

Wells Memorial Library  
PO Box 57, 12230 Rt. 9N  
Upper Jay, NY 12987  
Tel/Fax: (518) 946-2644  
Hours: Tu., Wed., Thur., 12 to 5; Sat. 11 to 4  
E-mail: upperjaylibrary@whiteface.net  
Web: WellsMemorialLibrary.OAFproductions.net  
Karen Rappaport, Director  
*Serving the Jay and Upper Jay Communities*

### Souper Saturdays Cancelled



In January we introduced “Souper Saturdays,” featuring a choice of 3 soups and 3 breads; they were slated to run every Saturday through March. Our objectives were to raise a

little money for the library and give people an opportunity to get out in the winter, have lunch, and socialize with friends and neighbors. Response was enthusiastic: we sold out the first 2 Saturdays and several people volunteered to help make the soups and bread. A number of people commented that this type of event is sorely needed in our small, rural community. Then we learned we needed a permit from the Department of Health. As we have no kitchen, we would have to partner with a certified kitchen and make our soups there. The regulations and restrictions, as well as the distance from a certified kitchen, made it too difficult to continue. Thanks to Jan Ward, Sylvia Norton, and Ellen Metcalf for providing and serving the lunches, those who volunteered to make soup or bread, and those who offered the use of their certified kitchens. This was a great program, enthusiastically embraced, and we regret we are unable to provide this kind of event for the community.

### Featured Volunteer

For many years Wes Krawiec has been an active volunteer at the library. He is often overlooked as he quietly helps move untold numbers of book boxes to and from the basement and up to and down from the top of the stacks. He does considerable heavy lifting for our summer sale—setting up and taking down the tents, moving boxes to and from storage, and helping set up and take down the tables. He also helps unpack and pack sale boxes, assists in putting tarps on and removing them, and takes a couple of shifts manning “the yard.” Wes generally gives a hand where it is needed, such as replacing our curtain rod with one more appropriate for the historic building. Thanks, Wes, for living close by and being accessible!



### Program News



Our year-long writers’ workshops culminated in a packed-house performance at the Recovery Lounge. Over 20 people performed poetry; songs; and excerpts from plays, a novel, and a film script. The workshops were underwritten by the library and the Arts Council of the Northern Adirondacks and were coordinated by Martha Spear. Participants were eager to continue these workshops, and Bob Segall has volun-



teered to coordinate them. Meetings are held from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the library on the third Tuesday of each month.

Our sixth annual Children’s Theater Workshop, directed by Kathy Recchia and funded by Stewart’s Holiday Match and the Arts Council of the Northern Adirondacks, performed Jookalorum in 3 different locations. The production was a tour-de-force, involving songs, dance steps, a variety of accents, and a number of difference skits. Kudos to the cast, hard-working parents, and Kathy.

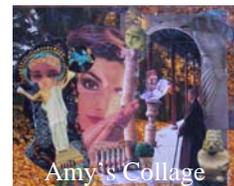


“The Big Idea” science and math program for young children is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Volunteer Carole McDowell covers a different topic each month; hands-on kits relating to each program can be checked out for home use.

The Quilter’s Group continues to meet the second Monday of the month to see participants’ projects, discuss techniques, and share problems.



Nadine McLaughlin’s photography graces our walls through the end of February. Note cards and copies of her books of poems are also on display and for sale. Amy Fennelly will exhibit her collages in March and April. Amy will have an artist reception Sunday, March 2, from 1:00-3:00.



### Library News



The 100th anniversary of the November 7, 1907, opening of the library was celebrated with an open house, raffle drawing, and prizes. Hope Stone graciously agreed to impersonate our first (and longest serving) librarian, Madella Buck. Zachary Zientko received a prize for being the first child to take out a book on November 7 (“I love piglet!,” he said) and Sandy Dupree also received a prize for being the first adult to take out a book that

day. Mary Barrie won the Sid Ward bowl and board raffle. Mark Ellis produced a commemorative envelope and special Madella cancellation stamp for this event, as well as a poster-sized print of an early Upper Jay post card (complete with covered bridge). We still have some copies for sale; check with Karen. Mark also donated several stamp books. Thanks, Mark and Hope, for helping make the celebration memorable.

Our Holiday Sale was a resounding success! We unpacked untold number of boxes of items, and more came in during the sale. Sales were brisk, and additional items were added almost daily. Thanks to Fran Driscoll, Bethany Krawiec, Kim Frank, Kay Kowanko, Yvonne Farmer, Hope Stone, Sylvia Norton, and Ellen Metcalf for assisting with the sale. Sid Ward donated a number of his masterful cutting boards for the sale. There are still a few for sale; they are displayed on the mantle. Thanks, Sid.

