

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2002

**SICK LIST:** Once again we are shuffling part-time staff to fill in for the absence of a key staff member. *General Assistant Librarian* Pete Solomon had major heart surgery on January 29 and will be out for a month.

---Chairman Dalton and the Director appeared before the Personnel Board and made a case for extended sick leave for Mr. Solomon on February 12th. Discussion of the results are an agenda item. ("Meetings attended" under New business.)

**LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST:** The annual library legislative breakfast is on Friday, March 1st at the Saugus Public Library at 8:00 AM. This is always an enjoyable event. All Trustees are invited. A representative from Bob DeLeo's office will be coming. Please call or e-mail me ASAP if you intend to come. It is free.

**INFORMATION LITERACY FOR SENIORS:** Since the press release several people a day have called the library asking about the courses. *Assistant Director/Reference Librarian* Gutting has ordered and received new IBM laptops and hired an instructor.

---Although the grant process has exacerbated the library's staff shortage, Chairman Dalton and I were able to use the situation to underscore the need for funding the *Preservation/ Assistant Reference Librarian* position at two meetings.

**CHILDREN'S ROOM RAMP/LIFT:** The Building Inspector took a look at the proposed ramp site and said that we did NOT have a height problem. But we have NO viable estimates. Late today the writer was finally able to speak with someone at the church in which American Ramp Co. (our only estimate so far) had installed a ramp. When asked if I could visit and take a look at the ramp, the person said, "It's not here anymore, the inspector came and they had to take it out." Two other contractors who did come to look at the job have not produced estimates.

---At \$27,000.00, a lift would have to go out to bid.

**STATE AID:** This year the State is releasing state aid money in batches, which the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners is releasing alphabetically. We need the money very soon.