



# Summary from the Library Trustees 2012

M.N. Spear Memorial Library  
Shutesbury, MA

## Library Staff

Director—Mary Anne Antonellis

Library Assistant—Sally Fairfield

Weekend circulation clerk —Linda Avis Scott

Substitutes—Jessica Carlson-Belanger, Susan Millinger,  
Wendy Pearson

## Library Trustees

Chair—Karen Traub

Treasurer, Representative to Friends of the Library—  
Michele Sedor

Secretary—Michele Regan-Ladd

Members at Large—Kate Cell, Dale Houle, David  
Wheeler

## Friends of M.N. Spear Library

President—Dan Paquin-Thomas

Treasurer—Susie Mosher

Secretary—Weezie Houle

Members at Large—Laura Walton, Julie Stepanek, Paul  
Jacobs

## Credits

Front cover—Maili Page

Story time—Glenn Suttentfield,  
[www.suttentfieldphoto.com](http://www.suttentfieldphoto.com)

Program—Ray Bradley, Al Werner, Marge Bruchac,  
courtesy the speakers

Adventure In/Adventure Out—  
<http://www.naturetravels.com/>

Make-a-sundae—Play Me Mama Crafts

Windows—Center for EcoTechnology

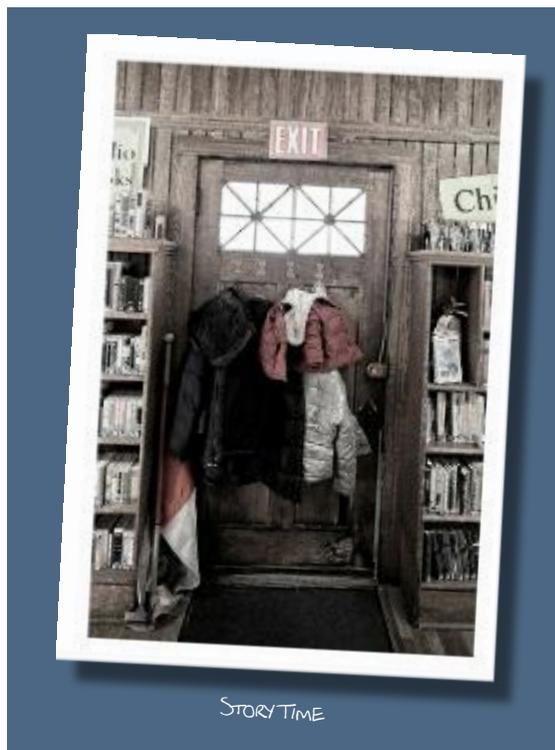
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# Letter from the Director

**T**hank you to our volunteers!

The staff of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library is supported by an excellent volunteer work force. Volunteers help in many ways. The Trustees of the Library are a volunteer board of elected Shutesbury residents whose primary responsibility is to advocate for the Library. The Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library is a private non-profit organization. Its members support the library through fundraising, advocacy and outreach.

There are many volunteers who help with the day to day operation of the Library. When you visit the Library you might see Janis Gray or Susan Millinger processing the delivery bins or Suzanne Hayden or Joanne Bernhard shelving books. Our little library is especially busy. In Fiscal Year 2012 nearly 28,000 items were borrowed across our circulation desk. Our small staff couldn't manage the volume of library use without help from volunteers.

The Library offered 109 programs in FY 12. Volunteers help set up rooms, gather supplies, and clean up after our programs. Dan Paquin, the current President of the Friends of the Library operates the A/V equipment at our monthly movie night. Laura Walton shares her creativity with the community by leading a monthly knitting group at the Library. Last summer she coordinated three craft programs for children during the Summer Reading Program.

Volunteers help behind the scene as well. Weezie Houle keeps our website up-to-date. Virginia Worthington makes many of the flyers used to promote Library programs. Virginia also is our

“technical services” volunteer. She enters many new materials into our catalog.

