

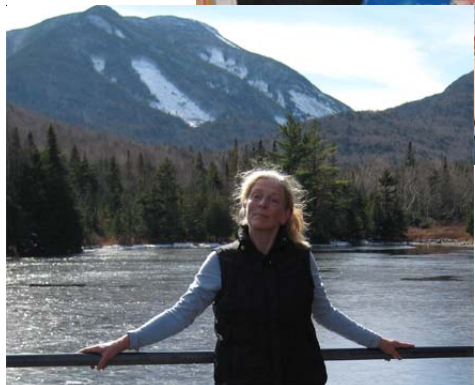
Anne Carry Durland Memorial Alternatives Library

A COMMUNITY RESOURCE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

2008 Annual Report

A Project Partner of the Center for Transformative Action

Gary helping someone find a book at the DAL, 2008, spring book sale.



Lynn--doing research for the nature section of the library (just kidding) at Marcy Dam, Adirondacks High Peaks area.

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prison: insiders and outsiders

meditation by
prof. winthrop
wetherbee III
(professor emeritus,
dept. of english)

music by
sage singers

sage chapel
vesper service
begins at 4 pm
february 3, 2008

for more information:
www.cornell.edu

SAGE
where spirit and intellect meet
SUNDAY

DAL Advisory Board member, Pete Wetherbee, a long time volunteer for the Cornell University college program at Auburn Correctional Facility.

The Durland Alternatives Library is located on the Cornell University campus in Ithaca, NY. It was founded in 1974 as a project of the Center for Religion, Ethics, and Social Policy (CRESP) and was dedicated by Lewis H. and Margaret C. Durland as a living memorial to their daughter Anne Carry Durland. The Durland family gift has been a living legacy to further the work of addressing social and ecological concerns which were important to Anne. Since its founding, the library collection has been providing contemporary, issue-oriented, alternative media resources often unavailable in research and public libraries.



Prisoner Express--Cornell student's book packing party September, 2008

2008 Advisory Board Members

Lansing Day, Chair
Willie Marshall
Catherine Michaels
Marjorie Olds
Teri Reinemann
Kelly Speiser
Sherry Tackill
Winthrop "Pete" Wetherbee

Library Staff

Lynn Andersen, Director/Librarian
Gary Fine, Assistant Director
Irene Zahava, Librarian—Women's
Community Library

Contact Information

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www.alternativeslibrary.org

Open Monday - Thursday

11:00am - 8:00pm

Friday 11:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday 11:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday 7:00pm - 11:00pm

**The schedule varies during summer
and school breaks.**

**A full schedule is available
at the library or on the library website.**

The Durland Alternatives Library is free and open to everyone. The collection is comprised of books, periodicals, audio and video tapes, DVDs and CDs. Our collection is available at the library or through the Interlibrary Loan Department of the Finger Lakes Library System. The catalog can be accessed by going to our web site and clicking on the "our collection" and "searchable database" links.

Mission Statement: The Durland Alternatives Library is dedicated to providing free and open access to materials expressing viewpoints and information not readily available through mainstream publications and mass-media sources. We are committed to providing information and educational materials to underserved and incarcerated people.

Dedication

While thinking about this report, I was looking over all the annual reports and reflecting on the long list of library advisory board members who have given of their time and support to make the DAL such a special library. This 2008 Annual Report is dedicated to all the past and present board members. So here's to you Philip Snyder, Joan Ormondroyd, Sam Demas, Preston Clark, Peter McDonald, Mary Gilliland, Ann Jankey, Tony DelPlato, Maggie Goldsmith, John Hochheimer, Ricky Stewart, Carmen Blankinship, Antoinette Chensee, Allen Quirk, Ricky Stewart, Pat Holmes, Jackie Mott Brown, Janet Shortall, Anne Mazer, Ken Ritter, Katie Williams, Dianne Lynch, Dave Graff, and the current board, praised on the next page. Throughout the 17 years that I have worked at the Alternatives Library, the members of the advisory board have initiated many programs. Before we began putting our annual reports on the webpage so our members and others could read about our work, we sponsored programs featuring some of the finest poets & prose writers of our time--Denise Levertov, Mary Crow, Dorothy Allison, Sandra Steingraber, Marjorie Agosin, as well as a number of events with local writers. We co-sponsored the labyrinth program at the Foundation of Light, were the seed organization for Read About, and Babes in Arms, opened a downtown satellite library in the Women's Community Building, became the first USA partner library through the UN UNAL program, and supported many more programs that never would have been possible without the wonderful board members who have brought their special talents to us over the years. Thanks to all of you wherever you may be.

Director's Report

In Praise of the Library Advisory Board

Along with cudos for our past board members, the current advisory board of the Durland Alternatives Library deserves recognition. So, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank each of our board members for their part in the spirit of our mission.

