

Friends of the Agawam Public Library



Fall 2018
Volume 14, Number 2



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MEMBER MEETINGS

Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. in the Peirce Conference Room the first Thursday of each month, except July and August.

The Annual Board Meeting immediately follows February's monthly meeting.

BE IN TOUCH

Participate:

At a monthly meeting or at any of our events.

Send us an Email:

friendsapl@yahoo.com

Visit our web page:

www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends

Drop us a note:

Friends of
the Agawam Public Library
P. O. Box 478
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP

The membership form is available at the Friends' Information Stand in the Library. Gallery and online at our web page, above.

A Word from the Editor:

Happy fall to everyone, and good riddance to those brutally hot and humid days! We had a very productive spring and summer at the library. Our book sale was a great success, raising \$2400 to support the library. This was a ten percent increase over last year's sale. The Summer Reading program was also a huge success, with 811 participants. This was an almost twenty percent increase over last year, and our children read almost 300,000 minutes -an impressive achievement!

Over the past year our membership increased by 25% to 135 individuals and families. We began a sponsorship program for our Juried Fine Art Show, which will allow us to continue to provide a high-quality Art Show for our local artists and our library.

Cher Collins, Adult Services Librarian, was interviewed recently and she was the second staff person interviewed who said that working at the library is like having Christmas every day. The joy, enthusiasm, and dedication of the library staff is beyond impressive. Huge kudos to them and to Judy Clini, for bringing them all together.

A huge thank you also goes out to all of you, who generously continue to support the Friends with your time, money and spirit.

Mary Alice McQuade

The Friends Thank Our Generous Supporters

Agawam Cultural Council

Budget Cabinet Sales

Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home

Dave's Soda & Pet City

Parthenon Restaurant

U.B.U. Hair Design

John's Trucking of Agawam

Main Street Deli

Mary Ann Studio of Dance

Geissler's Supermarkets

GFWC Agawam Junior

Women's Club

Thank you!

Meet Cher Collins

Adult Services Librarian



Cher's enthusiasm and love for the library were obvious as soon as she started talking about her job. Although her mother tells her she played "library" as a child, she didn't consider it as a career until after she obtained a college degree in psychology. She worked part-time at the Springfield City library, and decided she wanted to be a librarian. She obtained her library degree at the University of Rhode Island.

Like all of the staff at our library, Cher wears many hats. Her primary responsibility, and her favorite part of her job, is maintaining the Adult collections. She chooses books for purchase, and makes a special effort to match these selections to the community. She also connects with the community by writing the monthly newsletter. Cher assists with the artist exhibitions at the library, and helps to plan special programs. Somewhere in her busy days, she also finds time to staff the Reference desk. There she helps patrons with problem-solving, another part of her job that she thoroughly enjoys.

It was fascinating to talk with Cher about how technology has affected her profession. As a reference librarian in the past, people would come to her with all kinds of questions that she would help them research. One of her most interesting challenges was to find out what coating is on the outside of spaceships. After an extensive search, she ended up referring the person to someone she found at NASA who could answer the question. This kind of resolution brings her great satisfaction. Cher shared that she never gives up on a question and always verifies. With the introduction of Google and other search engines, Cher's job now includes teaching computer basics and "helping beyond Google". She will identify reliable data bases for people and teach them how to evaluate the information they obtain.

Cher's future plans include a Mental Health Fair at the library for next spring, and a series of "How to" talks, using local talent to demonstrate and explain skills they have-anywhere from genealogy to making a braid.

In her "spare time", Cher is an amateur genealogist. Her favorite reading is United States historical fiction. She is passionate about the importance of reading aloud with children, and enjoys this with her fourth-grade daughter.

Many thanks to Cher for all she does for the library and the people of Agawam.

COMING EVENTS

Tenth Open Juried Art Show

The Art Show will be on display at the library from October 29 to November 30. Please be sure to join us at the Reception and Awards Presentation on November 9 from 7:00-9:00. Our highly esteemed Juror/Judges, Paul Leveille and Doug Gillette, will discuss the art and how they arrive at their decisions-always a fascinating and educational discussion.



Holiday Basket Raffle

Baskets will be on display at the library from November 12 to December 15. The baskets cover a wide variety of interests-something for everyone! Come take a chance and support the library!

Ninth Open Juried Photography Show

The Photography Show will be from February 4 to March 1, 2019, with the reception on February 15 from 7:00-9:00.



Annual Book Sale

Save the dates! The book sale will be May 16-18, 2019.

"A library is the only single place you can go to learn something new, be comforted, terrified, thrilled, saddened, overjoyed or excited all in one day. And for free."

Amy Neftzger



Would you consider...?

...becoming a sponsor for our Ninth Open Juried Photography Show? We are looking for people who would like to show their support for the library and for the local art community. The contribution is \$50.00 and would allow us to continue to raise the quality and participation in the Photography Show. Hundreds of people of all ages view the Show every year, and it receives rave reviews. Your name would be included in the show catalog and you would know you are supporting two very worthwhile causes.

Picasso said "Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life". There's a lot of "dust" floating around lately, so let's support those who "wash it away". Please consider completing the form below and becoming a sponsor.

The Friends would like to extend a special thank you to the following people and groups, who sponsored the Tenth Open Juried Art Show:

Agawam Cultural Council
Nancy Chagnon
Judith Clini
Patrick Decoteau
Marcia Haas
Robert (Bob) Kadis
Jonathan and Marcella Kratovil

J.H. Miller Picture Framing Co.
Parrotta's Auto Service, Inc.
Parthenon Restaurant
Alice D. Smith
Nancy Spagnoli
Marilyn D. Sullivan

Photo Show Sponsorship

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Yes. I would like to be a sponsor of the Ninth Open Juried Photography Show.
May we acknowledge you as a Sponsor by including your name in the catalog? Yes__ No__

Please send this, with your contribution of \$50 to:
Friends of the Agawam Public Library
P.O. Box 478
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0478

Become a Friend of the Agawam Public Library

If you like what the Friends do for the library, find your category, below, and join us!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (Membership is for a calendar year. Please check one.)

Individual \$15 Senior Citizen (65 & over) \$10 Senior Citizen Couple \$15
 Family \$20 Organization/Business \$50 Patron \$75
 I enclose an additional contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail Address* _____ Tel. # _____

New Member Renewing Member * For newsletters & occasional communications distributed electronically among the Friends.

I am interested in volunteer opportunities. Please call ___ or email me ___ (check one)
May we acknowledge you as a Friend by including your name in our newsletter? Yes_No_.

Please send your completed application and check to:

**FRIENDS of the AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
PO Box 478
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0478**

Friends of the Agawam Public Library
P.O. Box 478
Feeding Hills MA 01030-0478

TO:



Remember a loved one. Honor a special friend. Give a gift that will last forever. Consider a memorial donation in someone's name to the Friends of the Agawam Public Library.

Email: friendsapl@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.agawamlibrary.org>