We are also fortunate to have two kind volunteers, David Holmes and David Ulen, who are always happy (or at least willing) to bring in their hammer, screw driver or drill when a bulletin board needs to be hung or a chair needs to be assembled.

Over the years many Shutesbury Residents have volunteered to share their time and/or skills by offering programs, helping with the day to day operation of the Library, or even shoveling snow.

I am grateful to each and every volunteer who has helped enrich our community by helping at the Library. Thank you for everything.

Sincerely,  
Mary Anne Antonellis, Library Director



MARY ANNE ANTONELLIS  
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

## Letter from the Trustee Chair

**W**e love our library! Thank you for entrusting us with its care and governance. The board of Trustees consists of six elected volunteers who support and advocate for the library and act as a link between the library and the community.

Our board was established along with the Free Public Library in 1894. The first Chairman of the Board of Trustees, William Hemenway helped the library grow from the shelves in what is now Old Town Hall to its current location. The MN Spear Memorial Library was built in 1902 for \$1547.61 with a bequest from Mirick Spear, a bookseller from Amherst. We remember William Hemenway for his dedication and vision, and Mirick Spear for his contributions to the library during his life and after his death.

The library supplies equal and unlimited access to information and inspiration. With help from the Friends of the Library, we are proud to bring our community a range of events and programs for all ages. The library offers free high speed internet in a town where only about 50% of households have access. Thanks to local organic coffee roaster Dean's Beans, we even have our own coffee blends!

Our library building is charming but inadequate: it lacks running water, has no room for browsing or privacy and no room to hold programs. For every new item acquired, we have to remove an item.

After many years of planning, we were awarded a grant that would have paid more than half of the cost of a new library. The Trustees are sad we were unable to accept the grant, but the fact is we still need a bigger library. We need to find

out how townspeople would like to move forward.

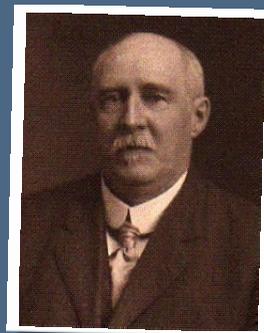
We are a small town and we need to work together.

If we pool our talents in a shared vision we can create a library legacy.

Sincerely,  
Karen Traub, Chair of the Trustees



KAREN TRAUB  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



WILLIAM HEMENWAY  
FIRST CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

## About The Trustees

**Karen Traub has been** a library trustee in Shutesbury since 2002 and has served as Chair, Secretary, Friends Liaison and as a member of the Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee and New Shutesbury Library Fundraising Committee. She was a Library Trustee in Wendell before moving to Shutesbury in 2001. Karen is an acupressurist, a professional bellydancer, and is married with two children.

**Michele Sedor** has been a resident of Shutesbury since 1999. She has worked in the field of adult literacy for over 25 years and currently is the Interim Director of SABES, which is a professional development organization for adult basic education teachers and directors. She has been a Trustee since 2009.

**Michele Regan-Ladd** has been a M.N. Spear Library Trustee since 2007 and served on the Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee (LFNAC) since March 2007. Michele is married and has one daughter. Michele and her husband have lived in Shutesbury for 26 years. Michele works as an Early Childhood Coordinator for the School Union #38 and Pioneer Valley Regional School Districts, as well as Erving Elementary.

**Kate Cell** works on economic and public health aspects of climate change for the Union of Concerned Scientists. She is also a poet and lyricist. She has lived in Shutesbury since 2005, and has served as a library trustee since 2011.

**Dale Houle** began work with the Spear Library in 2006 when, as a member of the Shutesbury Buildings Committee, he was asked to participate in the planning for a new addition to the original structure. Upon completion of the planning phase, he provided oversight for the construction of the addition and an exterior renovation to the rest of the building. In 2007, he became a member of the Library Facility Needs Assessment Committee and

a Library Trustee in 2010. He has lived in Shutesbury since 1987, and has served as a town firefighter for five years.

