

Mynderse Library
Seneca Falls, NY

By Ann Cramer, Editor

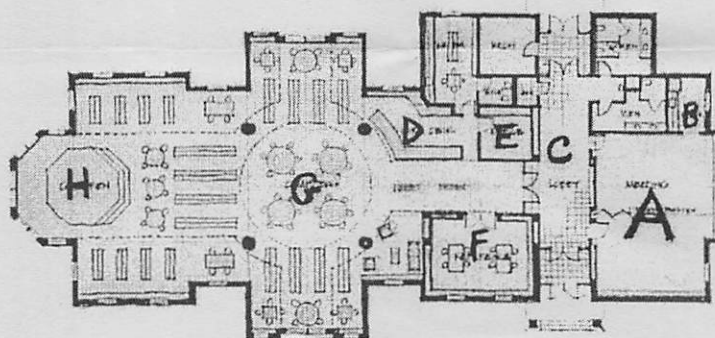
Fall 2000

NEW LIBRARY'S FLOOR PLAN IS COMMUNITY ORIENTED

The preliminary floor plan for the new library has been drawn up by Architect Larry Liberatore of Beardsley Design Associates to enable Mynderse Library to keep its traditional role in the community while adapting to any future needs of our patrons of all ages. As the new building will be in the heart of the Historic District, it is designed to fit in with the neighborhood. It will be equally accessible by car or on foot, with lots of parking space and one entrance from the sidewalk and another from the parking lot. The one story design allows for complete handicapped accessibility.

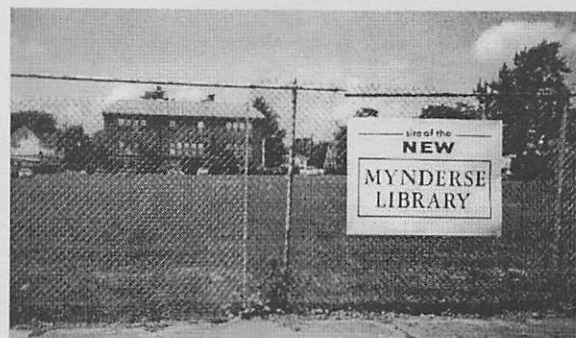
Among the highlights of the plan are: A central lobby dividing the public meeting areas from the library proper, (enabling use of the meeting room, kitchen and public restrooms when the rest of the library is closed), a large Computer Area, an inviting Children's Area with a stage for programs and "kid-sized" shelving and furniture, reading areas, adequate staff work space, and a quiet Reference Room.

- A = Public meeting room
(Can be partitioned for smaller groups)
- B = Kitchen
- C = Lobby with display cases
- D = Circulation Desk
- E = Staff office
- F = Reference Room
- G = Computer Area
- H = Children's Area



HELP WANTED

As an Association public library, Mynderse Library does not have a direct tax base, and therefore will soon begin a capital fund drive to raise the money for construction of our new library building. This will require a major effort in the community, and we urge anyone who would like to help in this fund drive to contact either Sam Dickieson, President of the Board of Trustees or Bob Kernan, Chairman of the Fund-raising Committee.



PATRON PROFILE

Mynderse Library has approximately 3,876 Patrons. Of these, 1,279 (33%) are children. 2,597 (67%) are adults, with senior citizens making up over 50% of the adult Patrons.

IS 18% A PASSING GRADE?

Although Mynderse Library is an Association Library with no tax base, it really operates as a public library as everyone can use it free of charge.

The library has many different funding sources, but each source supplies only a small part of the money necessary to run a library. One of these sources and an important one is Association memberships. Though 1704 households use Mynderse Library, only 332 (18%) of those are Association members.

With the rising costs of books and materials, and with the beginning of our major capital campaign, we need more library users to become new Association members. IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER of the Library Association, please consider joining at this time. As well as receiving this library newsletter four times a year, you will have the satisfaction of helping your library keep pace with the information needs of all our citizens from infants to seniors. Please contact Librarian Michael Caraher (568-8265) for more details and an application. Thank you.

TOP 10 WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY

(Adapted, with thanks, from FLLS News of September 2000, the newsletter of the Finger Lakes Library System).

1. Use your library.
2. Take your kids or grandkids to the library.
3. Give an annual monetary donation to your library by joining the Mynderse Library Association if you haven't already done so.
4. Tell or write your legislators about your use of the library and its real need of state and federal funding.

5. Give a book to your library in memory of a friend or relative.
6. Donate to the Mynderse Library Building Fund.
7. Attend a program at your library.
8. Help sponsor an author or artist for a library program.
9. Donate some good books (new or in good condition) to Mynderse Library either for its collection or for the Ongoing Used Book Sale.
10. Join Myndwich, an informal "Friends of the Library" group that discusses books, ideas and current events every Wednesday at noon in the library basement and also runs the Used Book Sale.

A HEARTY THANK YOU TO EAGLE SCOUT JOHN GADZIALA, JR.

While a senior at Mynderse Academy, John Gadziala spent many weeks last fall and winter cleaning out and organizing the basement storage closet at Mynderse Library for his Eagle Scout project. Among the many "treasures" he discovered and took to the dump were pile after pile of flood damaged books, ancient paint cans and bags of fertilizer, and broken furniture. A freshman at SUNY Albany, John plans to study history and archeology, so his experiences in unearthing the relics stored in the library closet should stand him in good stead when he digs for ancient ruins! Many thanks, John.

AND A FOND FAREWELL TO DIANE NEAL

Library Clerk Diane Neal has accepted a full time job at Mynderse Academy with higher salary and with benefits. Though she manned the Circulation Desk only from last February to June her enthusiasm and love of people and books will be missed by all, and we wish her the best in her new employment.

