

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
February 2011

Youth Services

Storytimes for Winter/Spring have restarted at all locations and they are all very well attended. Parents are thrilled that storytimes have resumed after a brief hiatus (during which time staff prepares for the upcoming sessions).

Tours have also resumed. Califon 5th and 6th graders made their annual visit to NCB to learn about research at a public library. Unfortunately, a few other tours were cancelled due to all the snow that we've been having, but they are all being rescheduled for the near future.

Circulation Department

The Circulation Department has been running smoothly at HQ and NCB with no recent staff or schedule changes.

Staff is trying a new way to send hold items to other libraries. They will no longer be taking an extra step of inserting a separate slip of paper with the destination library's initials in addition to the receipt printed at the Circulation Desk workstation. If this change doesn't work out, they will go back to the old way of transferring items.

The print on our current hold receipts is extremely small and difficult to read on the holds shelf. Lee Ann Comella and Jennifer Winberry are looking for receipt printers that are capable of printing hold receipts with the patron's name in a larger font with bolder print to eliminate the need for someone to sit and write names on the hold receipts.

Reference Services and North County Branch

Amanda Philipp and Linda Reynolds attended the State Library sponsored training for the *Broadband Technology Opportunities Program*. The focus of the workshop was on assisting patrons with job searching and using library tools such as the *Learning Express Job Accelerator*. Tips learned from the workshop were shared with other reference staff

Amanda Philipp attended the Hunterdon County Librarians' Association winter workshop on January 25, 2011 at Hunterdon Central High School.

Tax season is upon us. Patrons are actually clamoring for the Federal forms, since they are no longer being mailed. Staff is doing a brisk business helping patrons choose and download forms.

Mary Noone-Kozakiewicz had her dedicated volunteers purge a year of magazines from NCB's shelves. Instead of going to recycling, many magazines were given away to eager patrons.

A new *Staff Picks* book display has been established on the display cubes on the main level at HQ. Each display features a picture of the staff member with favorite picks and a blurb for each book.

Popular displays for January included the *January White Sale* (all white covers) and a display for Martin Luther King Day.

Extension Services

During these last few snowy weeks, our intrepid drivers have kept the books moving. Inventory has begun again. Claire McFadden from Technical Services is also helping with that project. The Bookmobile continues to be popular at the Franklin Township School and Independence Manor, an assisted residential community, along with its regular stops in Bloomsbury, Hampton and Stockton.

Fiction and Memoir Writing Seminar

Beginning on Friday, February 25, 2011, graduate student Mia Siegert will offer an eight-week seminar on the basics of fiction and memoir writing. This eight-week course will go over the basics of writing fiction and memoir.

Run as a workshop, students will have the opportunity to improve their writing and editing skills. There will be focus on character, plot, setting, theme, and writing the first draft. Writers will also learn how an ordinary scenario can be converted into a strong memoir. Creative non-fiction writing techniques will also be covered. For a more complete list of topics, please contact the library at (908)788-1434.

Caricature Artist

On Saturdays beginning on March 19, 2011, artist Lisa Jones will set up in the lobby of our Headquarters Library to draw free caricatures of any library patron who wishes one.

Movie Series

To help christen the new audiovisual equipment in HQ's Meeting Room, the PR Committee is planning a series of movies for library patrons. Dates and titles are still being considered so stay tuned for details.

Book Mark Gallery

A gallery of posters depicting every monthly bookmark design created since October 1987 is now permanently on display on the lower level of our Headquarters Library. That's 279 different designs created by Library Graphic Artist and Program Coordinator Jim Thatch!