**David Wheeler** moved to the house he and his wife built on Montague Road in the mid 90's. His children attended the Shutesbury school and participated in neighborhood activities. He has also been involved in community events. David has served as a trustee since 2011.

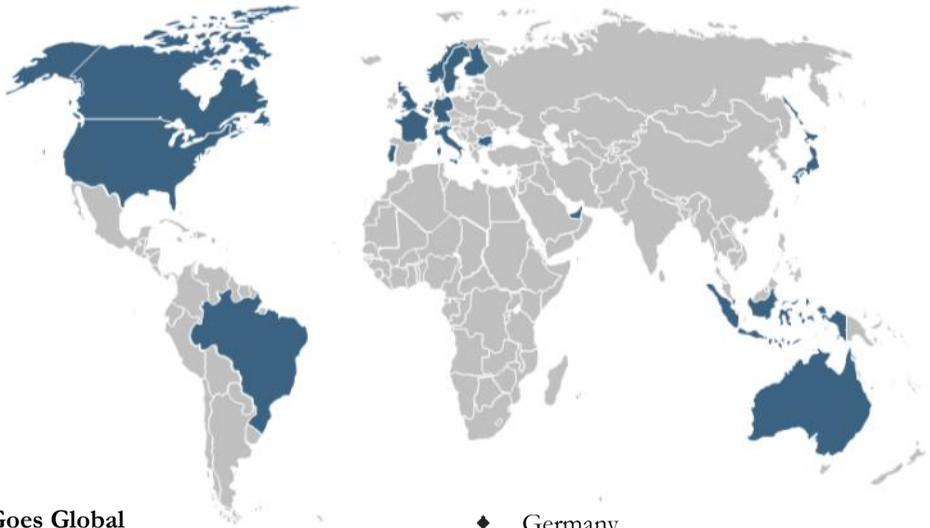
## Mission Statement

The M. N. Spear Memorial Library strives to provide Shutesbury residents of all ages with materials and programs to meet their education, entertainment and information needs in an environment that fosters community. We aim to be a place where past and future are joined, not only in our collection of local historical information and current technological resources, but also by bringing together community members young and old to share and learn from one another. We endeavor to help all our patrons make the most of the current technologies that can provide vital information services, as well as entertainment and cultural enrichment.



MIRICK N. SPEAR  
BENEFACTOR

# A World of Giving: The Ca



## Our Library Goes Global

This map shows the origins of donations to the Shutesbury New Library Fund.

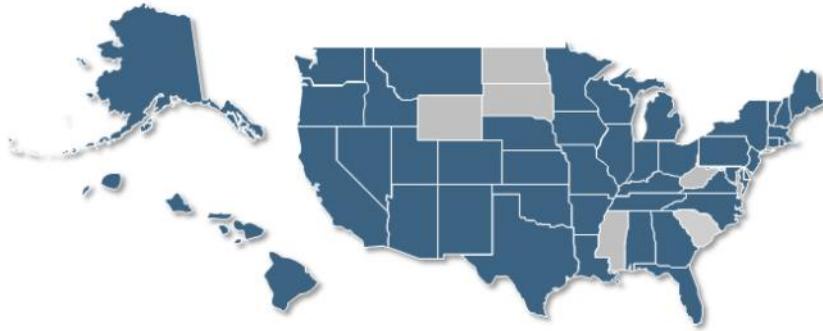
- Australia
- Belgium
- ◆ Brazil
- ◆ Bulgaria
- ◆ Canada
- ◆ Estonia
- ◆ Finland
- ◆ France
- ◆ Germany
- ◆ Indonesia
- ◆ Italy
- ◆ Japan
- ◆ Netherlands
- ◆ Norway
- ◆ Portugal
- ◆ Singapore
- ◆ Spain
- ◆ Sweden
- ◆ United Arab Emirates
- ◆ United Kingdom

*The companionship of books unites us in sympathy  
with the whole human race.*

*~ William Hemmenway*

Twelfth Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library, 1906

# Campaign for a New Library



## Americans From All Over

This map shows the origin of donations from within the United States.

