



The LIBRARY CONNECTION

A Quarterly Publication of the Friends of the Burlington Public Library

Winter 2009

Friends Officers

Joyce Russo	<i>President</i>
Rosalie Blum	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Bob Abruzzo	<i>Treasurer</i>
Margaret Montore	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Marina Terpestra	<i>At Large</i>
Patrick Moreno	
Steve Wasserman	<i>Trustee liaison</i>
Caitlin Abruzzo	<i>Artwork & Design</i>

President's Message:

The Friends of the Burlington Library are an extremely important source of support and funding for your public library, and their contributions are more important than ever in this time of economic challenge and reduced budgets. Did you know that there is **no** funding from the town for computers for the public to use at the library, nor does the town pay for library programs for children or adults, nor for museum passes that *you* can borrow? ALL of those have been provided by the Friends over the years.

The Friends of the Burlington Library now find themselves at a critical junction: Board members have retired or moved away, and there are simply not enough people on the Board to organize book sales, plan other fundraisers, and encourage new members to become involved. Could YOU attend a Friends' Board meeting one evening a month?

The Friends have operated without a vice president to assist the president and help plan events for the past couple of years. There is also great need for someone with basic computer skills to manage the Friends' membership list and welcome new members to the group. If you have creative ideas for fundraising, or could help to write or produce the Friends newsletter which comes out four times a year, we would happily put you to work.

The rewards for this important volunteer work are great: you get to work with an enthusiastic and committed group, you have the satisfaction of providing an essential service that

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It's membership renewal time.

It's time to renew your membership!

As many of you know our annual membership period runs from the October book sale through the following year. Memberships renewed at or after the Fall book sale are good for the upcoming calendar year.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2009, please do so soon.

We need your support!

benefits everyone in town, and you get the warm glow of being truly useful to your community. Won't you consider getting involved? Contact Friends' President Joyce Russo at igrusso2002@yahoo.com or come along to any Board Meeting to meet the group. Spring Board meetings include Monday, February 9, March 9 and April 13, always at 7 p.m. at the Library



From the desk of Lori Hodgson, Library Director...

This spring will be a busy one for the Burlington Public Library and our community. Through the Library Services and Technology Act and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, we have received a grant for a community project.

We are planning a community wide reading initiative that encourages the whole community to read, discuss, learn and come together over a single book. For our “**Burlington Reads**” project we have chosen *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. This book, described by Ms. Kingsolver as “part memoir and part journalistic investigation”, tells of how her family was changed by their commitment to eat only locally grown food for one year. Many timely topics including healthy eating, vegetable gardening, carbon footprinting, and environmental responsibility are addressed, making it a great title for discussions and programs.

The grant, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, allows us to plan an intensive schedule of community-wide programs and activities to take place during the months of March and April of 2009. We are partnering with different groups and organizations in the community to make this a truly town wide project. We are planning book discussions with some to be held in the library and others to be hosted in our community. A number of exciting and interesting programs are being planned around the themes of the book. Vegetable gardening, healthy eating, and cooking with local produce are among the topics of the programs that we are planning.

We have purchased many copies of *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*. These will be ready for you by the end of January. At that time, you will also be able to pick up a brochure listing all the events with their dates, times, and locations so that you can mark your calendars and attend as many events as possible.

We are extremely excited about the “**Burlington Reads**” project and hope you will be too. Watch for more information in the library, on our website, and throughout the community.

We need your e-mail address!

If you are receiving your copy of the Library Connection by ordinary mail we would like to be able to e-mail it to you.

We also have several members whose e-mail address has changed so if you are surprised to receive this newsletter by hard copy mail please send us your new e-mail address.

It will be a big money-saver for the Friends if we can e-mail the newsletter to you.

Drop an e-mail to Bob Abruzzo at rabruzzo@rabruzzo.com .



We need your help ... with just one thing ... part 1

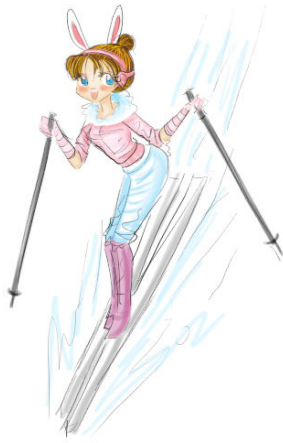
We know how busy you are, how many other things you're involved in or maybe that you're concerned about how much time you can manage, but you don't have to let volunteering or donating time overwhelm you.

You can help with **just one thing** or maybe for even just one time of the entire year.