Sherry Tackill, who came to Ithaca as a VISTA to work at MacCormick Center, was instrumental in developing a program to help incarcerated youth better meet the challenges of returning to their communities. Also at MacCormick, Lansing Day started a music program and is developing it into hands-on learning that can translate into real work experience to use upon release.

Pete Winthrop has worked tirelessly with the Cornell prison education programs at Auburn Correctional Facility and most recently has worked with Kelly Speiser and a small group of people developing a theatre program, Auburn Phoenix Players, in order to give inmates an outlet for self-expression through play writing, acting and production.

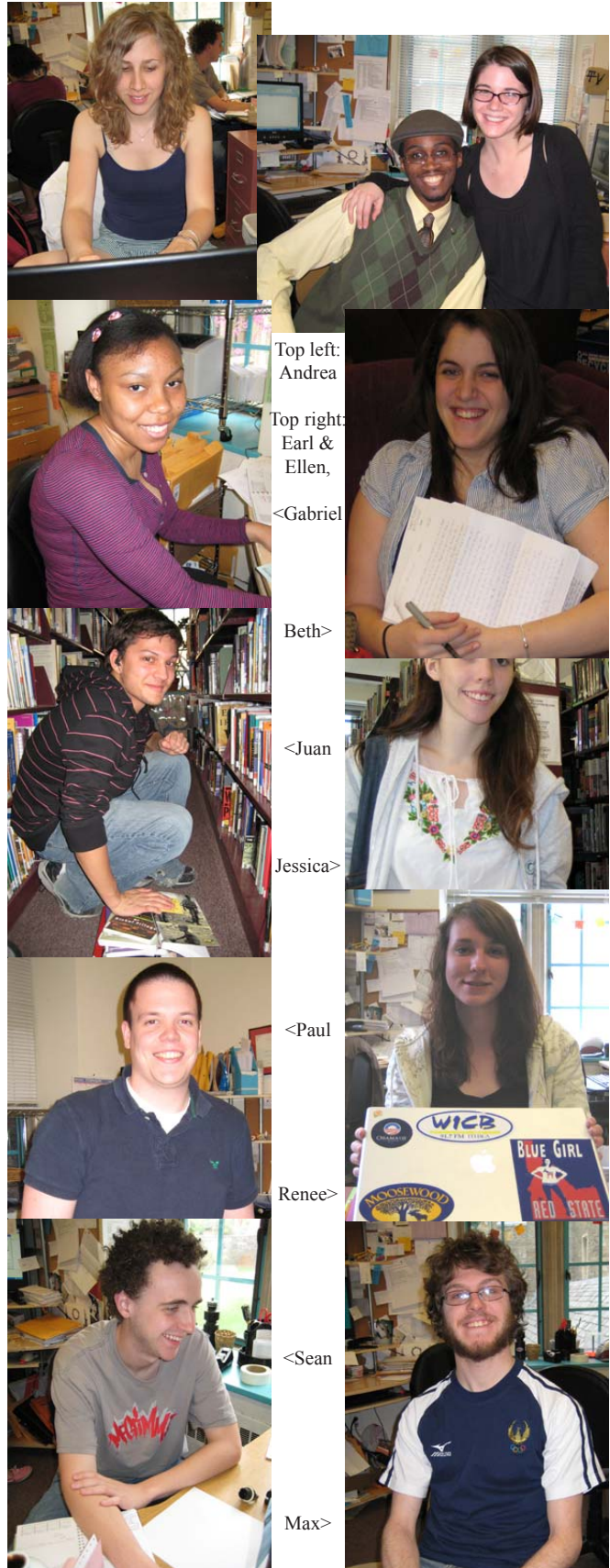
Catherine Michaels has been collecting books for our prison programs and keeping us up to date with links to work going on near and far that is relevant to the DAL. Her work as a media librarian at Ithaca College has proven to be a new opening for our collection development focus, and I hope to translate her knowledge into changes that will help us meet the contemporary demands of this electronic world.

Marjorie Olds has been instrumental in funding so many of our projects, including the enrichment and educational programs at MacCormick, the two poetry publications of local incarcerated young men, and, while director of the Women's Community Building, created the downtown satellite of the Alternatives Library.

Teri Reinemann has been the first to help with so many of our MacCormick programs. Formerly, the director of Tompkins Learning Partners, Teri has been a strong literacy advocate for the residents. In addition, she has been hands-on in the horticulture program and has helped fund some of the activities related to it.

A bravo and big thanks to all!

Library Staff



Prisoner Express

In 2008, Prisoner Express expanded in both the number of prisoners served and the variety of programs offered. In this past year, our active enrollment surpassed 2000 prisoners.

2008 programs:

Book Mailings: 200 packages a month.

2nd Prisoner Art Show: at The Big Red Barn, co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Association of Cornell.