- ◆ Alaska
- ◆ Alabama
- ◆ Arizona
- ◆ Arkansas
- ◆ Army Post
- ◆ California
- ◆ Colorado
- ◆ Connecticut
- ◆ Delaware
- ◆ Florida
- ◆ Georgia
- ◆ Hawaii
- ◆ Iowa
- ◆ Kansas
- ◆ Kentucky
- ◆ Louisiana
- ◆ Maine
- ◆ Maryland
- ◆ Massachusetts
- ◆ Michigan
- ◆ Minnesota
- ◆ Missouri
- ◆ Montana
- ◆ Nebraska
- ◆ Nevada
- ◆ New Hampshire
- ◆ New Jersey
- ◆ New York
- ◆ New Mexico
- ◆ North Carolina
- ◆ Ohio
- ◆ Oklahoma
- ◆ Oregon
- ◆ Pennsylvania
- ◆ Rhode Island
- ◆ Tennessee
- ◆ Texas
- ◆ Utah
- ◆ Vermont
- ◆ Virginia

## Funds Raised For Our New Library



- Capital Building Fund
- Barr Aschraft Estate
- Building Donations Account (Town)
- Friends New Library Fund

Total: \$104,505

# 2012 At-A-Glance

## Collection

This year the collection contained 12,180 items, including:

- ◆ 8,806 books;
- ◆ 721 audiobooks;
- ◆ 175 music CDs;
- ◆ 2,348 DVDs and VHS tapes; and
- ◆ 33 magazine subscriptions.

## Circulation

1,073 registered patrons borrowed 27,947 items, including:

- ◆ 14,259 books;
- ◆ 1,420 magazines;
- ◆ 2,692 audio books;
- ◆ 8,981 videos;
- ◆ 479 digital items; and
- ◆ 104 miscellaneous items.

These figures include 3,608 items received through Inter-Library Loan facilitated through our C/W MARS membership.

## Hours of Operation

Monday and Wednesday: 11 am – 1 pm, 3 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 3 – 7:30 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm

Sunday : 3- 6 pm

## New Library Proposal

The M.N. Spear Memorial Library was built in 1902. In 2008, a handicapped accessible entrance was created and a small room with a composting toilet was added. Other than these enhancements, the building is much the same as it was in 1902, 110 years ago.

In July 2011, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) awarded the Town of Shutesbury a provisional grant for \$2,093,084 for the construction of a 5,800 square foot library. The grant would have paid 60% of the costs for a new Shutesbury Library. The Town was required to “match” the

grant with local funding for the remaining 40%, or \$1.4 million dollars by January 30, 2012.

At a Special Town Meeting on October 25, 2011, an article to appropriate the funds needed for the local match, contingent on the approval of a debt-excluded override, passed with the required two-thirds majority. On November 8, 2011, the override was defeated by 42 votes. A subsequent revote on January 10, 2012, resulted in a tie vote, 522 yes, to 522 no. The Trustees asked the MBLC for an extension of the deadline to provide time to sort out the election results and continue fundraising. After a complex legal process involving the Board of Registrars and the Franklin County Superior Court, the override election failed.

Efforts to secure the local match through a debt-excluded override failed and volunteers were unable to raise the amount needed to confirm the local match by the June 30, 2012 deadline. As a result, the Trustees declined the grant.



# Serving the Town: Library Programs

## Regular Events

The library regularly hosts:

- ◆ A monthly, family-friendly movie night;
- ◆ A weekly story hour;
- ◆ A monthly knitting group.

