

Between Friends

Bee caught reading!



Friends of Beebe Library

News from and about the Friends of Beebe Library

Winter 2010

February is Library Lovers Month



Swap a Book You Love on February 13th

by Nancy Tolleson

Many school and public libraries and Friends groups across the country celebrate "February is Library Lovers Month" with fundraisers, book sales, raffles, contests and many other creative ideas. Valentines Day is on the 14th but anytime in February is a great time to love your library by stopping in to try something new or share what you love best about the library.

You could pass on tips to your friends about your favorite book group, how to download books to an MP3 player, a favorite nook to read in or recent program you enjoyed. Everyone has their own unique connection when they visit the library so let a staff member know about one or two of your favorites!

Beebe Honey is a sweet gift for a loved one and a good way to show how much you love the Library. Notecards, book bags, and umbrellas are all available to purchase from the Beebe Boutique to show how much you love the library. View the Beebe Boutique offerings at <http://www.friendsofbeebe.org/Boutique.html> Make your purchases at the Library Circulation Desk.

To celebrate Library Lovers Month, the Friends are hosting a **Book Swap** on Saturday, February 13th from 2 - 4 p.m. in the Lecture Hall. This is a repeat of a new event last year that was much enjoyed by all. Stop by for



beverages and refreshments, some likely to be heart shaped, and all delicious. Bring a book you love but can bear to part with. Perhaps you have an extra copy or not enough room for all your favorites. Swap your book with a fellow library lover. Stay to share your opinions on favorite authors or series or just stay to socialize. Missy Thomson and Susan Kilkelly will be coordinating the Book Swap this year.

You're a Part of Something BIG

Did you know that statewide there are over 55,000 Friends of our public libraries? The Friends of Beebe Library is part of this statewide network of Friends.

Over 500 people show their support by being members of the Friends of Beebe Library. Our Friends' group is also a member of MFOL, the Massachusetts Friends of Libraries. If you would like to know more about other Friends groups' ideas and activities or events impacting libraries statewide, visit. <http://www.masslib.net/mfol/index.htm>

Third Holiday Quilt Raffle: A Success!

Our raffle of a "Baltimore Album Style" Quilt last fall was very successful, resulting in \$766 to support the Library.



The winner of the quilt was Diane Mulcahey of Wakefield, an active member of the Friends and a newly appointed Board Member. She will give the quilt to a friend as a very special gift.



A Friend

When you join the Friends of Beebe Library, you are providing support for Wakefield's finest resource: The Lucius Beebe Memorial Library, its collections, programs and staff.

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join. Applications are available on our web site and at the Library.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to New Members of the Friends of Beebe Library Board

by Susan Kilkelly

We have had more changes than usual in the make-up of the Friends' Board in the past few months. The biggest change is that Mike Blake has stepped down as Treasurer due to health problems. We will miss his thorough financial reports and quick reimbursement checks for Friends' expenses. Gayle Edson has agreed to take over the job and was appointed by the Board at our January meeting. Mike is training her in the Treasurer's responsibilities so we can expect a smooth transition.

Our Vice President, Gail Severt, has had to reduce the time she can spend with the Friends due to unexpected work and family commitments. Diane Mulcahy has agreed to serve as Co-Vice President and was appointed to the Board at our December meeting. Diane has jumped into Friends' activities and is working closely with President Nancy Tolleson, former President Jody Sherman and Library Assistant Director Laura Zalewski on several different projects.

Finally Board member Lis Lang resigned in December. Lis has taken a job in Washington D.C. with National Public Radio. We are all pleased that she found such a great job but are disappointed to lose her. Lis added a different perspective to our discussions as the working mother of a first-grader.

The By-Laws of the Friends of Beebe Library call for a Board of four officers and up to four Directors to run the affairs of the Friends. All members are welcome to attend the monthly Board meetings and get involved in the running of the group. We often have home baked treats to snack on and are an easy group to get along with. Board meetings are the first Thursday of the month, from September to May, and the second Thursday in June.

BEEBE BULLETIN Library News

Library Volunteers Needed

The library is looking for volunteers to help clean DVDs and CDs. We try to pro-actively clean our collection of DVDs, CDs and books on CDs on a regular basis. We are looking for people who can volunteer for an hour per week to help with this enormous task. Call Laura Zalewski, 781/246.6334, x110 if you wish to volunteer.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Thursday, February 11th at 7:00 p.m. "Identity Theft"

According to the FTC, about nine million Americans have their identity stolen each year. By not taking the proper precautions during everyday transactions, you are increasing your chances of becoming a victim of identity theft. Marysa Ingersoll from the Better Business Bureau will review tips on how to detect and prevent scams and fraud, as well as steps a victim of identity theft can take. No registration required.

Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m. "Going Green at Home and Work"

Going green has become a global priority. Everyone is more tuned to environmental issues. We all need to consider the small changes that can help the environment. Marysa Ingersoll will review tips on how to make your home more energy efficient and offer ideas on how to save energy and resources at work. These small steps will help your family and office to become more environmentally friendly and save money at the same time! No registration required.

APRIL EVENTS

April 10 & 11, 2010 " Blossoms at the Beebe" Weekend

Reserve the weekend for fun at the library. On Saturday evening April 10th, Beebe Library and the Wakefield Chamber of Commerce

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Friends of Beebe Library BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President - Nancy Tolleson
781-246-1335

Co-Vice Presidents

Gail Severt

Diane Mulcahy

Treasurer - Gayle Edson

Secretary - Missy Thompson

DIRECTORS

Susan Kilkelly

Rosemarie Adler

Jody Sherman

COMMITTEES

Book Sale

Jody Sherman

781-245-3631

Membership

Rosemarie Adler

Membership Database

David Knudsen

781-621-8256

Newsletter

Susan Kilkelly

781-245-7245

Publicity

Ann Marie Pasquale

Web Liaison, Special Events

Coordinator

Nancy Tolleson

Web Content, Publicity,

Newsletter Layout

Sherri Oken

Webmaster

Pete Davis

Friends of Beebe Library
c/o Lucius Beebe Memorial Library
Main Street

Wakefield, MA 01880

www.friendsofbeebe.org

friends@friendsofbeebe.org

Upcoming Events *continued*

will be hosting the "Blossoms at the Beebe" gala. The evening will be wonderful opportunity to mingle with neighbors, enjoy food and wine, view splendid flower arrangements created by a variety of amateur and



professional floral arrangers and bid on a variety of items at the silent auction.

On Sunday, the library will be open from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. for all normal library services and to welcome the community to enjoy the flower show. Special programs for families will also be part of the Sunday festivities.

Proceeds from the event go toward the library's book budget and the civic projects embraced by the Wakefield Chamber of Commerce. The past two years have sold out and were wonderful successes. Join us again for the wonderful spirit of fellowship and community that reigned throughout the evening!

MAY EVENTS

"Stories For A Safer Wakefield" Anti-Violence Reading Program co-sponsored with the Wakefield Alliance Against Violence

The Library is joining with the Wakefield Alliance Against Violence to organize a reading event in May 2010 called "Stories For A Safer Wakefield". The Friends of Beebe Library is supporting the event by purchasing the books to be read. There will be books appropriate for different ages on aspects of violence ranging from domestic violence to bullying. More information will be available about this program as it gets closer.

CALENDAR ON PAGE 6



LIBRARY "LOVE STORIES"

by David Knudsen

I was born into a bookish family that spent evenings reading together in companionable silence in the living room. Dad followed "Scientific American", Mom read fiction, biography, and history, and I swallowed up fantasy novels. Not surprisingly, I have loved libraries from the very beginning: they seemed to be merely extensions of our living room, conveniently located all over the world.

After age 8, I lived a short walk from our town library. It was an era before "helicopter parenting," and I went to the library regularly on my own. There I

discovered the Freddy the Pig series, about a barnyard-full of talking animals and their long-suffering farmer. Later, I went through a phase of checking out Hardy Boys books by the half-dozen, and I could have reported to any librarian precisely which volumes were missing from their shelves.

The Bernardsville Library was doubtless ill-suited to its librarians, but it was quirky and very dear to its patrons. A tavern and inn in the 1700s, it still had a low-browed wooden porch and very low ceilings in its original front rooms. A magazine reading room just inside was filled with comfortable armchairs and dominated by a double fireplace. The ticking of the very measured grandfather clock provided the only sound beyond rustling pages and creaking wooden floors. That is



where, a true son of my programmer father, I poured through issues of "Byte" magazine until closing time.

My university library was utterly different. It housed five million volumes on three subterranean floors, each the size of several football fields. Built in Gothic style in the 1950s, it offered two-hundred-year-old books for perusal in its open stacks. While I was a student, an extension pierced the building shell and let sunlight into the basement floors in long, multi-story galleries, but I lived back in the darkened stacks, behind the sliding metal door of a six-foot by three-foot study carrel. There I researched my thesis, pondered emotional issues that seemed incredibly weighty at the time, and yes, occasionally slept. The carrel

was an ascetic little metal cell, but it was quiet, and I learned a lot in it.

The Beebe Library, too, is an architectural gem and feels like

another comfortable extension of my living room. But I also treasure it for something that never stood out to me in the other prominent libraries in my life. It excels in serving the public and in making information freely available to all, and that makes it an invaluable part of our community life.

