



# Beekman Library

## 2009 Annual Report

*Growing with you*

### Grow Your Mind

The Beekman Library is just the place to learn something new, and not just in the traditional ways. We checked out 61,000 books in 2009, but we also provided wonderful programs for adults. Over the past year Beekman residents enjoyed concerts, computer classes, book clubs, yoga, and knitting. We also provide informational programs on diverse topics such as Chinese cooking, retirement planning, college selection, and organizational skills among others.



The "Hudson River Ramblers" celebrate the Quadricentennial on the lawn of the library. July 2009

- 2009 Attendance at Programs for Adults: 2006.

To check out our programs for 2010 go to the calendar on our website at [www.beekmanlibrary.org](http://www.beekmanlibrary.org).



Computer classes at the library.

### What we're hearing...

"I love my library just the way it is. The best delight is I'm a name, not a number. When I present my card, you folks always know and acknowledge my name. In Westchester, I was just a number. Kudos to the Beekman Library, and everyone that makes it so wonderful."

Louise, Beekman Patron via online survey

The Beekman Library has "wonderful programs and a truly dedicated staff. Keep up the great work! You are providing an important service for the Town of Beekman."

Beekman Patron via online survey

### Grow a Reader

The Beekman Library is the door to literacy for hundreds of children in our community. The enjoyment of books, the importance of positive interactions between young children and adults, and the critical role of "literacy-rich" experiences are priorities at our library as we want to do our part to prepare children for a literate life in school and beyond.

We now offer story times for children ages 1-5, with the addition of our Tiny Tots program for children 1-2 years of age. In 2009 we also started "Beekman Families Read" a grant project funded by Target stores. This program focuses on early literacy information and enjoyment for families.



"Children whose parents read to them become better readers and perform better in school. Other family activities, such as telling stories and singing songs, also encourage children's acquisition of literacy skills."

Source: *Every Child Ready to Read*, the joint project of the Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children

- The library sponsored 227 story time sessions in 2009 with 2553 in attendance.
- Summer Reading Program: Children registered to read 490



Summer reading at its best!

"The Children's programs are wonderful. My kids enjoy the Lego building."

Beekman Patron via online survey

## Growing Teen Involvement

Our well- attended Reading Buddies, Summer Video Camp and Battle of the Books programs brought teens to the library in record numbers in 2009. The Reading Buddies program taps into teen interest in volunteerism by pairing teens with beginning readers in grades 1-5 for the purpose of fostering reading enjoyment and fluency. The summer video camp has been a popular program for two years running. This technology- rich program gives teens a chance to learn about film making and gain hands-on experience creating and editing videos. The Battle of the Books is a regional trivia competition that tests participants' knowledge of selected books and rewards them for being readers.



"Reading Buddies" Summer 2009

### Teens at the Library

- 503 teens attended programs at the library in 2009
- 30 Teens were part of reading buddies teams in 2009

"Reading is an important indicator of positive individual and social behavior patterns.

NEA research has shown that literary readers volunteer, attend arts and sports events, do outdoor activities, and exercise at higher rates than non-readers."

Source: NEA research brochure *Reading on the Rise*

## Fast Facts: Growing in 2009

16% Increase in items borrowed from the library since 2008 (93,349 items)

2775: number of Books, DVDs, and Audio Books added to the library collection in 2009

6% Increase in Library visits since 2008 (50,262 visits)

## Basics About the Beekman Library:

- Located at 11 Town Center Blvd. (off Clove Valley Rd.), Poughquag
- Open 40 hours a week including 3 nights and Saturdays
- We offer Books, Audiobooks, Movies & more for all ages
- **Home Delivery for homebound patrons**
- Library Services Available through our Web Site ([www.beekmanlibrary.org](http://www.beekmanlibrary.org))
  - Search the library catalog, reserve and renew items
  - Learn a new language
  - Online Practice Tests: AP, college entrance, civil service, military
  - Online Career Tools: resume writers, career information, job search
  - Downloadable Audiobooks

### *A Message from the Director:*

We've had another busy year at the library. So many of you have taken advantage of the programs we offer. We will continue to fine tune both the type of programs and the times, based on your input.

We are working hard to improve the materials selection and to insure that the items you want most are available quickly.

We are also improving our communication with you with a quarterly online newsletter and "Library News" updates on our website as needed. In 2010 we plan to start e-mailing news updates to you so you will have access to the latest information. We hope that you will visit us often in person or online to take advantage of the many services we offer.

The New Year has started with us making plans for the future of the library. Input from our patrons can insure that your library meets your needs.

Carol Rodriguez, Library Director

### *A Message from the Board President:*

2009 was another successful year for our Library. With visits, material borrowing, and program attendance all reflecting an increase from 2008, the Library continues to provide a significant return on the community's financial support.

As we move forward with our new long-range planning efforts during 2010, I ask that our patrons take the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas on how we can prepare for providing enhanced services in the years to come.

If you are already an active patron, please take the time to visit us again. If you're a new user, I encourage you to come as soon as your schedule permits. Our friendly, dedicated staff will be happy to assist you with any questions you might have, and ensure that your time spent with us is the highlight of your day.

Tom Kraft, Board President