

## **Library Board**

There are seven members of the Library Board of Trustees, including a member of the Township Council and a representative designated by the Superintendent of Schools. All serve without compensation. The trustees are appointed by the Township Council for five-year, overlapping terms. The Board sets library policy and selects the library director. It is an autonomous body, with direct responsibility for all library activities.

## **Staff**

There are currently four professional librarians on the staff: a Director, a Cataloger, a Reference Librarian and a Children's Librarian; six full-time assistants including a secretary and a custodian; ten part-time assistants and ten library pages.

## **Finances**

Since the library is municipally funded, about 89 percent of the yearly operating budget is provided by the Township; in 1979 the library's operating budget was \$215,619. Of this amount, \$24,884 was provided as State Aid under a state program which is based upon the amount provided by the Township and the Current population figures for Scotch Plains. Special gifts to the library are administered by the Board of Trustees.

## **Membership and Services**

Free library cards are available to any resident, property owner, or non-resident employed in Scotch Plains. Hours are 9 A.M. - 9 P.M. Monday - Thursday, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Friday - Saturday, and summer hours as posted. Through a reciprocal agreement with the Fanwood library, students from primary grades through high school may share library facilities. Children may obtain a library card at the age of three.

Approximately 17,000 people hold free library cards and an additional 350 non-residents pay as follows: adults, \$10.00 per year; secondary school students, \$4.00 per year; and primary school students, \$2.00 per year.

Currently the library collection contains 73,290 volumes. The capacity of the library shelves is about 80,000 volumes. Annual circulation of books is 149,120 at present, 98,453 of which is adult and 50,667 is children's books.

Programs geared for children include a Story Hour for pre-schoolers in six-week seasonal sessions, a Summer Reading Program for Grades 2 through 7, and continuous library orientation of school children throughout the year. During July and August, in cooperation with the Recreation Department's playground program, children are allowed to borrow books directly on playground sites three days a week. There are also Arts and Crafts programs, and films geared especially for children during the course of the year.

The adult department sponsors art exhibits, community interest workshops, lectures and demonstrations, and occasional films.

## **Special Services**

Available to library members are the following equipment and special services:

1. New Jersey Room with New Jersey historical materials, both reference and circulation.
2. Large photocopier which reproduces flat and book copy at a nominal charge.
3. Meeting room which accommodates civic groups, capacity of about ninety. Telephone reservations are required.
4. Renewal of regular books by telephone.
5. Over five hundred long-playing records.
6. Subscriptions to 160 periodicals (magazines) plus six newspapers.
7. Microfilm of the NEW YORK TIMES from 1963 and a microfilm reader.