

**Librarian's Report  
Freedom Public Library  
January 25, 2018**

I heard at the last library co-op meeting that Madison received an incentive through Eversource to switch over from florescent lights to LED. I scheduled an appointment with an energy consultant who works with electric utilities. He came Wednesday and will work up the forecasted energy savings and a proposal. This will go to Eversource for approval. If approved, Eversource will pay 50% of the project. We would either pay the other 50% outright or pay it back over time by paying the usual amount of our electric bill with the savings going toward the loan (plus a 10% administrative fee.) I am excited by the prospect of this project because not only will it save energy, but the quality of the light will be better. He said that most of our lights upstairs are particularly inefficient which will help us to qualify.

It's been a big month for programming at the library. The volunteer-run 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Drop In and Read open house on Jan 11 attracted 8 kids and 8 adults. Volunteers read to and played with the children while the parents socialized. This will be a twice-monthly program. I am hoping we can schedule the Trustees meeting to avoid being at the same time as this event. The second Game Night for adults was smaller than I expected, with 12 people total, but that was the perfect amount for three different games. We may add a separate program for learning and playing cribbage. Our next Game Night is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, although that is one of the days being considered by the FOL to have a program on hiking the Appalachian Trail. 50 people turned out for the Friends' interesting program on Fake News earlier this month. The Winter Film Series is off to a good start with 31 people at the first film and 13 at the second (which was at the same time as the Patriot's playoff game.) Pizza & Movie scheduled for last Friday was postponed to February 2<sup>nd</sup> because it turned out that was a teacher workshop day and the students would not be at school. Chris had three at his first Dungeons & Dragons session of the New Year.

Regarding professional development, I am taking an online class called Online Video Made Easy. I hope to be able to make some videos for Facebook and the e-news at some point. I have decided not to go to the Public Library Association Conference in Philadelphia in March but go to the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Indiana in September.

The statewide Interlibrary Loan system has been down for over a month which makes the process of lending and borrowing much more time-consuming. Apparently the old system circa 2002 is too old to revive and replacement will not happen quickly. The outage affects not only staff time but also record-keeping. There's nothing we can do about it though, so we are trying to keep positive. We hope that the new system will be an improvement over the clunky antiquated system we've been using.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director