## Special Events

In 2012 the library sponsored 109 programs with more than 2,000 attendees. Some highlights:

- ◆ In October we were visited by **Bruce Watson**, author of *Freedom Summer: The Savage Season of 1964 That Made Mississippi Burn and Made America a Democracy*.

This program was funded by the Shutesbury Cultural Council.

- ◆ The Friends Annual Meeting in November featured entertainment provided by **Beatles for Sale**, a Beatles tribute band;
- ◆ In December we held a **winter solstice celebration** on the Town Common;
- ◆ In February, **Rory Valentine** led a Nuno class, funded by the Shutesbury Cultural Council;
- ◆ In the spring the Library sponsored two talks about **climate change**:
  - ◆ In March, Mount Holyoke Geology Professor and Shutesbury resident **Al Werner** presented an overview entitled “What winter? Climate change - what lies ahead?”; and
  - ◆ In June UMass scientist **Raymond Bradley** gave a presentation based on his book, *Global Warming and Political Intimidation*.
- ◆ In June the Library offered a canoe and kayak adventure day at Lake Wyola. This program was facilitated by **Adventure In Adventure Out** and was funded by a grant from the Shutesbury Cultural Council;
- ◆ We kicked-off our summer reading program with a **Star Wars Symposium** in June; and
- ◆ We celebrated the end of summer with our traditional **make-your-own sundaes**.



RAY BRADLEY



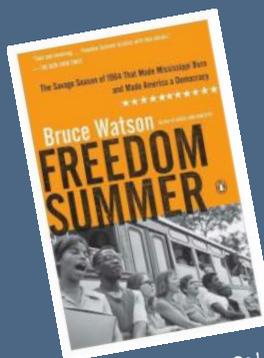
MAKE-A-SUNDAE



CANOE/KAYAK DAY



AL WERNER

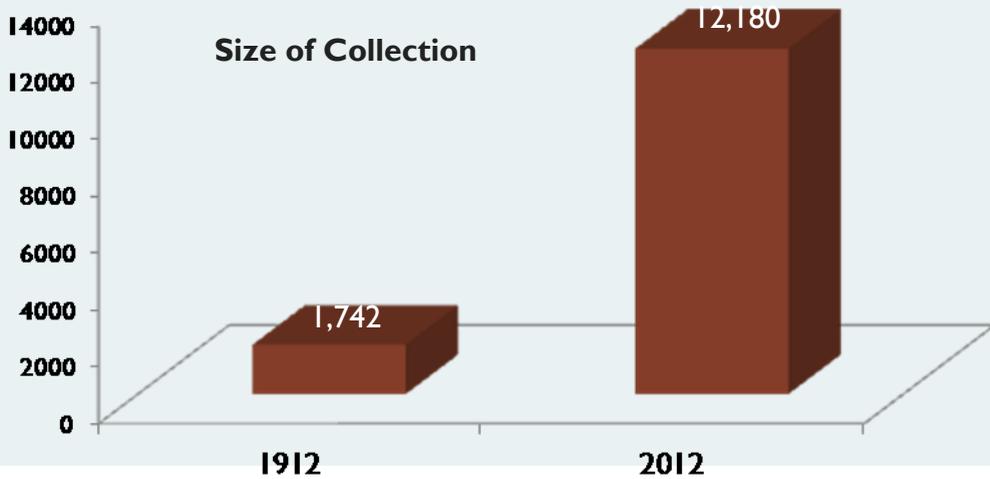
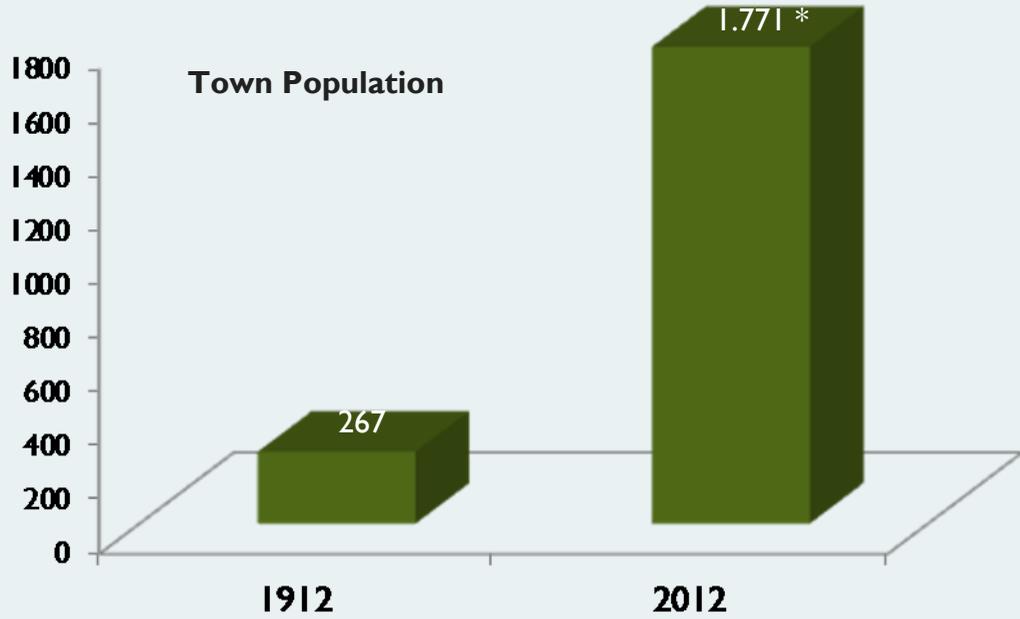


