

**George F. Johnson  
Memorial Library**

**2008  
Annual Report**



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**George F. Johnson Memorial  
Library  
1001 Park St.  
Endicott, NY 13760**

**607 757-5350  
[www.gfjlibrary.org](http://www.gfjlibrary.org)**

## Highlight of Activities from our 93rd Year of Service to the Community

- Added interactive SmartBoard to meeting room through a grant from Community Foundation for South Central New York.
- Added five new public computing stations through a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and a bequest from the Dearie family.
- Added die-cut machine to enhance programs & crafts through a grant from Community Foundation for South Central New York.
- Applied for NYS grants for climate control & handicap access.
- Children's Reading Clubs formed.
- B.A.R.K-9. program begins—children reading to therapy dogs.
- Added 6,778, new books, 407 music CD's, 501 DVD's, 312 audio books – all collections remain among the largest of the 43 Four County System member libraries.
- Dedicated children's room in memory of Eleanor Henricks.
- Won funding vote increase and court challenge to library funding.
- 2,048 new patrons registered. Highest total since 1992.
- Highest circulation total since 2001.
- 26,423 public Internet sessions – Library record.
- 125,000-plus patron visits.
- Huge increase in meeting room use.
- Free tax prep program saves participants approximately \$50,000.
- Doubled number of story time programs
- Free Doug Jackson jazz concert
- Friends Book Sales relocated to larger basement facility

## Service Measurements:

- Days open: 298
- Circulation: 197,023 (increased 4.5%)
- Reference questions: 13,359 (increased 15.5%)
- In-house reserve requests: 4,302 (minor increase)
- Interlibrary loans received: 8,137 (increased 12.2%)
- Interlibrary loans provided: 7,419 (decreased 7.7%)
- Registered borrowers: 25,063 (increased 11% - 2nd largest total in Four County System)
- Programs: 221 (increased 22%)
- Program attendance: 5,990 (increased 17.9%)
- Internet usage: 26,423 (increased 2.2%)
- Public fax transmissions: 580 (increased 22.6%)
- Group meetings: 319 (increased 75.3%)
- Free tax returns prepared by volunteers: 498 (increased 42%)



This year's quilt raffle took in over \$200.00 for the youth services dept. The winner was Henry Nussbaum. Thanks to Carol Bunnell for donating this beautiful quilt.



## Financial Report

### 2008 Receipts:

Union library district:	\$680,075
Broome County:	138,088
Fines/Fees etc.:	32,266
Grants & NYS aid:	37,755
Interest on deposits:	13,471
Gifts & Donations:	3,328
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>\$904,983</b>

### 2008 Expenditures:

Salaries & benefits (current staff):	\$499,525
Print material:	105,848
Health insurance (retired):	32,988
Automation:	36,400
Building operations & maintenance:	28,374
Building improvements:	73,510
Audiovisual material:	28,768
Equipment/furniture:	18,465
Office supplies:	9,860
Publicity:	10,972
Liability Insurance:	8,842
Programming:	2,069
Travel/:	271
Miscellaneous:	726
Postage:	1,522
Contracted services:	38,754
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$896,894</b>



## From the Director:

2008 was certainly a challenging year, marked by the worst economic crisis in most of our lifetimes. The severity of this event has proven an adage very familiar to library professionals: "the use of libraries increases as the economy deteriorates."

The reasons for this are numerous. People with less disposable income visit libraries to borrow books and other materials rather than buying them. Others attend free programs as a way to stretch their entertainment dollars. Many use library computers to conduct job searches, write resumes, and further their education.

Whatever the reasons, the pattern holds true here at GFJ Memorial. We now have more than 25,000 registered borrowers, second highest total among the 43 libraries in the Four County System. That's an increase of eleven percent from 2007. Visits to our library now run about 125,000 per year, and output measures in all areas continue to increase.

Many libraries nationwide have faced severe funding cuts despite this increased usage. Our library has been able to maintain and expand services during these trying times due to successful funding votes in 2004 and again in 2008. Everyone associated with GFJ Memorial recognizes the trust and confidence that has been placed in us. We are dedicated to providing the best library service possible as we all navigate these troubled economic waters. We do so while recognizing that the value of a public library increases during difficult times. We are confident that our community, and our nation, will weather this storm, and we are pleased to play our small part. George F. wouldn't have it any other way.

*Ed Dunscombe*  
*Director*



**Eleanor Henricks  
Children's Room  
dedicated**

**B.A.R.K.-9  
therapy dogs  
in costume for  
Halloween**



**Sylvia & the  
Magic Trunk  
delights a big  
crowd**

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**Library Hours:  
Monday—Thursday 9-9  
Friday-Saturday 9-5  
Closed Saturdays July & August**

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