Letter from the President

Hello everyone, and welcome to our Summer 2014 Newsletter.

In accordance with your preferences we are again sending out a printed newsletter. To keep costs down we are including your annual membership renewal form. Please renew promptly!

You are all invited to our ANNUAL MEETING on June 3, 2014 at 5:00 in the Library auditorium. We will be electing new board officers and members. Refreshments will be served.

Special recognition will be given at the meeting to all the volunteers who gave their time to work on any or all of our three fundraisers this past year: the Book Sale, the Basket Sale, and the booth at the Branford Festival.

I hope to see you all on June 3.

Betsy Klarman

How Your Generosity Improves the Library

All of your hard work on the fundraisers has put the Friends in a stronger position than ever to make the Library an even better resource. At the most recent Board meeting, we approved up to $15,000 to purchase new technology for a Mobile Computer Lab.

Library Director Karen Jensen reports that many patrons ask for help learning to use the computers and this will allow her staff to conduct much-needed training sessions.

Karen extends a heartfelt thank you to all of us!

Horticulture, History and Haute Couture

On June 28 and 29 the Branford Garden Club will present "A Gardener's Wedding".

In addition to floral designs, this Flower Show will feature more than two dozen vintage wedding gowns, dating back through the twentieth century and well back into the nineteenth; old and new plants; and an art exhibit by the recently formed Branford Arts Group, plus vendors, door prizes and a cut flower sale.

It's all yours for only $10 (12 and under are FREE). Saturday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday noon-5 p.m. at the Community House.

Visit our website at www.branfordgardenclub.org for more information and a list of local restaurants offering "Flower Show Special" discounts.
Upcoming Dates to Remember

June 3, 2014, 5:00 p.m.
Annual meeting in the Auditorium.

June 13, 14, 15. Once again we’ll be scooping Italian Ice at the Branford Festival. To sign up to work, please go to www.SignupGenius.com and type jbmlfriends@gmail.com in order to get to the signup page. Using the SignupGenius will save Betsy a lot of time and phone calls, but if you’re old school and prefer to do it the old-fashioned way, call or email her to pick your slot.

June 14. Our hardworking Lecture Coordinator Extra-ordinaire, Fred Biamonte, will be receiving a Focus Award from the Friends of Connecticut Libraries at their Annual Meeting at Middlesex Community College. Congratulations to Fred on this very well-deserved honor!

More information and sign-ups to come later this summer, but Save the Dates now!

January 18, 2015. Downton Abbey Tea Party fundraiser. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. the Sunday of the new season; we’ll have the entire library for this new event. Kandi Carle’s program exploring the complicated attire of the "Victorian Lady" will educate and entertain; your own costumes are encouraged but not required. More information later this year.

LECTURES AND CONCERTS

A Piano and Violin Duo
Sunday, September 14, 2 PM From Warsaw to New York and from Carnegie Hall to Lincoln Center, Kasha Karkowska, pianist and Anna Karkowska on violin have delighted audiences with classical music and wonderful stories.

The Roots of Rock 'n' Roll
Saturday, September 27, 2 PM Brian Gillie performs a retro-groove of singing, dancing, history, stand-up piano playing, original sound bites, etc.

The Androgyny of John Singer Sargent
Tuesday, October 14, 7 PM Fred Biamonte, Educator at the New Britain Museum of American Art will present an analysis of Sargent’s art and life, with an emphasis on his ambiguous relationships with men and women.

Friends of the James Blackstone Memorial Library
758 Main Street
Branford, CT 06405

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