

Friends of Richard's Memorial Library

Spring 2006 Newsletter



Executive Board 2006-2007

President: Sarah Newman

Vice President:
OPEN

Treasurer: Kristen Steinmetz

Secretary: Susan Richardson

Membership: Marybeth Brown

Volunteers Director: Anita Fenton

Children's Activities:
OPEN

Adult Activities:
OPEN

Dear Library Friends and Neighbors:

For 30 years the library Friends board has met at the end of April to celebrate their successes and introduce new initiatives. It is fitting that we meet in spring--a season in which change and renewal are daily gifts. Gardens bloom again no matter how harsh the winter. Birds return to repopulate our blossoming trees and fill the air with music. And our spirits lift up as we breathe in the smell of spring rains.

The board, like nature, is an ever-evolving concept—a fusion of hard work, time and dedication, new ideas and ideals. Our mission, however, remains the same—to support the library programs and initiatives through fund-raising, events and membership. You, the giving people of this community, help us accomplish these goals. Without you, we would not succeed and our gifts to the library and its patrons would end. This year we say good-bye to some wonderful women who have done great jobs for the Friends board. Our two Children's Directors, Anne Chaney and Cindy Shea, worked for 2 years at making the children's special events and parties huge successes. Andrea Thackeray worked as the Craft Fair Chairwoman for 3 years and dedicated her time to making the Craft Fair a smooth and well-organized event. Karen Guglielmello, although not with us very long, had wonderful ideas and organized the first ever Artisans of Paxton—an event we hope to continue. Each of these women donated a part of themselves and their individuality helped shape our board. Although I will miss these women, I look forward to the ways new members can again change our

perspective—a continuing evolution of ideas. And new people are definitely needed! If you are interested in supporting FRML, please give me a call at 508-363-4815 to find out more about the open positions and how you can help!

Our 2006-2007 fiscal year will include some changes to our budget that will mean good things for the library. We will be creating a category for technology to help replace computers, components and purchase new gadgets that will help the library stay in touch with the ever-changing tech universe. Also, we are looking to create a continuing education fund that will help our beloved librarians learn more and fine-tune their skills whenever needed. The funds we have been accumulating over the years will be the “nest egg” for this endeavor.

On Tuesday, April 25th at 7pm we will be making all of these changes official as well as bring you an exciting presentation by Lynne Bassett on Early New England Quilting from 1750-1850. Lynne was the curator of textiles and fine arts from 1995-2000 at Old Sturbridge Village. She's also done work for and worked with Historic Northampton, Historic Deerfield, and the Mark Twain House in Hartford, CT. In addition to her slide presentation, we will be featuring some local quilters and their works of art. It will certainly be an exciting meeting! Please join us at the library and I look forward to seeing you there!

With warmest regards,

Sarah Newman, President

From the Children's Room

As I sit here writing this there are two employees from Rotman's downstairs installing our new carpeting. I keep going to the top of the stairs to peer down and see if I can catch a glimpse of it. I am so excited to see the final result of months of planning and weeks of working.

Since I first came here in 2001, I have been continually amazed at how our patrons are always willing to lend a helping hand. They have offered to shovel the walkway during a snowstorm, they have read books during a pajama storytime when I lost my voice; they have showered us with cookies and chocolates at Christmas time, and swapped many recommendations of books and movies. Even though I don't live here, I feel as though Paxton is my hometown.

That became even more apparent when we began the downstairs renovation. So many people have offered to help paint (more than we could use!), move books, and donate their time. Everyone deserves to feel really proud of what has been accomplished downstairs. Special thanks to Marybeth Brown's Girl Scout Troop#229 who spent a Saturday morning stripping the wallpaper downstairs.

David Lewis who was called in repeatedly to plaster, paint, and often just to lift and move really heavy objects.

Doug Kutz (my Dad) who donated the materials and the time to make the shelving for the Book & Tape sets.

Kristin Steinmetz, Laurie Moran, and the entire Thackeray family, who all came in to help paint.

Sarah Howe and Karen Murphy who are turning two support columns into beautiful trees.

Lisa Burwell whose strength helped me to haul approximately 5,000 books into storage.

Hunter Chaney who was called in for his muscle.

The Friends Group, and everyone who supports them, by shopping at the Book Fair, becoming a member, or donating to their organization. You are the ones who made it financially possible to undergo this incredible transformation.

There will be more people whose names should be here. They are the ones who will be called to help move everything back!

So come in everyone, and take a moment to look downstairs and see what a beautiful space for the children we have created.

Aislinn Lewis, Children's Librarian

Membership Form:

Please join or renew your membership to the Friends of the Richards Memorial Library.

Make your check payable to the "Friends of Richard's Memorial Library", and send it to 44 Richards Ave, Paxton, MA 01612. Thank you again for your continued support!

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail Address _____

Donor Level:

\$5 Senior \$10 Single \$15 Family \$25 Supporting \$25+Generous \$40+ Corporate

Would you like to volunteer for special events? Yes! What can I do! No. Not at this time.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, April 25th 7pm—Annual Meeting at the library

Tuesday, May 23rd—Skinner's Antique Appraisal Night

Tuesday, May 2nd—Petting Zoo at the library look for more information

Corporate Sponsors:

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