

Shelter Island Public Library

# SPECIAL REPORT

October 2022

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



After the tumult and dislocation of the past 18 months, it is a joy to be able to celebrate any semblance of a return to “normal” and at the library, we’re all about celebrating!

The library continued to host the popular vaccine clinics in conjunction with the Senior Center, offering covid, Shingles, flu and pneumonia shots throughout the year and a variety of in-person, remote and “hybrid” programs for everyone from infants to seniors. Author visits, lectures, book clubs, mah jongg, English as a Next Language, Italian and French conversation, and poetry galore kept everyone entertained. Our passport and notary services were more in demand than ever.

None of this would have been possible without our extraordinary staff, led by “Super Director” Terry Lucas. Two part-timers, Jessica Montgomery and Kimberly Atkins, went full time, with Jessica stepping up to handle programming while Jocelyn Ozolins is on medical leave. Nell Cava moved to Michigan to continue her studies in mycology. We miss her but wish her success with her mushrooms! And we were happy to welcome Barbara Brigham back to the circulation desk.

With all this increase in activity, our biggest issue is space. On any day, particularly a rainy one, the building is bursting at its seams as children, tweens and teens crowd together on the lower level, adult patrons are looking for quiet work space or a place for Zoom meetings and the daily hustle and bustle continues. As a result, the Board of Trustees has voted to explore an expansion and renovation project and has commissioned a firm to create preliminary plans incorporating community input. Terry has been busy meeting

with various groups and organizations across the island to begin to generate a “wish list” of what they’d like to see in a reconfigured library. There are also suggestion boxes in the library and around town asking everyone to “Help Us Write Our Next Chapter.” If you haven’t already done so, please drop a note or stop by and chat with Terry. If warranted, a vote will be put to you, our taxpayers, in the Spring of 2023.

To meet the need for more space, “Tent Week” was expanded to be “Tent Summer,” hosting Friday Night Dialogues, children’s programs, family games, clothing swaps, as well as meetings about various town issues.

Our trustees continued to do yeoman’s work, writing weekly feature articles to support programming, implementing a “We Do That” campaign in the Reporter, carrying out repair activities on our aging building, as well as continuing to update policies and keep watch over the library’s finances. Archer Brown rejoined the board in January and we are thrilled to have her important “institutional memory.”

The library is very grateful to the Friends for their continued support. This year, they underwrote the Ancestry.com data base, the Summer Reading programs, Tent Week, adult crafts, Museum Passes and the invaluable OWL, which allows us to present hybrid programs, allowing those who cannot come to the library to participate in programs.

See you @ the Library!

Jo-Ann Robotti  
President  
Board of Trustees

*Una versión en español de este reporte especial está disponible en la biblioteca.*

## SHELTER ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY SOCIETY 2022 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

SUPPORT	2022	2023
Donations, Contributions & Fundraising	99,800	111,400
Grants	23,300	27,000
Annual Appeal	20,000	20,000
Fines, Fees & Programs	11,975	12,375
Taxes	719,806	755,796
Interest Income	175	144
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$ 875,056</b>	<b>\$ 926,715</b>
EXPENSES		
Membership & Professional Licenses, Dues and Fees	68,400	69,000
Fundraising	2,700	3,450
Books and Other Media	74,187	78,275
Website, Office Equipment and Computer Maintenance	5,800	7,400
Office Expenses and Equipment	10,816	12,709
Adult, Young Adult and Children's Programs	24,091	26,650
Salaries, Employee Taxes and Benefits	599,232	630,281
Utilities, Telecommunications & Building Maintenance	57,500	64,500
Property and Liability Insurances	18,330	19,950
Capital (Include Computer Equipment)	14,000	14,500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 875,056</b>	<b>\$ 926,715</b>

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: 2022 BUDGET

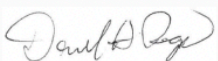
As the Library's Treasurer, I am pleased to report that our library is in very stable financial condition. During the pandemic period of 2020-2022, the board revised the operating budget, adopting more conservative revenue and expense plans, which held us in good stead. For the upcoming year, we are anticipating increases in most of our "uncontrollable" budget lines, as the library experiences the same inflationary pressures each of us are confronting at home.

