

Update

News from the Claverack Free Library

Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Library Sets All Kinds of Records

In October, the Library's book festival surpassed recent fall sales with a profit of nearly \$5,000. Hundreds of people happily purchased good used books and enjoyed hot soups and fresh baked goods at this very popular community event. For the first time, a preview reception was held on Friday night and proved a success. The number of books donated was unprecedented, making for a stronger sale while presenting a challenge to find a responsible place for the remainders. Thanks to our volunteers, these books were donated to Columbia County Habitat for Humanity's recycling partner GreenFiber and will be turned into insulation for their building projects, and to the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack's recycling fundraiser.

It's imperative that the Library holds several successful fundraising events each year because Town of Claverack taxes pay for less than half of the annual operating budget. The fall book sale, combined with May's event, helps to close this funding gap by raising nearly 10 percent of the annual budget. The remaining funding is donated by individuals, local businesses, and foundations who believe in the importance of the Library's mission to provide free access to information and serve as a warm and welcoming center of the community.

These book sales cannot succeed without the support of the Library's friends who give in many ways: they donate books, sort them, bake, contribute to the luncheon, knit and quilt for the raffle, set up and clean up, and work during the events.

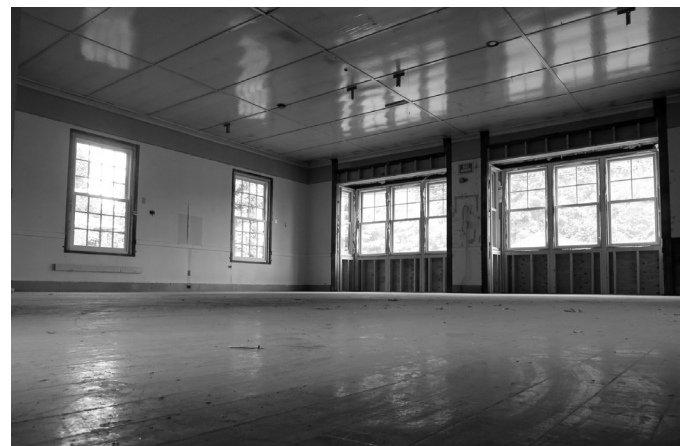
Two community workshops were conducted last spring, with a follow-up written survey available for those unable to attend. Opinions were solicited from Library users and non-users alike about what the Library does well and what can be improved. Many good suggestions resulted and the trustees and staff are currently at work to implement them.

The children's summer reading program was a big hit in 2014, attracting 51 reading club participants who read a total of 1,008 books over 22 program days. Overall attendance topped 500. Adult programs, too, continue to pack the small Library and will expand when there is more space to hold them in the new building.

As for the new Library, work continues with the installation of the elevator. Plans are being laid for future phases of improvements and the trustees are working to raise the necessary funding. Visit the New Building tab on the Library's website — www.claveracklibrary.org — for progress updates and to contribute. Every donation helps assure that more records will be set as your Library better serves the community.



The Claverack Library filled to capacity with children at a successful program this summer.



Imagine the new Library's bright children's room alive with children reading and learning!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Following the season-opening October presentation on fair trade presented by Liva Jacoby and Mayan Hands, an Albany-based organization that sells the work of traditional Mayan weavers from Guatemala, the Claverack Free Library continues its Sunday salons with an occasional series titled “**Secrets of Everyday Life.**” These programs will explore the inner workings of familiar machines and institutions.

On **November 9**, Claverack resident, teacher, and ace auto mechanic Michael Brandon presents “*Automotive 101: What’s Under the Hood and How to Keep it Working Forever (Almost).*”

Our **December 7** guest is Claverack Postmistress Kelly O’Dell and colleagues, who will answer questions about how the *U.S. Postal Service* is funded, who selects the designs of stamps, how mail is sorted, and other mysteries.

Save your finance questions for **January 25, 2015**, when Susan Roberts, Library trustee and assistant professor of accounting and business at Columbia-Greene Community College, and Martha Keeler, Vice President and Director of Marketing of the Bank of Greene County, will present “*Banking, Bitcoins, and Beyond.*”

On **February 22**, we move eastward on Route 23 to go “*Inside the A.B. Shaw Fire Company.*” We’ll get close-up views of those trucks, learn the history of the fire company, how fire fighters are trained, and how the fire company is organized and funded.

On **April 12**, Claverack resident John Lee shares his knowledge of “*The History of the Claverack Free Library and Reading Room.*” Our beloved Library has some very interesting origins.

Future monthly programs may explore the workings of the Internet, the structure of local government, and other facets of everyday life. Do you have questions about activities of daily living? Send your programing ideas to Vicki Rosenwald via info@claveracklibrary.org.

Unless specified, all programs take place at the Claverack Library at 629 Route 23B, at the intersection of 9H, on **Sundays from 3 to 5 p.m.** Each program includes a presentation followed by questions and refreshments.

~VICKI ROSENWALD

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Pre-school and Toddler Story Hour

Join us on **Friday mornings** at 10 a.m. for **Story Hour.** We’ll read stories, sing songs, play games, and create crafts all centered on a weekly theme. The earlier children are exposed to books and reading, the more likely they will grow up to enjoy books and reading. Start your child’s library adventures with us on Fridays!