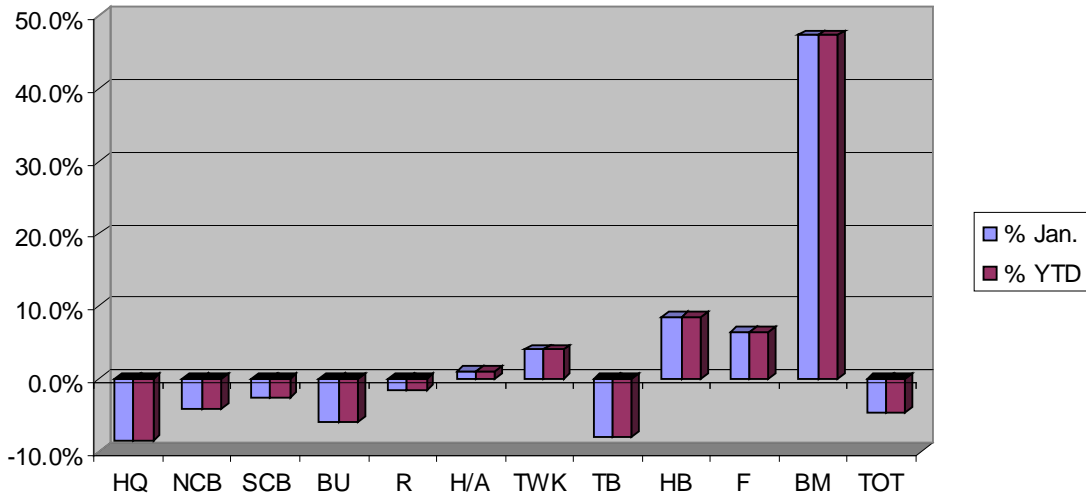
Scrapbooking Project

HCL staff is preparing to tackle the job of sorting and "scrapbooking" photos and articles depicting the Hunterdon County Library and its history. All staff members will be invited to participate.

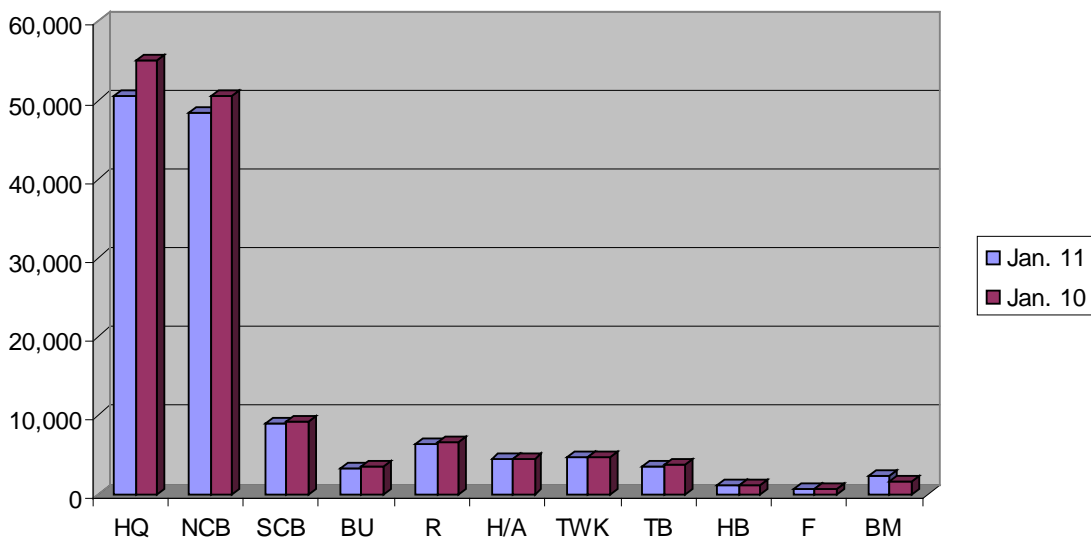
Circulation Statistics for January 2011

	Jan. 11	Dec. 10	% Change	Jan. 10	% Jan.	YTD 11	YTD 10	% YTD
HQ	50,449	42,347	19.1%	55,124	-8.5%	50,449	55,124	-8.5%
NCB	48,399	42,664	13.4%	50,468	-4.1%	48,399	50,468	-4.1%
SCB	8,964	7,977	12.4%	9,196	-2.5%	8,964	9,196	-2.5%
BU	3,334	3,127	6.6%	3,546	-6.0%	3,334	3,546	-6.0%
R	6,462	5,709	13.2%	6,568	-1.6%	6,462	6,568	-1.6%
H/A	4,571	3,849	18.8%	4,523	1.1%	4,571	4,523	1.1%
TWK	4,794	4,407	8.8%	4,611	4.0%	4,794	4,611	4.0%
TB	3,480	3,682	-5.5%	3,787	-8.1%	3,480	3,787	-8.1%
HB	1,150	910	26.4%	1,059	8.6%	1,150	1,059	8.6%
F	604	616	-1.9%	567	6.5%	604	567	6.5%
BM	2,242	1,754	27.8%	1,521	47.4%	2,242	1,521	47.4%
TOT	134,449	117,042	14.9%	140,970	-4.6%	134,449	140,970	-4.6%

**% Circulation Change
January 2011 vs. January 2010
YTD 2011 vs. YTD 2010**



**Items Circulated
January 2011 vs. January 2010**



Items Circulated through end of January 2011 YTD vs. 2010 YTD