February is Black History Month. Stop in and see Karen's excellent displays of our relevant adult and children's books and videos. They are all available for checkout.



Speedy Arnold, who exhibited in November and December, donated a picture he had sketched of the library when he was here performing his "silly songs." Thanks, Speedy, for your gift.



Stop in to see the wonderful lighted gingerbread "fairy-tale castle," made by Jane MacKintosh and friend. The Arto Monaco Historical Society hopes you'll be inspired to make a donation for the Land of Makebelieve castle restoration. Karen is accepting the donations on behalf of the Arto Monaco Historical Society.

George Blanch repainted the stacks walls and ceiling, brightening the area considerably. Book sale shelving is greatly improved with new shelves built by George, and our storage shelves were stabilized by volunteer Jim (Jeemer) Amirault. Thanks, guys! Thanks also for "the chain gang" of Bob Segall, Martha and John Spear, Fran Driscoll, Yvonne Farmer, Wes and Bethany Krawiec, Adam Van Valkenberg, Sylvia Norton, Ellen Metcalf, Kay Kowanko, and Kim Frank—all of whom moved book boxes and other items out of the stacks, then replaced them after the room was painted.

Circle Friday, March 28, and Saturday, March 29 on your calendar. We'll be having our March Madness book sale from 11:00 until 2:00. Hard cover books will be 50 cents; paperbacks, 2 for 25 cents.

## Donations In Memory Of

Vern McDonald.  
Nancy Vincent.  
Nina Walton Boynton  
Irene & Stanley Metcalf

## Archives

Fran Driscoll and Bev Hickey have both volunteered to help put materials into archival sleeves and to identify and organize our

holdings. The Friday Group also periodically assists in this work.

Recent additions to the archives: 2 old post cards of the Wilmington Notch and one of "Torrance Hill, Upper Jay," donated by Ellen Metcalf; a number of post cards of the Land of Makebelieve, donated by John Staudacher; and an old Mill Pond photograph donated by Elisabeth Craven.

## Local Author

We have purchased a copy of Caperton Tissot's History Between the Lines: Women's Lives and Saranac Lake Customs, an oral history. Caperton will be presenting information on recording oral histories for our May Tea & Talk.

## Thank You

- Donations of books, magazines, videos, DVDs, CDs: Vicki Moore, Dick Porter, Amy Winch, Yvonne Farmer, Sylvia Norton, Nancy Haley, Marcy Wood, Bob Segall, Nan Amstutz, Mandy Giampaolo, Joe Honigmann
- Plants & Pots: Clare Orsi, Yvonne Farmer, Jan Bosland, Nancy Wright, Ruth Kuhfahl
- Beautification: Don Morrison for the electrified garland on the post; Sylvia Norton and Ellen Metcalf for the lighted window boxes
- Library Maintenance: George Blanch and Joe Honigmann for shoveling; Rosamond Lincoln Day, Carole McDowell, Yvonne Farmer, and Marilyn McDonald for cleaning and pick up; Don Morrison for energy efficient light bulb installations; Don Morrison, with assistance from Joe Kahn, for dumbwaiter repairs; Bob Segall and Bob McDowell for window repairs.

## Do You Know?

There are many ways of supporting the library beyond cash donations. We are always looking for volunteers to perform various tasks and provide food for our summer bake sale. To help the library save on supplies, you can drop off your spent ink cartridges (each of which will give us a \$3 discount). You can "adopt" an author and purchase and donate the author's new books as they are published. Children can elect to ask those coming to their birthday party to bring a new book which the birthday child will donate to the library. Or children can elect to donate a new book to the library in honor of their birthday. Bookplates will be placed in such books identifying the donor.

You can now download audio books to your home computer (high speed internet recommended). You can listen to the book you choose on your computer or you can upload it to your MP3 player (iPods are not compatible). Go to [cefls.org](http://cefls.org) click on "downloadable audio books." There is a step-by-step guide to walk you through the process. If you need assistance, check with Karen.

## Correspondence

*"Congratulations on your first 100 years. We really appreciate having you here. Keep up the good work! And our best wishes for a prosperous 2008."* Bill and Patti Dilworth.

