

Group Discussion with Invited Guests of the Etna Library
October 10, 1984

Guests present were: Eva Coutermarsh, Susan Salembiers, Edgar Mead Pat Schumacher, Peter Lihatsh, Francis Bashnagel, Nancy Cole, Priscilla Eusden, Mary Keller and Bob Kirk.

Trustees present were: Carol Ahern, Ann Cioffi, and Betty Smith.

Ann Cioffi introduced the trustees and gave a brief discussion on how the library operates. Ann read from the hand-out that will be given to the welcome wagon for incoming residents.

The library serves young children and their mothers. How are we to serve young adults and adults? Several suggestions were made and discussed.

1. Bob Kirk suggested that we survey ages of people using the library.
2. Pat Schumacher suggested that group needs were not appropriate for this library, because of the busy community. That we should deal with needs on a 1:1 basis. i.e. Book lists from the Hanover Public School to be posted in the library; could outlining school districts use our facility periodically?
3. That we set-up training seminar on the use of the computer. Making the computer user compatible for adults in particular, by having directions on-hand for immediate use. Also, to buy software for adult use.
4. Craft demonstrations like the "Egg Painting" held last year.
5. Talks of local interests. i.e. People from the historical society.
6. Book discussions. It was suggested that if we do have book discussions to alternate chairmanship. (rotate among members) Individuals that might be interested in book discussions: Dr. Hoefnagel, Illa Douple, Peter Lihatsh, Hazel Weed, Betty Smith, Edgar Mead, and Bob Kirk.

Also, suggested during this discussion was a "lender's library" of best sellers, by Susan Salembiers. It was thought that this would not work well for this library.

7. Hours. Are they sufficient? The overall consensus was "NO". It was felt that we could add hours by using volunteers. Several people at the meeting were willing to volunteer one day per month for two hours. They were: Priscilla Eusden, Peter Lihatsh, Eva Coutermarsh and Fran Bashnagel.

If I forgot anyone please contact me, Carol Ahern, 643 - 3743.

8. How are we to make the public aware of upcoming events and our normal every day use?

a. Use the Valley News. Pricilla Eusden suggested to use the last page of the first section to advertise once a month. i.e. best sellers, new adult talking books.

b. Peter Lihatsch suggested that we advertise in the Etna Baptist News Letter.

c. Mailings 2 - 3 times per year.

d. Mary Keller also suggested we follow-up mailings with a telephone team.

e. Nancy Cole suggested we post things on the Co-op bulletin board.

f. An immediate and more direct manner for publicizing the Etna Library would be through the 100th Anniversary of Etna being named Etna, October 10, 1884. Edgar suggested several ways of promoting the Village's anniversary was to incorporate the library's 80th anniversary.

1. Make more tapes of some of the local residents of Etna.
2. Put together a written booklet to sell.
3. Plaque made and displayed at the library commemorating the 100th anniversary of Etna.
4. Have a banner made and displayed in Etna.
5. In order to do some of the above we would need fund raising events. i.e. Mailing to 200 Etna residents and asking for a donation.
6. To have Open House at the library with pictures and displays of times past along with Jean Kemeny autographing her new book. This event will need to be heavily advertised.

To conclude, in order to do all of the above we not only need trustees but a "Friends of the Etna Library" to head-up the following: volunteers, cataloging and to increase use of the library facilities.

In the meantime the trustees are to establish a role for the library and a count of individuals using the library.

A special thanks to all of you who attended. An extra special thanks to Peter Lihatsch who donated a framed calligraphy quote to the library.

We all appreciate your time and effort last Wednesday night.