Poetry Anthologies: nos. 2 & 3 in print and on our website.

History Programs: “Barbarian Invasion of Rome”, and “Rise of Islam.”

2 Book Clubs: 500 prisoners took part

Drawing Instruction Pamphlet: developed by volunteers and sent out to over 500 individuals

Basic Math for Prisoners: in partnership with Professor Dani Novak of Ithaca College

Journal Project: journals provide prisoners an avenue for introspection, and it gives folks reading their entries a real sense of the lifestyle and issues that prisoners experience

Theme Writing: participants write monthly on a selected theme topic.

Prisoner Express Newsletter: distributed 2 times per year; sent to all active members; contains prisoner prose, poetry and art and descriptions of all course work available for prisoners.

Chess Newsletter: packet covers basic chess strategy, answers to prisoner questions and describes great chess games of the past

Creative Writing Class: coordinated by a student intern; participants given texts on how to write, writing prompts, and help in editing their assignments.

In 2009, we plan to build on our work by expanding our volunteer base, improving the efficiency of our efforts, and securing funds to continue operations. Our Spring, 2009 newsletter will acknowledge and reprint the work done by incarcerated students for the Creative Writing Class.

Our website www.prisonerexpress.org continues to expand and includes prisoner essays, poetry and journals. It has become an avenue for prisoners to be more integrated in general society.

MacCormick

The work at MacCormick Center continues as a model for like facilities around the state. Office of Children and Family Services--NY, has noted our programs. The Community Advisory Board, with library sponsorship, continues to serve many needs of the residents. The scholarships for continuing education have enabled a number of residents to accumulate college credits. This is invaluable as they prepare to return to their communities by giving them a jump start on pursuing their career interests. It has become an important part of our community reintegration program in that we are able to help residents prepare transcripts and admissions materials so they can continue their studies at home. The reintegration program has really helped a number of residents learn how to plan for and accomplish their goals. We are working on getting statistics to see how successful the program is over the long run.

The horticulture program offers residents an opportunity to do community service. Their plants and produce are donated to the community center in Brooktondale to support the youth program.

Joanne Guarino has done an incredible job with the art program. The quality of work that she has helped the residents create is amazing. Not only that, but she has raised money to support the program and has gotten supply donations from local businesses.



CAB receives an award--May, 2008: *Back--*Monty & *Front--*Theresa, Joanne, Mary, Carol, Cheryl, Lynn & Marjorie

Women's Community Building Year-End Library Report

prepared by Irene Zahava

Women's Community Building Library, Year-end Report for 2008 Prepared by Irene Zahava This was another excellent year for "the little library in the heart of downtown Ithaca." The collection continues to meet the needs of our patrons and, thanks to generous donations and new purchases, we have been able to keep up with the demand for new titles and selective backlist requests. Our "Traveling Collection" shared books with the Lifelong community, primarily memoirs and history. The library's circulation remains steady at around 4,000 items; we acquired over 900 new items.

OUTREACH Two major ongoing community-outreach programs were held in the spring and fall. "Writing a Life," a memoir workshop that meets at Lifelong, had an enrollment of over 20 participants each season. "Teens Write!" at the Tompkins County Public Library reached over 40 writers (ages 10-17) and remains one of the most successful programs for teens in the county. The teens produced 3 "mini publications" to share with other young library patrons: "I Just Want," "Round Things," and "What If?" A number of **SPECIAL WRITING WORKSHOPS**, sponsored by the WCB-Library, and facilitated by Irene Zahava, were held throughout the year: As one of the kick-off events for the Light In Winter festival, a workshop on the theme of "Identity" was held at Bookery II and was attended by 40 people. "The Places We Call Home," a Winterlude Workshop, was designed to create a cozy writing atmosphere in the midst of a dark winter. "Swell Stuff," a "celebration of the collecting bug," took place at Bookery II, attracting a large group of men and women who gathered to share examples of their "passionate possessions" through writing and conversation. "Writing the Body" and "Intuitive Environments" were two workshops for cancer survivors and people living with cancer, offered at the Cancer Resource Center's "Day of Renewal" retreats in the spring and fall. "What is Lost? What is Found?" and "Step Into It," were two workshops specifically designed for members of Chautauqua-on-Cayuga's bi-annual retreats for social and political activists.