Like it would be a big help to the Friends if you could **help with our e-mail membership list**. We use g-mail but would be grateful for help with any other program. We need help updating and organizing the list.

We could also use help if you know how to use **Mail Merge** to make up **address labels** for our postal service mailing.

How about it?



Programming for Children Storytimes, Winter 2009

"Baby Time"
for birth to 18 months
(with caregiver)

Fridays at 11:00 a.m.

"Toddler Time"
for 18 to 36 months
(with caregiver)

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.
(except during school
vacation week)

"Three's and Four's
Time" for 3-4 years
(with caregiver)

Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.
(except during school
vacation week)

"Pajama Storytime"
for families with 3-7
year olds

Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m.
(during school vacation
week replaced by "Movie
Madness" below)

We need your help ... with just one thing ... part 2

We know how busy you are, how many other things you're involved in or maybe that you're concerned about how much time you can manage, but you don't have to let volunteering or donating time overwhelm you.

You can help with just one thing or maybe for even just one time of the entire year.

Like maybe help us by running the May Baskets fundraiser.

It requires calling local businesses to solicit donations of the things that go into the baskets, things from their business, no asking for money is involved.

You don't have to figure out who to call ... although your ideas are greatly appreciated ... we have a list of merchants who were happy to help in the past.

Many businesses will make up the baskets themselves. You might need to apply a little craft talent or find some help with making up some of the baskets. Then you pick up the stuff And work with the volunteers who will help with the advertizing. The librarians will handle the raffle tickets and money.

Then run the May Basket Night, do it yourself or work with an MC.

How about it?

Scrabble Club

Scrabble Club, for students in grades 4-8, will meet Tuesday afternoons, 3:30-4:45 p.m. (except school holiday weeks) now until mid-May. Learn to play Scrabble or improve your game. Learn new words, meet new people, and have fun!

Scrabble Tournament

Teams of young players get together for a day of Scrabble on **Saturday, January 31, 12:00 – 4:30**, co-sponsored by the Burlington and Woburn Public Libraries. For more information contact Joanna Troutt at the library at 781 270-1692.

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Party

Monday, March 2 is Dr. Seuss's birthday. And, wouldn't he be thrilled to know that kids have no school on that day! The party begins in the library at 10:30 a.m., with stories, activities and more.





Computer Workshops Offered at the Library



Library Catalog – Learn to use the library’s online catalog in just one hour! Learn how to search for items, access your library account, renew and reserve items. This workshop is taught as a one-on-one lesson. Call or come to the second floor reference desk to set up a time to meet with librarian Marnie Smith.

Navigating the 'Net 1 – A first look at the Internet. Learn about web sites and get an introduction to using Google. Upcoming classes: **Wednesday, January 21, Wednesday, March 18, or Wednesday, May 13, 2009. Time: 1:15 - 2:30 p.m**

Navigating the 'Net 2 – A deeper look at the Internet. Learn about different search engines and gain more practice in searching the Internet with the goal of learning to find material on your own. Upcoming classes: **Wednesday, February 18, Wednesday, April 15, or Wednesday, May 27. Time: 1:15 - 2:30 p.m**

Health Care Information on the Internet – Discover some useful web sites and learn how to evaluate what you find there. Offered on different days of the week and at various times during the day. Upcoming classes: **Thursday, February 26, or Thursday, April 23. Time: 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.**

Database Workshop – Learn what an online database is and how to access from home or at the library. Using our databases, learn how to find magazine and newspaper articles, take practice exams for SATs, GREs, civil service and many other exams, read book reviews and entire books online, gather business information and sales leads. Upcoming classes: **Tuesday, February 10, or Tuesday, April 14. Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

Email – Set up a free Yahoo! email account and learn how to use it. Pick up a “How-to” brochure on the second floor and/or stop by the reference desk to set up a time to meet one-on-one with librarian Donna Manoogian.

IMPORTANT – Class participants **MUST** be able to use a mouse. If you need help learning to use a mouse, speak to a reference librarian: we have tutorials and other sources that can help. All computer workshops are **FREE**, but you must **register in advance** by calling the Reference Desk at **781-270-1691**.

Book Discussions for Adults

The Last Wednesday Book Group

Curl up with a good book on cold winter evenings, and then join other readers for stimulating discussions on the last Wednesday evening of each month. Copies of these books will be available at the library’s front desk for all who’d like to read and discuss. Mark these dates on your calendar:

January 28, 7-8:30 p.m. – ***China Road: a journey into the future of a rising power***, NPR China Correspondent Rob Gifford. This is the true story of a six-week journey through modern China, told by a man with a deep knowledge of -- and love for -- a most interesting and unusual country. Patrick Moreno will be the discussion leader.