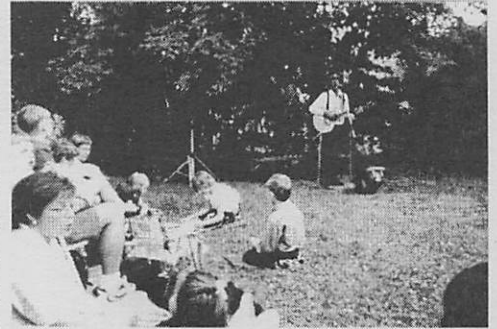
SUMMER 2000 CHILDREN'S READING PROGRAM SURPASSES ALL PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE RECORDS



Puppets With Pizazz!

Children's Librarian Jan Caraccilo's Summer 2000 Reading Program drew 587 participants to Mynderse Library, up from 405 the summer before. Meeting weekly during July and August, Mother Goose Time for ages 2 - 5 and two Summer Reading Clubs for grades K - 2 and 3 - 6 featured reading and many related activities. Many children took out library cards and became patrons for the first time. Highlights of the sessions were three special programs;

"Puppets With Pizazz" with an audience of 74, Ken Hynson's return visit to 80 fans for another "Sing Along The Canal", and "Mike the Clown's Magic Show" for an audience of 78. (As a comparison, the previous summer's special programs only drew 58, 71, and 27). As the current seating capacity is so small and the basement ceiling height is too low for puppet stages, all three events were moved to the library lawn. Luckily, it didn't rain on the large and enthusiastic crowds.



Sing Along the Canal



Audience participation in "Mike, the Clown's Magic Show"



EDITOR'S CHOICE FROM THE NEW ADULT MEMORIAL AND NON FICTION SHELVES



Don't miss Isaac's Storm: A Man, A Time, And The Deadliest Hurricane In History by Erik Larson. Set in 1900 at the dawn of the 20th century, when a great confidence ruled America and when the city of Galveston looked forward to becoming the New York City of the Gulf, Isaac's Storm depicts both the overconfident and overbearing scientists of the new U.S. Weather Bureau and the inexorable history of one hurricane. Dismissed by Isaac Cline, head of Galveston's Weather Bureau office as "an absurd delusion", this hurricane killed between 6,000 - 10,000 people (far more than the San Francisco Earthquake and the Johnstown Flood combined), and is our greatest natural disaster ever. Both well documented and a riveting and poignant page turner, Isaac's Storm is a timely warning for the new millennium of what can happen when human arrogance meets the forces of nature.

On a much lighter note but still in factual mode is the Memorial Book Owls Aren't Wise And Bats Aren't Blind: A Naturalist Debunks Our Favorite Fallacies About Wildlife by Warner Shedd. Possums don't "play dead", squirrels don't remember where they buried nuts, and wolves don't howl at the moon. Whether writing about familiar wildlife such as raccoons and toads or the more exotic brown bears, coyotes, ravens, and bobcats, Shedd, a National Wildlife Federation executive, gives the reader an informed and appreciative view of North American wildlife and the necessity for its conservation.

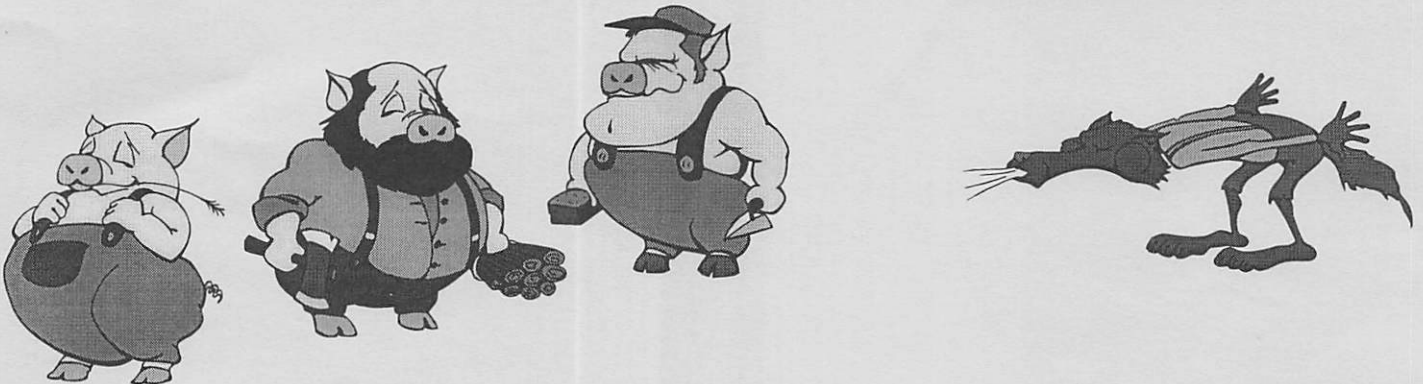
And while not really a new book, The Real James Herriott: A Memoir of My Father by Jim Wight is a warm and insightful look at the internationally beloved veterinarian who always put his family and his practice above money and fame. An inspiring and heartwarming biography of the vet who was in real life Alf Wight, the book shines with the medical skill and kindness to both animals and people that was the hallmark of "James Herriott", no matter how many bestsellers he wrote.



Mynderse Library, 31 Fall St., Seneca Falls, N.Y. 13148

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REGISTER NOW FOR THE FALL MOTHER GOOSE SESSIONS



This fall's Mother Goose Time for ages 2 - 5 will be held every Tuesday morning in October at 10 a.m. As the last Tuesday falls on October 31st, a special Halloween program is planned by Mrs. Caraccilo for that day. Please call Mynderse Library (568-8265) during library hours to register your child or grandchild or for further details.