Editor's note: This historical photo of the Bernardsville Library was provided by the Bernardsville Library Local History Room Photo Collection. The original library building shown here has been replaced by a modern facility.

Friends of Beebe Library are invited to submit their own "love letters", stories about their library experiences (with appropriate pictures), to our editor, skkilkelly@aol.com

SPECIAL FEATURE STORY

The Gift of Giving

by Missy Thomson

It's isn't easy to compete with a puppy (in training to be a service dog) but the Friends held their own with Beebe Honey and the promise of good books to read in Wakefield's most interesting shopping venue of the 2009 Christmas season.

The Friends of the Beebe Library were one of several local groups to participate in the Wakefield Academy's first annual Alternative Gift Fair held on Saturday, December 12th in the Wakefield High School

cafeteria. Students in the before- and after-school programs decorated the room with glittering life-sized snowmen and giant snowflakes. Holiday music was lively and the spirit of giving shone a little brighter as children and grownups moved from table to table to talk with representatives from a number of local, national and international organizations and charities. The "shoppers" gathered information about what each group does and about opportunities for volunteering. Donations were made to honor grandparents, aunts and uncles and teachers. Handsomely printed gift cards were available for the donor to inscribe the name of the organization and the recipient.

The Friends' table was laden with honey, frisBEEBEs, umbrellas and book bags. We gathered a few donations, sold some Beebe Boutique items and made some new Friends with gift memberships.

Other organizations represented at the Fair included the Make A Wish Foundation, MSPCA, PAWS of Wakefield, Friends of Lake Quannapowitt, The Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry, Heifer International, and Wakefield Educational Foundation.

Everyone left the Fair feeling that they had made a significant difference to someone else, here and around the world. And they were also proud of completing some of their Christmas shopping!

MEET A FRIEND

Barbara Whorley

Interviewed by Gail Severt

Gail: How long have you been using our library?.

Barbara: My husband Robert has used the library for over 15 years. I moved here three years ago.

Gail: How long have you been a member of the Friends of Beebe Library and why did you join?

Barbara: I joined three years ago. I wanted to meet other people from the town. I have participated in the June Book Sale for the last two years.

Gail: What is your favorite item that you've borrowed from the library lately?

Barbara: Robert borrowed books on bread to help his daughter with a science project.

Gail: What do you especially like about our library?

Barbara: The building is beautiful. I appreciate being able to use the facilities and having my Daisy troop meet there. The staff is friendly and accommodating.

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RECAP: Recent Events

Scenes from the Wakefield "Holiday Stroll" Sat., December 5th, 2009



Janis Reid sold
Holiday Quilt Raffle tickets



Gail Severt staffed
The Beebe Boutique



Elf Invasion!



Town festivities in front of the Library



A NIGHT (OR DAY) AT THE MUSEUM



The Advantages of the Friend's Sponsored Museum Passes

by Lina Verderese

Take advantage of the many museum and recreational passes that the Wakefield Public Library offers for free or for reduced entrance fees -- the fees being minimal compared to the high prices you would pay without the pass. The Friends of the Beebe Library actually purchase these passes so that library members can use and enjoy them. Passes can be reserved online, in person at the circulation desk or over the phone. For more detailed pass information just visit www.wakefieldlibrary.org and access the Museum Passes link.

The library offers passes to the following venues:

The **Massachusetts State Parks**: Keep your winter active by discovering the hikes, snowshoeing and cross country skiing opportunities offered by your local parks. The pass provides visitors with unlimited day use parking access to state parking facilities.

Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA): The ICA is the first new art museum built in Boston in nearly 100 years. With breathtaking architecture, a waterfront view and many new programs in the making, it is a must see.

Massachusetts Audubon Society: The pass allows visitation to various wildlife sanctuaries such as Drumlin Farms, Lincoln Woods and many more.

Boston Children's Museum: The museum offers many hands-on exhibits and activities to keep your child active during the winter months.

Harvard Museum of Natural History: HMNH features comprehensive, year-round exhibits including Evolution, the Great Mammal Hall, Arthropods (kids

love bugs), Glass Flowers; zoological, mineral and geological galleries.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum: This beautiful and unique museum, located in a Venetian villa on the Fenway, is filled with rich tapestries, paintings, sculptures, furniture and other decorative arts.

Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Boston: The MFA's world renowned collection encompasses nearly 450,000 works of art, making it a must see for art lovers.

Museum of Science: MOS is an inspiring and educational hands on museum for adults and kids alike.