Rainbow Loom and Craft Club

On the first Saturday of the month at 8:45 a.m., children ages 8 and up, are welcome to join us for **Rainbow Loom Crafting.** We’ll supply bands and we have extra looms for those who want to give it a try. We’ll explore a new loom craft and together create some fun projects. Students are welcome to share what they’d want to work on in the future. It’s a way to meet others who enjoy a similar hobby and make new friends.

MARK THE DATES:

11/1, 12/6, 1/3, 2/7, and 3/7.

Library After Hours!

Youth ages 12 and up are invited to use the Library from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, starting in December. There will be food, fun, books, movies, games and special guests to answer questions about their areas of expertise.

We’ll have informal information sessions with bloggers, Geocaching enthusiasts, local authors and illustrators and more. Teens who meet on these Fridays can share what they’d like to have more information about or what books they are interested in. Come to the Library for food, books, Internet access and more!

MARK THE DATES:

12/5, 1/2, 2/6, 3/6, and 4/3.

~THEA SCHOEP

LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

What's In a (Middle) Name?

Dear Claverack Community,

Have you ever wondered about the name of our Library, Claverack Free Library? And thought about what exactly that means? I spent 30 years commuting from Claverack to Kingston and the 45-50 minute commute each way was long. Audio books were my survival tool, the ride flew by as I got involved in different characters each way and learned new and exciting material. My Mom moved to Claverack when she could no longer drive. Her long days became very short and Library Day was thrilling each week as she chose new books; she was reading 4-5 per week. She is now in Pine Haven needing large print books and again the Library came to the rescue when each week Sally makes sure she has a supply of reading material.

From audio books to magazines to computers the Claverack Free Library has it all and provides it FREE of charge to our community. The Library is one of the finest examples of our tax dollars at work. Provided at no additional cost to our patrons are all the services from the Library. Six computers with Wi-Fi access are available free of charge when the library is open. Wi-Fi is also available even when the Library is closed. Park your car or sit at our picnic table and take advantage of FREE Internet use, 24/7. Our Library is small but we have at our disposal the entire collection through the Mid-Hudson Library System. FREE to all Library Members is the ability to borrow any book, movie, television show, or magazine. All you need to do is stop in the Library to see Sally or Thea, call the Library, or go online to reserve your copy of the latest best sellers and the weekly loans are FREE.

FREE is our middle name and the Board of Trustees is proud of all the services we are able to provide. Go online at www.claveracklibrary.org to access all the ways to utilize Library services. Every month there are children's programs, workshops for families and adults, and artistic programs.

Work continues on our new building. Support us by using the Library, using the services, and financially. Check out our website to see all the ways you can donate to the Library. But remember, tax money pays for less than half our budget and all services we provide are FREE.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Jane S. Case

COMING UP:**Broad Street Chamber
Players Concert
*to Benefit the
New Library*****January 24, 2015**

HOME OF
Lisa Vahradian and John Tillotson,
Claverack

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NOTES FROM THE Director's Chair

From where I sit, things are progressing nicely next door at the new library. Soon our collection of adult and children's books, DVD's and Books on CD will be housed in style. I hope you are as excited as I am.

We have a new free publication called **Book Page**. This monthly magazine has announcements of recently published books.

Please continue to visit us for your latest DVD's, Books on CD, and adult and children's books.

~SALLY ALDERDICE

Thank You Notes:

We are grateful to the following friends, volunteers, and supporting organizations:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Gary Arcuri | Kennedy Tranchita |
| Pam Banks | Anneke Vosburgh |
| Martin Baumgold | Roland Vosburgh |
| Cantele Tent Rentals | Maxine Williams |
| Roger Case | Allan Wirth |
| Columbia Tent | Bank of Greene County |
| Elizabeth Davis | Children's Foundation |
| Joan DeKimpe | Hudson River Bank & |
| David Baylen | Trust Company Foundation |
| Barbara Ellsworth | IBM |
| Tobi Farley | Kinderhook Bank |
| Cheryl Halleran | Stewart's Shops |
| Serena Hoffman | United Way of Columbia |
| Peter Larmour | and Greene Counties |
| John Lee | Thanks to all who supported our |
| Kathleen Montross | successful Midsummer Eve's Silent |
| Julie Nack | Auction, particularly to event hosts |
| Kitty Osterhoudt | Scott Fuchs and Tom Detwiler. |
| Chris Post | |
| Virginia Strull | |

**We have updated the Library's website –
www.claveracklibrary.org.**

Log on to order books and electronic materials through the 62-member Mid-Hudson Library System. The materials will be delivered within days to our Library and you'll get an email or a phone call to let you know to pick them up. You also can check our calendar for coming events and keep an eye on progress at the new Claverack Free Library. You can even make an online donation to support the library's operating budget or new building fund.

the Claverack Free Library

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Claverack Free Library
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 518-851-7120
 email: info@claveracklibrary.org
www.claveracklibrary.org

All contributions are tax deductible.

HOURS:

- Monday: 1PM-8PM
 Tuesday: 10AM-2PM
 Wednesday: 1PM-8PM
 Thursday: Closed
 Friday: 10AM-5PM
 Saturday: 10AM-2PM

Please join our email list to learn of all the exciting services and programs we offer. Email info@claveracklibrary.org to sign on.