"Let Me Tell You A Story," a writing workshop scheduled to coincide with TCPL's celebration of "Older Americans Month" was attended by a group of older men and women who shared "core moments" from their lives. A special experiential writing workshop was offered as part of the Tompkins Learning Partners tutor training program, demonstrating ways to incorporate writing and feedback into ESL and ABE tutoring sessions. "Word/Play," a 6-part workshop for pre-teens and teens, focusing on poetry and fiction writing, was held at Emma's Writing Center. **PUBLICATIONS** (All publications, co-sponsored by WCB-Library and DAL, are distributed widely throughout Ithaca and are free of charge.) This year saw the final installment of The Memory Project (volume 3). Nearly 80 people, including children and octogenarians, contributed their memories to this celebration of the collective consciousness. "She Just Wants," a publication that was inspired by the poetry of Beverly Rollwagen, showcased the enthusiastic response of 44 women to the old question "What do women want?" "08/08/08," the 4th annual account of a single day, was a mosaic of life in Ithaca, as experienced by more than 2 dozen women and men. "BITES!" was a multi-generational mini-anthology of super-short writings on the theme of food. The Haiku Postcard Project produced 4 different cards to coincide with the Ithaca festival, featuring the work of local contemporary poets (children and adults) as well as work by traditional haiku masters. **UPCOMING IN EARLY 2009:** "Magical Writing," will be one of the kick-off events at this year's Light in Winter Festival; an inter-generational series of writing workshops is being planned for TCPL; ongoing writing workshops for the Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes are being planned. And as usual "Writing a Life" and "Teens Write!" will resume; new publications celebrating the "collective consciousness of Ithacans" will be printed and distributed; and numerous as-yet-unspecified workshops will be offered in the community.

**Durland Alternatives Library
Yearly Statistics -- 1998 - 2008**

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Books	7,073	7,237	6,693	8,294	7,785	8,126	9,396	5,580	4,612	3,809	3,584
Periodicals	1,714	2,162	1,969	2,661	2,637	2,334	2,202	1,765	1,679	1,528	1,924
Audio Tapes	2,150	1,786	2,172	2,869	1,716	1,495	1,464	1,078	590	432	260
CDs		29	1,790	4,191	5,648	6,239	6,923	4,897	5,392	4,345	3,589
AV Misc.					92	68	56	46	71	70	75
VHS	5,485	6,730	6,671	10,670	10,207	9,669	8,392	4,581	2,564	1,573	1,123
DVD					447	2,172	5,616	8,598	8,602	8,534	7,844
In House Use										484	317
FLLS/ILL	452	508	837	947	1,039	1,212	1,693	2,141	3,414	3,159	3,304
DAL Total	16,874	18,450	20,132	29,632	29,571	31,315	35,742	28,686	28,924	23,934	22,020
WCB Library	2,611	6,485	7,024	6,428	5,572	4,926	4,439	4,539	3,855	4,500	4,100
Grand Total	12,973	19,485	24,935	27,156	36,060	35,143	36,241	40,181	33,225	30,779	26,120

Financial Overview:

The payout on the endowment for the 2007-2008 fiscal year was much higher than it has been for some time. As a precaution for future returns on the endowment, I have under-budgeted approximately \$10,000.00 to give us a cushion against further drops in the income. The restricted fund for our MacCormick programs has grown almost \$2,800.00, even though we continue our scholarship funding and enrichment program support for the residents of the facility. This year, we were also able to share our increased revenue with a grant for the WCB library to purchase materials. Out of habit, developed during the last few years of income downturn, I continue to buy more used items whenever possible. That leaves some extra for when I find an important documentary that is more costly. We also had a major book donation that enabled us to have a very successful book sale in the spring. The donation also contributed to our unique collection of esoteria and occult writings. It has been a fruitful year both financially and in developing our collection. .

Income: 2007/2008 Fiscal Year

Institutional support (grants)	750.00
Individual contributions	3,447.36
Fundraising events & sales	1,908.29
Library Fines	717.90
Program revenue	5,716.68
Cornell Endowment	143,736.41
Interest	734.12
Co-sponsorship income	250.00
CRESP Allocation	1,200.00
TOTAL	158,345.35

MacCormick Fund* **7,054.00**

* As of June 30, 2008

Expenditures: 2007/2008 Fiscal Year

Payroll Expenses	89,132.16
Contracted Services/Work-Study	5,847.76
Work/Study	.00
Supplies	1,359.92
Hospitality	309.03
Telephone	376.70
Internet Services	115.56
Postage	318.69
Printing	651.30
Travel/meals/lodging	25.00
Staff Development-Mtg./Sem.	.00
Computer Software	99.95
Equipment	450.78
Equipment Repair/Maintenance	100.00
Programs	3,455.10
Publicity/Advertising/Promo	606.00
Dues	.00
Periodical Subscriptions	3,457.97
Books	2,409.77
Audio/Visual Materials	3,954.21
WCB Library (Ithaca Hours)	500.00
Bank Service Charges	72.82
Shared Admin. (CRESP)	10,245.80
Employer's FICA	6,767.01
NYS Unemployment	284.60
NYS Disability	110.64
Workman's Comp.	759.62
Health Insurance/Benefits	13,605.27
Depreciation	580.66

TOTAL **145,066.62**