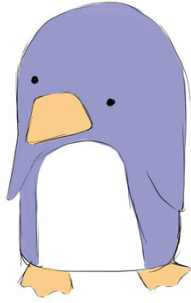
February 25, 7-8:30 p.m. -- ***Indignation***, by Philip Roth. A “taut, haunting, and always-funny” look at the experiences of an American college boy in the early days of the Cold War. The author is best known for his earlier novel, *Portnoy’s Complaint*. Phyllis Linder will lead the discussion.

March 25, 7-8:30 p.m. – Barbara Kingsolver’s ***Animal, Vegetable, Miracle***, the true story of a family that chooses to eat only locally produced food for an entire year. Would YOU want to do such a thing? (This discussion is part of the “Burlington Reads” events)

Do YOU have a favorite book that would stimulate lively discussion? Contact Susanne Sullivan at 781-505-4985 or ssullivan@burlmass.org if you would like to suggest a title and lead a discussion in 2009.

Thursday Morning “Book Talk”

Learn about new books at the library, and talk about what you’ve been reading with other enthusiastic readers! Drop in at “Book Talk” at 10:30 a.m. on alternate Thursdays: January 8 and 22, February 12 and 26, and March 12 and 26. Newcomers are always welcome to join us for coffee and conversation.



Entertaining Programs for Adults

Did you know that the library offers outstanding free programs for adults? Scheduled at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of most months, these adult programs are both educational and entertaining. Please join us.

Thursday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m. – Beginning Genealogy, with professional genealogist Michael Brophy. He'll follow this on **Thursday, January 29** with a program on **Electronic Databases for Genealogy**, introducing two of the marvelous resources provided by the library for those who'd like to research their family history. Registration is suggested but not required: call the reference desk at 781-270-1691 to reserve a place for yourself.

Thursday, February 19, 7 p.m. – “Knitting with the Owner of Edwina’s Knitch.” Find out what’s new in the world of knitting.

Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m. – “Healthy Food, Healthy Lives,” with Allison Anneser, author of a book called *Refined to Real Food*. She'll talk about ways to coax your family to eat healthier meals. (This program, funded by the LSTA Grant, is part of the “Burlington Reads” events)

Presented and paid for by the Friends of the Library:

February Vacation Week Programs

Movie Madness. Tuesday, February 17 at 7:15 p.m. Enjoy popcorn and watch the feature film classic (1994), **THE PAGEMASTER** with Macaulay Culkin and Christopher Lloyd. A timid young boy enters an empty library only to be swept away into the magical animated world of *The Pagemaster*. Guided by a trio of talking books – Adventure, Fantasy and Horror – Richard must conquer his greatest fears before he can find his way home. Popcorn will be served. Bring something comfy to sit on. The movie will be shown in Fogelberg A and B.

Family Storytime. Wednesday, February 18 at 11:00 a.m. Stories and activities are most appropriate for ages 3 – 7 but all are welcome.

Rainforest Reptiles, Thursday, February 19 at 2:00 pm. Handle a live alligator! If you are a reptile lover or if you want to learn more about reptiles, this show is for you. (rainforestreptileshows.com)

We need your help ... with just one thing ... part 3

We know how busy you are, how many other things you're involved in or maybe that you're concerned about how much time you can manage, but you don't have to let volunteering or donating time overwhelm you.

You can help with just one thing or maybe for even just one time of the entire year.

Like maybe help us by running a new fundraiser.

We need a “project manager.” We have several ideas, but also appreciate new ones. If you have experience or just want to try your hand we would love to hear from you.

How would you like to run a miniature golf tournament in the library? There's a company that supplies everything, you just have to manage the show.

Or maybe you can organize a wine and cheese tasting reception.

Or maybe our annual “Chairs Gone Wild” event, even adding something new like decorated bird houses.

How about it?

Exhibits

Art on Display

January, 2009 – “The Literary Horse: When Legends Come to Life” by equine photographer Vanessa Wright, features 50 photos of area horses and riders paired with quotations from the world’s great books.

February, 2009 – Photographs by Burlington resident Andrew Georgette.

March, 2009 – “Mystery photos” by David Babcock.

EXHIBIT SPACE Available

Do you have paintings, photographs, needlework or collectables that you might like to display at the library? Contact the Assistant Director at 781-505-4985 or email ssullivan@burlmass.org.