New England Aquarium: Partake in the daily entertaining events such as penguin feedings, seal trainings and dives in the Giant Ocean Tank. Also, experience the New Balance Foundation Marine Mammal Center, now open to the public with its Northern Fur Seals.

Peabody Essex Museum (PEM): Join in the festivities and view the entertaining, ethnic Weekend Festival the PEM has to offer along with the "Trash Menagerie" exhibit ending June 1, 2010. Make special reservations to see the Chinese House and other historic homes on the PEM's property.

Wheelock Family Theatre: The musical comedy "Honk", a great show for ages 6 and up, is being performed from January 29-February 28th.

Zoo New England: The Stone Zoo, small, cozy and convenient, is a perfect place to venture with small children. The Franklin Park Zoo is on a larger scale and offers plenty of entertainment, such as arts and crafts for the children.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park: Enjoy beautiful woodlands and lawns in this unique sculpture park and modern art museum.

The House of the Seven Gables:

Challenge yourself to find the mysterious secret staircase in the oldest surviving 17th century mansion.

Valued Museum Passes Renewed: Statistics Show Lots of Use

By Nancy Tolleson

The Friends' Board recently approved the annual funding renewal for 12 museum passes. This very popular service allows individuals and families the opportunity to try a smorgasbord of cultural, educational, historic, recreational, and entertaining institutions and venues in the greater Boston area or statewide for the Audubon pass. There also is a pass provided by the State that offers free parking at State Parks, and the Wheelock Family Theater offers a 2 for 1 ticket price for its Friday performances

The online reservation system has streamlined the process and makes it easy to plan in advance or see what is available at the last minute when looking for something new to do. Reservations can be made by phone or in person at the Circulation Desk as well.

Passes are reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure a good selection of perennial favorites and new opportunities. More recent passes include The DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, The House of Seven Gables and the ICA (Institute of Contemporary Art). In 2009, the passes were used over 1,400 times.

Since most passes benefit 2-4 patrons, as many as 3-5,000 individuals have enjoyed an outing at reduced cost or free. In these challenging economic times, the passes help library patrons enjoy enriching experiences, a service the Friends are very happy to support.

Here's the link to the museum passes.

<http://www.wakefieldlibrary.org/libraryinfo/faq/museumpasses/>



Friends of Beebe Library
c/o Lucius Beebe Memorial Library
Main Street
Wakefield, MA 01880

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CALENDAR

EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

There is always a lot more going on that isn't on the schedule in time for our deadline, so keep checking at the Library or on the Library website for upcoming events.

Unless otherwise noted, events are held in the Lecture Hall.

Every Thursday 7:30 p.m.
French Club, Conference Room

FEBRUARY

Thursday, February 4th, 7 p.m.
Friends of Beebe Board Meeting,
Trustees Room

Tuesday, February 9th, 6 p.m. *Supper Sleuths* - Mysteries with a strong sense of New England

Thursday, February 11th, 7 p.m.
How to Prevent Identity Theft

Saturday, February 13th, 2-4 p.m.
Love Your Library Month *Book Swap*

Wednesday, February 17th, 7:30 p.m.
Books By the Lake The Brief Wondrous
Life of Oscar Woo by Junot Diaz

Wednesday, February 24th, 7 p.m.
Going Green at Home and Work

MARCH

Thursday, March 4th, 7 p.m.
Friends of Beebe Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 9th, 6 p.m.
Supper Sleuths - Free Read

Wednesday, March 17th, 7:30 p.m.
Books By the Lake Skeletons at the Feast
by Chris Bohjalian

APRIL

Thursday, April 1st, 7 p.m.
Friends of Beebe Board Meeting

Saturday, April 10th, 7 p.m. *Blossoms at the Beebe*; throughout the Library

Sunday, April 11th, 1 – 5 p.m. Sunday Family Opening; entire library

Tuesday, April 13th, 6 p.m.
Supper Sleuths - Southern California Regional Mysteries

Wednesday, January 20th, 7:30 p.m.
Books by the Lake Loving Frank by Nancy Horan

Meet a Friend Interview continued

Gail: Is there anything you think people should know about our library?

Barbara: It is more than just books. It is a multipurpose center with meeting rooms and internet access.

Gail: What is your favorite book.

Barbara: I take advantage of the non-fiction books on personal growth.

Newsletters via E-mail

Our newsletter: If you are getting a paper newsletter and want it by e-mail, please make sure we have your correct e-mail. If you get this electronically and prefer paper, contact us. Information is on page 2.

The library's newsletter too: Would you like to subscribe to the library's weekly e-mail newsletter? Go to the library website, www.wakefieldlibrary.org and click "Subscribe to our E-newsletter". Type in your e-mail address and hit send.