BRUCE WATSON

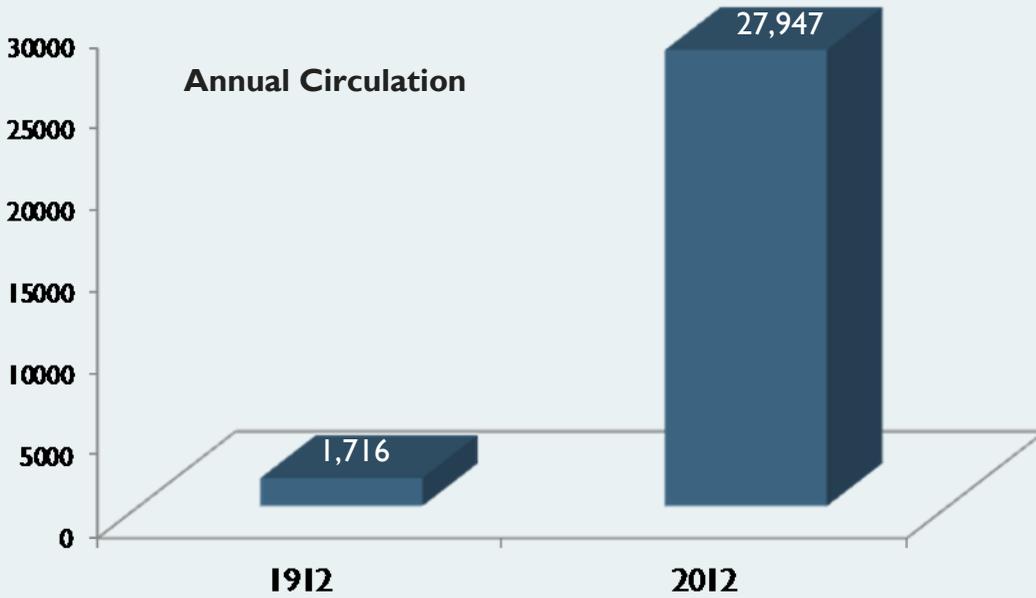


NUNO CLASS

# 1912 ~ 2012: M.N. Spear Mem



# Memorial Library, Then and Now





**No taxpayer funds were used in creating this report.**