The Board of Trustees of your library carefully reviews expenses, investment performance, fundraising revenues and cash positions each month. The Patterson Fund, a wonderful legacy from the late Gil Patterson, has performed well for us and provides monies to cover many of our Youth Services expenses such as books and other media, program materials and more. As in past years, we are also indebted to the ongoing support of The Friends of the Library, who help out in numerous ways.

In 2022, as the worst of Covid receded, we saw a return to "more normal" in the everyday business of the Library. It has been refreshing to see more of our patrons, young and older, take advantage of the many services offered. We increased expenditures this year for children's and adult's books to replenish the shelves and accommodate increased demand. Public and staff computers were upgraded, with additional new laptops allowing the library to offer ENL and small computer classes. Through our county cooperative, SCLS, we continued to subscribe to a wide variety of electronic resources (downloadable e-books, audio books, movies, magazines and many, many services such as Homework Help, Pronunciator and Ancestry.com). All of these expenditures were managed within the budget parameters.

In 2023 we are predicting cost increases for building maintenance and infrastructure, technology, utilities and all insurances. Our projected costs for running the library for the upcoming year are slightly above 2022, so we will be asking residents to vote on an increase of about \$36,000 in tax support in 2023. We pledge to continue our oversight of every one of your tax dollars.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald Regan  
Treasurer  
Board of Trustees

## BUDGET AND VOTING INFORMATION

**Budget Vote:** Saturday, October 8th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the library.

**Public Hearing:** Wednesday, September 28th at 5 p.m. at the library.

**Eligibility:** *You must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old and a primary resident of the Shelter Island School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote.*

**Voter Registration:** Thursday, September 29th, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the library.

**Absentee Ballot applications** are available from the District Clerk at the school, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at [www.shelterislandk12.ny.us](http://www.shelterislandk12.ny.us)

Completed applications must be received by the clerk 7 days before the vote – by Friday, September 30th if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter or the day before the vote if it is to be delivered personally to the voter.

*All absentee ballots must be received by 1 p.m. on October 7th.*

*“The best things about the library are the books and the librarians.” – Owen (age 5 3/4)*

## COMMUNITY @ THE LIBRARY

These Shelter Island groups and clubs co-sponsor events and/or meet in a Library space

Art/Rich Poetry Roundtable	Garden Club	Shelter Island Association	Shelter Island Senior
Book Clubs	Knitting Club	Shelter Island Health	Citizens Foundation
East End Hospice	League of Women Voters	and Wellness Alliance	Shelter Island Town
English as a Next Language	Mah-Jongg Club	Shelter Island Poetry Project	Silver Beach Association
French Conversation Club	Shelter For All	Shelter Island School	Sylvester Manor
Friends of the Library	Shelter Island Alliance	Shelter Island Senior Center	... and many more

*“Climbing the steps to our library and walking in the door is like coming home. —JoAnn Kirkland*





## Shelter Island Public Library

37 N Ferry Road, PO Box 2016  
Shelter Island, NY 11964  
(631) 749-0042

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Shelter Island, NY  
Permit No. 2

POSTAL PATRON  
Shelter Island, NY 11964

### BY THE NUMBERS ...

\*statistics gathered July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Visits - **76,420**

Checkouts - **62,718**

Live-brary Downloads - **19,502**

Programs - **828**

Program Attendance - **9,354**

Library Card Holders - **3,090**

Books & Materials - **29,115**

WiFi log-ins - **9,370**

*"I love this library – it's one of my favorite places. And even though I only come in the summer, you are with me all year – I get digital books out through the library and almost always find exactly what I'm looking for."*

– JoAnne Robb

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jo-Ann Robotti, President  
Jody Geist, Vice-President  
Donald Regan, Treasurer  
Linda Kraus, Secretary  
Susan Binder  
Marie Bishko  
Archer Brown  
Donald Dunning  
Henry Fayne  
Phyllis Gates  
Karyn Issa Greenwald  
Tom Hashagen  
Bonnie Berman Stockwell

Terry Lucas, Library Director  
Laura Dickerson, Assistant Director

### ABOUT THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library fill important roles in the operation of the library. They are responsible for governance, fiduciary oversight and setting policy. The volunteer members serve staggered three-year terms and are elected or re-elected by the Shelter Island Library Association at its annual meeting.

This year the Board seeks to fill four seats; three members will stand for re-election. Details will be announced later this fall.

