This year our annual appeal letter was sent out in August 2017. Your support through this letter has been very positive. We need everyone to know that your financial support helps keep a library in our community.
With your help we are able to provide computers and internet access for those among us who do not have this at home. We provide books and digital materials, a gathering place and an information center in our community, homework help, early literacy programs, informational programs for adults, access to our catalog with the materials of 33 libraries, copy and fax capability, DVDs, a place for AARP tax services, used books at low prices, school library services for homeschoolers and more. Thank you!

 Gifts were given to the library in memory of:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Austin, Clayton | Mill, Margie Karpel |
| Babcock, Emery and Genevieve | Montesano, Frances |
| Bixby, Phil | Moore, Joyce |
| Bousa, Vincent | Parker, Robert Jr. |
| Chura, Patricia | Poch, Mary T. |
| Cruty, Irene | Roth, Doris |
| Dowling, Mary | Shultz, Violet |
| Gavin, Mary | Slyman, Peter and Patricia |
| Gildea, Thelma | Steenberg, Jack |
| Jones, John | Stevens, Dorothy |
| Lewis, Marie | Weiskopff, Eric |
|  |  |
|  |  |

A gift in honor of their grandchildren by Jack and Rhea Klapprodt; DJ, Jessica and Kristy Scordino; Debra Parker; Frank Hierlwimmer; Tiffany Spearman; Morgan, Avery and Cole Townsend.

Apalachin Library Association

2017 Annual Report

719 Main Street / PO Box 163
Apalachin, NY 13732
607-625-3333
alibrary1@stny.rr.com
www.apalachinlibrary.org

Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

10am-8pm

Friday and Saturday

10am-2pm

Board of Trustees:

John Deopuria, President
Tony Poole, Treasurer
Judy Blanding, Secretary
Rick Stilson, Secretary Library Director, Cathy Sorber
Niccole Vaughn Library Assistants:
Mindi Townsend Kathryn Woodward
Fred Strauss Amy Labosky
 Debra Burke
 Wendy Decker

A member Library of the Finger Lakes Library System

**Highlights of 2017**

**Board and Director Accomplishments and Projects**
The big project this year is the addition of a new room. Gow Construction added an approximately 20 x 60 foot room. The construction began at the end of June and was finished in November. The project consisted of an additional bathroom, new flooring in the lobby and old bathroom, new carpeting throughout the library, new shelving for the new room, a new, larger service area, an air conditioning unit and more small items. Cathy Sorber wrote a NY State Construction Grant. NY State has a grant for libraries where the State will match 50%. Our grant application was approved by the Finger Lakes Board.
In addition to the new room, a new propane heating system was added thanks to a grant from the MF Truman Foundation.
This year the Board purchased a new Chromebox to replace and update our IPAC computer.

**Library Programming and Services:**

Book discussion groups: We had three books groups this year meeting monthly. Two groups discussed general fiction and one discussed mysteries.
Summer Reading: The NYS theme last summer was “Build A Better World. Our library held twice weekly preschool programs around this theme. We also offered our Reader’s Club, Four Family Night programs on Thursdays in July, an American Girl program, Crafts for a Cause and Teen Trivia, and our adult summer reading program. This summer reading program was funded by the Town of Owego and the Books Program.
Early Literacy: (Story hour) programs were held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings most weeks of the year. The programs work on the six early literacy skills incorporating reading, crafts, songs, finger plays and American Sign Language.
Knitting Lessons: Many people are taking advantage of our knitting classes. Unfortunately we need more instructors. We will be looking for more help since this seems to be so large and popular. This year our group knitted scarves for anyone who is cold and needs one.
Adult programming: This year programs included: container gardening, cutting gardens, holiday crafts, jam and jelly making, canning food and a program about hunger.
This year we are offering Hoopla and RB Digital through the FLLS system.
Children’s special programming:
Besides our early literacy programs and summer reading we offer Reading Buddies all year to help children practice reading.
We also had our tea party for young ladies, an American Girl program, a pajama story hour, Clifford’s Birthday Party, Mother/Daughter tea, a Halloween Party, a daddy and me at the library program, and a monthly LEGO program.
 **Grants:** Every year the library director applies for several operating grants to support programming and the needs of the community. The following grants were awarded in 2017:
 BOOKS grant: $4000 for children’s programming and $2000 for books.
 Floyd Hooker grant: $3000 for books and materials.
 $20,000 for building the new room.
 The Truman Foundation granted us $14,000 for a new heating system.
 Tioga County Senior Citizens granted us $500 for books on CD.

**Friends of the Library:** Our Friends group had another successful year. They had a dinner at the Ransom Steele, a chicken bbq in August, a Barnes and Noble book fair and gift wrapping day in December and of course, the Book Barn. We thank President, John Fallon, for his leadership this year.