“Please find the small donation enclosed. Please use it to continue your good work preserving an important part of Adirondack community history. P.S. Thanks for the commemorative envelope and your thoughtful message. Your newsletter is very interesting!” Terry Barber

## The State of the Library: 2007

### Summary

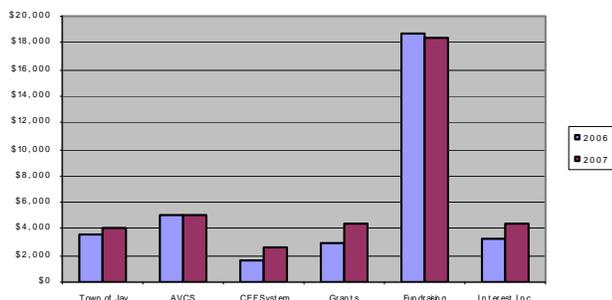
2007 was a momentous year for the library. We celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community with a number of special events, undertook a yearlong series of monthly writer’s workshops, and we expanded our artist receptions. The library became fully automated in February, resulting in a large increase in interlibrary loans. We reconstructed the front entry, replaced many of our incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient bulbs, built storage shelves, and had 3 dying trees removed. Karen Rappaport became our new library director.

### Operating Income

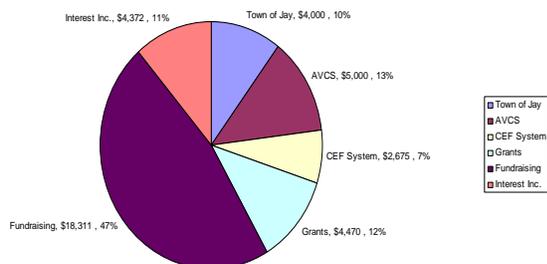
Operating income rose 11%, due to increased grant funding, an increase in Town of Jay support, and better interest rates.

Once again 70% of our operating income was generated from our fundraising efforts, grant writing, and investments.

Wells Memorial Library Operating Income 2006 & 2007



Wells Memorial Library 2007 Operating Income



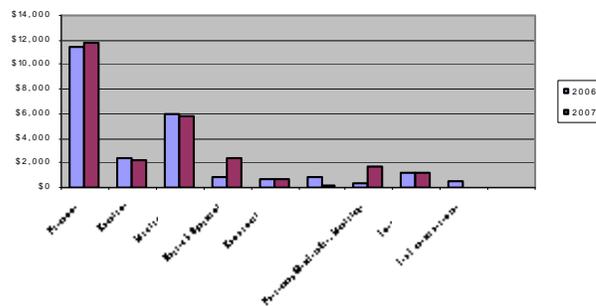
### Operating Expenses

Operating expenses rose 6%, primarily in the following areas:

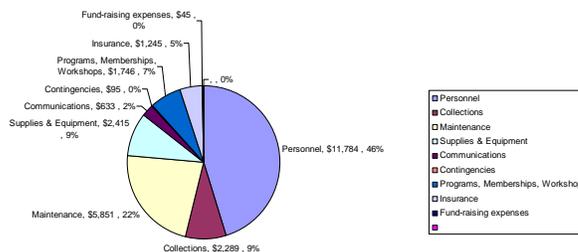
- Automation equipment
- Costs of programs
- A modest increase in personnel costs

Nearly 75% of our operating costs are associated with staffing and the library building itself. Slightly less than half our operating expenses are for staffing the library. Building costs (heat, electricity, maintenance, and insurance) are just over a quarter of operating expenses.

Wells Memorial Library 2006 & 2007 Operating Expenses



Wells Memorial Library 2007 Operating Expenses



### 2008 Outlook

New trees are planned to help re-landscape the library.

Karen will be ordering updated educational software for public use.

Our last “industrial” light in the stacks will be replaced with lights more in keeping with the historic building.

Bev Hickey plans to help us organize our archives and obtain a grant to publish a history of Upper Jay.

## Selected Recent Additions

### Juvenile Fiction and Nonfiction

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, Sherman Alexie; Flotsam, David Wiesner; The Higher Power of Lucky, Susan Patron; The Invention of Hugo Cabret, Brian Selznick

### Adult Fiction and Nonfiction

Stone Cold, David Baldacci; Book of the Dead, Patricia Cornwell; World Without End, Ken Follett; T is for Trespass, Sue Grafton; Playing for Pizza, John Grisham; Duma Key, Stephen King; A Free Life, Ha Jin; Tree of Smoke, Denis Johnson; Making Money, Terry Pratchett; Exit Ghost, Philip Roth; Bridge of Sighs, Richard Russo; Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq, Thomas Ricks; The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War, David Halberstam, The War: An Intimate History, Geoffrey Ward and Ken Burns; Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA, Tim Weiner; How Doctors Think, Jerome Groopman

### DVDs

Hairspray; Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix; High School Musical 2; Pirates of the Caribbean: at World’s End; Ratatouille; Shrek the Third

### Books on CD

Death of a Maid, M.C. Beaton; Away, Amy Bloom; Back Spin, Harlan Coben; Pontoon, Garrison Keillor; Blonde Faith, Walter Moseley



