

APRIL 3, 1985

SHORT HISTORY OF ALBION MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

In September, 1981, the desire of Members of a Federated Club, Albion New Century. to have a library for the use of the Community to keep it together, after the closing of the elementary school, began by spending many hours in research. Information was gained from all the Libraries in Marshall County. Many other clubs and organizations were willing to help with donations and volunteer labor. All this information was presented to the Albion Town Council with they voting to let us remodel the Council room for starting a library. This was done with all donated labor and the materials from City Insurance.

The City Library Ordinance was completed and thus our Albion Municipal Library was born with an open house on April 12, 1982 in the Council Room with the Town Clerk having the rear part for her office. This ^(ordinance) provided for a Bd. of Trustees of 5 members.

As this Library was such a success in the community, it was presented to the Council that more space was needed and at this time, we asked for the north 2 bays, used as storage space for town vehicles.

A contract with Martha Ellen Tye for \$10,000 for a 10 yr. period with option for renewal, with the Town Council, to remodel for Library was completed. Our Albion Community, held a Labor Day fund-raiser "RAISE THE ROOF" and raised \$ 2,743. Other donations were made for operating funds. Some shelving, tables, small chairs, books were given to the Library from the Albion (Marshalltown) School.

We made an application to the Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation and after our visit with this Board, they kindly gave us a sum of \$3,750 for the Building Fund, used for Stucco and overhang. They also gave us \$2,000 for more shelving and furniture. With all this help, and donated labor, we opened in our present quarters February 2, 1983 with our public open house on May 15, 1983.

We are very fortunate to have JoAnne Mittelstadt as our Librarian ---she spent many hours making this a success and did work for FREE , donating her time from opening date, April 12, 1982 until July 1, 1982 when funds were available for the operating expense.

The following is a report by JoAnne for the months of Jan. & Feb. :

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Total books		
checked out	1,038	2,523
Total people		
using Lib.	763	2,198

This increase for 1985 is due mainly to rural borrowers from Liscomb, GreenMountain and local rural people. The Story Hour for children is on Tuesday from 10:30^{a.m.} to 11:30^{a.m.} and she has 25 to 30 pre-school children plus many Mothers, who help with cookies and Koolaid. The film projector loaned to us from the Central Regional Library is greatly appreciated and used many hours. Our Librarian, JoAnne Mittelstadt, uses this for Childrens Story Hour.

The Bd. of Trustees served a farm sale on Oct. 2, 1983 to supplement our operating fund & we plan an Ice Cream & Sandwich fund raiser --- on Sat. May 2 at the Fire Station - 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our Friends of the Library are very active and do many things to help. -- purchasing books needed by Children doing homework at the Library. Etc.

The present Board of Trustees are:

4 Yr. Term Jan.82 to Dec.85

Loren Conrad

Bonnie Harmon

6 Yr. Term Jan.84 to DEC. 89

Doris Holroyd

Keith Balvanz

6 Yr.Term Jan.82 to Dec. 87

Betty Tomlinson

Gene McRill served a 2 yr. term : Jan. 82 Dec. 83

Doris Holroyd also served a 2 yr.Term: Jan. 82 to Dec. 83

and then was re-appointed by the Albion Town Council