

Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
April 20, 2018

Chris has finished moving the biographies to their own location at the end of the nonfiction with their own call number that begins with "Bio." He is also pulling books that are biographies but which had not been cataloged as such and is moving most of them to the biographies section. In addition, he and the volunteers have shifted all of the nonfiction to distribute the books more evenly in the available space. We will now need new signage for the downstairs.

The board books in the children's room are getting a lot more use now that we have launched the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program and we have decided to give the board books their own call number too, "Board Book." This will help staff and volunteers to shelve these books in the board book section rather than interfiling them with the regular children's picture books. The biographies and board book projects have required changes in our catalog as well as new spine labels and training of volunteers. Kudos to Chris for his vision for organization of the collection and for his hard work in accomplishing these tasks.

Speaking of volunteers, Chris recently held a volunteer training attended by two brand new volunteers, Harriet Fishman and Alicia Berg, as well as two current volunteers who wanted a refresher and Amanda. Chris created a PowerPoint presentation for the training and has also produced a detailed volunteer procedures manual. He also sends out a monthly newsletter to the volunteers. Chris never does anything halfway. From all accounts, the training was helpful and interesting. We are pleased to have the new volunteers.

The last Carroll County Library Coop meeting was held at our library earlier this month and we provided refreshments. I will be going to the Children's Librarians of NH spring conference in Henniker on May 17. The acronym for this group has changed from CHILIS to CLNH to keep people from mixing it up with the restaurant by the same name.

School was canceled on Monday which changes the last day of school for Freedom Elementary students for a second time. I schedule a performer on the next-to-last day of school and plan the School's Out party with bouncy house for the last day, so this affects my planning. As usual, there is much to do to prepare for our summer programs and I am knee deep in that planning.

The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program is a big success with 24 children registered, 16 of whom have turned in at least one reading log. We have received funding from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to purchase materials and books for prizes. Most of the children participating are too young for regular

paper books so we are having to buy more of the expensive board books than I had anticipated. The every-other-Thursday 1000 Books Drop In and Read program has grown and yesterday we were happily inundated with 13 little children and 9 parents – at the same time as the Fire Unicorns Book Club for grades 3 & 4 was taking place downstairs. A couple of weeks ago, the sewing machine class we held forced the Dungeons and Dragons group to meet in the workroom amidst the piles of donated books. We have moved Mah Jongg to times when the library is closed because their weekly Tuesday afternoon games put too much pressure on our parking and made it so nothing else could be scheduled downstairs on those days. We are having growing pains and yearning for more space in the library for our programs.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director