are very excited to be a member of the newly established Amherst Business Improvement District. We know that the BID will help businesses and non-profits alike. We look forward to contributing in any way we can to enhance downtown Amherst through beautification and marketing projects. No doubt the District will promote downtown Amherst, attract new businesses, and improve the heart of this Town.

Community Partnerships

The Jones Library thanks the following local organizations for their support: Amherst Chamber of Commerce, Amherst Club, Amherst College and the Frost Library, Amherst Community Connections, Amherst Historical Society, Amherst Leisure Services, Amherst Media, Amherst School District, Amherst Survival Center, Amherst Sustainability Committee, Amherst Thursday Club, Amherst Town Committee, Emily Dickinson Museum, Kanegasaki Sister City Committee, Town Meeting Coordinating Committee, University of Massachusetts and the UMass Library, and WMUA.

Donor Generosity

The Jones Library is fortunate to have many generous donors led by the Friends of the Jones Library who donated over \$13,000 for programs free to the public and an additional \$22,000 for books and other circulating materials through their Beds for Books program and their Valentine Basket Auction. The UMass Community Health Fund has been most helpful by enabling workers to use payroll deduction to send

contributions directly to The Jones. The Xeric Foundation contributed \$5,000 and the Amherst Club \$1,000 to support the ESL program. The Trustees also raised \$43,600 from many individual donors.

The Jones Library, Inc. Endowment

The Endowment's balance on June 30, 2012 was \$7,051,668.56 and the Woodbury Fund totaled \$711,692.70.

Trustees

Austin Sarat, President

Christopher Hoffmann, Vice President

Tamson Ely, Clerk

Carl Erikson, Treasurer

Emily Lewis, Vice Treasurer

Michael Wolff

Karen Kowles

Jessica Lamson

Robin Levine

Judy Lincoln, Library Assistant

Lydia Lovett-Dietrich

Margot Malachowski

Elizabeth Matthews

Susan McCoy

Barbara McGlynn

Miguel Otero, Maintenance Assistant

Jill Palmer

José Paredes, Maintenance Assistant

Carolyn Platt, Head of Technical Services

Joan Pyfrom, Cataloging Assistant

Sondra Radosh, Children's Librarian

Emily Remer

Seth Rothberg, Circulation Supervisor

Janet Ryan, Reference Librarian

Lucas Schilbach

Sharon Sharry, Library Director

Lisa Slocum

Maggie Spiegel, North Amherst Librarian

Valerie Steinberg

Lace Stokes, Sunday Supervisor

Corinna Stokes

Tina Swift, Business Manager

Cathy Verts, Audiovisual Technician

Mary Weidensaul

Lynne Weintraub, ESL Coordinator

Christine White, Cataloging Technician

Dawn Winkler

Staff

Henry Allan, Computer Technician

Amy Anaya, Head of Borrower Services

Theresa Atteridge, Library Assistant

Matthew Berube, Head of Information Services

Ashley Blais

Kate Boyle, Special Collections Assistant

Silvia Brinkerhoff, Children's Library Assistant

Roxanne Brown-Boyd

Kaye Carroll, Cataloging Assistant

Laura Castano-Longey

Janice Doyama

Nancy Dubin

Tomi Eve, Children's Library Assistant

Catherine Gees

Bryan Grabigel, Receptionist

Oressa Gray-Mullen

Daquaan Hamilton

Josephine Hernandez

George Hicks, Facilities Supervisor

Emily Houk

Enoch Huang

Susan Hugus, Munson Memorial Librarian

Ralph Hurwitz, Audiovisual Assistant

Tevis Kimball, Curator of Special Collections

Special Thanks to the FRIENDS OF THE JONES LIBRARY SYSTEM!

Officers: Lucy McMurrer, President, Kathy Caputo, Treasurer, Nancy Gregg, Secretary.

Board Members: Edith Byron, Jim Ellis, Mike Giles, Ellen Goodwin, George Goodwin, Michael Greenebaum, Patricia Hare, Bonnie Isman, Jean Jeffries, Lewis Mainzer, Dorothy Morse, Mary Elizabeth Sitze, Christine Stevens, Bonnie Vigeland, Connie Wogrin, Angela Mills (Valentine Baskets), and Sandra Mullin (Beds for Books).

FY 2012 at a Glance

FY12 Library Checkouts	
Books	301,755
Newspapers & Magazines	11,615
Audio & Visual Items	182,141
Electronic & Other Materials	5,514

Cataloged Collections Available June 30, 2012	
Books	207,842
Audio & Visual Items	26,868
Electronic & Other Materials	14,542

Amherst residents with C/W MARS library cards	20,315
Interlibrary Loans received from other libraries	42,664
Interlibrary Loans provided to other libraries	28,670
Attendance	304,058
Number of reference transactions	32,264
Number of weekly users of Internet computers	1,000
Number of children's programs	116
Attendance at children's programs	4,434
Number of young adult programs	8
Attendance at young adult programs	113
Number of adult programs	900
Attendance at adult programs	5,000
Number of hours volunteered in Library system	18,700

The Jones Library, Inc.

43 Amity Street

Amherst, MA 01002

www.JonesLibrary.org

For full statistical reports: <http://mblc.state.ma.us/advisory/statistics/>