Young Adults

Check with Young Adult Assistant, Shelley Mastalerz at 781 270-1692 for information about the new Teen Advisory Group (TAG) that meets twice a month and is planning fun events for library teens.

Teen Culture Day.

Saturday February 7 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Members of the library’s new Teen Advisory Group (TAG) will be presenting information, including food, dance, clothing, and books that reflect their cultural background. Free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Book Sale

Our Spring book sale will be held **April 30 to May 2**. Mark your calendar. As always we need your help and support. Contact Steve Wasserman if you can pitch in to help: steve.wasserman@verizon.net

Overdrive Downloadable Audio Books

Have you looked at the prices of audio books in the stores? If you have you will no doubt find your public library a very pleasant alternative. You can download a digital audio book to your computer, listen to it on your mp3 player or maybe your iPod or in many cases, burn it to a CD. All of this can be done from home and at a time that is convenient to you. There is something for everyone in the collection, which grows larger each month. If you haven’t tried it, you’ll want to give it a look. Go to the library’s webpage at www.burlingtonpubliclibrary.org and click on the Digital Audio Books icon. The directions and lists of titles are easily accessible. We’re sure you’ll be pleased.

We need your help ... with just one thing ... part 4

We know how busy you are ... okay, you’ve read it three times already. So now you’re wondering how do I get involved? Who do I contact? Good questions! E-mail:

Joyce Russo at jgrusso2002@yahoo.com
Bob Abruzzo at rabruzzo@rabruzzo.com
Rosalie Blum at rvblux@aol.com

And we have a lot of other choices for helpful things we need people to do.

We could use help producing this very newsletter. Do you know Microsoft Publisher or even ... wow ... Adobe Acrobat?

Do you have art talent? You can help with posters or the art work in this newsletter.

Are you good at calligraphy? You can do occasional thank you notes to some of our supporters.

Can you write a grant application?

If you can manage to sign up to become a regular board member we can even make you Vice President on the first day!!!

Be A Friend!

Day	Date	Event
Thurs	Jan 15	Evening Program Genealogy 7:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan 28	Book Group <i>China Road</i> 7:00 p.m.
Thurs	Jan 29	Evening Program Genealogy 7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan 31	Scrabble tournament
Mon	Feb 9	7:00 PM Monthly Meeting
Tues	Feb 17	Movie Madness 7:15 p.m.
Wed	Feb 18	Family Storytime 11:00 a.m.
Tues	Feb 19	Rainforest Reptiles 2:00 p.m.
Thurs	Feb 19	Evening Program Knitting 7:00 p.m.
Wed	Feb 25	Book Group <i>Indignation</i> 7:00 p.m.
Mon	Mar 2	Dr. Seuss's birthday
Mon	Mar 9	7:00 PM Monthly Meeting
Thurs	Mar 19	Evening Program Healthy Food 7:00 p.m.
Wed	Mar 25	Book Group <i>Animal, Vegetable</i> 7:00 p.m.
Mon	Apr 13	7:00 PM Monthly meeting
Thurs	Apr 30	Book Sale !
Fri	May 1	Book Sale !!
Sat	May 2	Book Sale !!!

Coming soon to a car near you: You've seen Cape Cod and Red Sox license plates, now Libraries plates will soon be available. Go to <http://www.cmrls.org/plates.htm> for details.



Of the Burlington Public Library
Mail to: Friends of the Burlington Public Library, 22
 Sears St., Burlington, MA 01803

Check below if you are interested in helping with:

- Plan Adult Programs
- Book Sales
- Bake for Events
- Fundraising
- Membership Drive
- Publicity

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home phone _____

Business phone _____

Email address (for meeting and activity reminders) _____

Annual Dues (for 2009 calendar year)

Family \$12 Individual \$10 Senior \$7
 Sustaining \$50 Supporting \$100 Life \$200

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Burlington Public Library. The Friends of the Burlington Public Library are a not-for-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible. Your membership is good through the end of the year.

The FRIENDS of the Burlington Public Library is a nonprofit, volunteer organization duly registered with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Public Charities consisting of concerned citizens who share the belief that a strong public library is a valuable intellectual, cultural, educational and recreational resource in the community. Committed to this belief, they actively support the Burlington Public Library. The affairs and activities of the FRIENDS are managed and directed by the group's officers, members, and the staff of the Burlington Public Library.

Friends of the Burlington Public Library
22 Sears Street
Burlington, MA 01803

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