Welcome to summer—which means members of FOWL are already hard at work preparing for our book sales. If you’ve visited the Library recently, you may have noticed the beehive of activity at the book sale donation bin, bookstore hallway and the storeroom area. Board members and volunteers have been very busy since April 1 sorting and packing the generous donations dropped off for our sales.

First, the annual paperback sale. Keep an eye out at Lees and at the Library entry for the large posters of our “ladies-reading-at-the-beach”. We’ll also have flyers displayed around town to remind you the sale begins on Monday, July 25, and continues until Friday, August 5, during Library hours. Our honor box will be prominently displayed for payment of your choices.

After you’ve spent a few weeks enjoying sun, sand, and reading at the beach and your Labor Day festivities are complete you’ll be ready for our second event, the pull-out-all-the-stops annual Book Sale. Our red posters and street signs will be out to remind you to drop by the Library between Saturday, September 10, and Saturday, September 17. Of course, we’ll have our usual Members Only preview on Friday, September 9, from 6-8. If you’re not already a member you’re welcome to join then and take advantage of the preview sale.

A significant change this year: the Children’s Tent. During the Friday preview and Saturday opening day children’s and young adult books will be located in their own tent outside the Library. Pre-cashiers will be available there to calculate your purchases.

Your support of our sales makes it possible for FOWL to help provide our Library with programs and materials throughout the year.

Leona Andrade
Book Sale Chair

Director’s Update: Art Matters

Recently, I read The Art of the Matter by Meredith Schwartz, an article that describes the tangible and intangible benefits of presenting art in libraries. I easily saw parallels to the effects that I have witnessed in our Manton Community Room, where we exhibit works by local artists and photographers, along with the sculptures and crafts displayed in our Helen E. Ellis case.

As libraries provide one of the few free, open-access venues for local artists and folks from all walks of life, they help create a home for community gatherings and discussions. I frequently notice how the artworks provide a focus that elicits conversation, which often leads artists and visitors to discover new and shared interests—and sometimes friendships.

I also see how art continues to inspire patrons to explore new ideas and interests when they subsequently partake of our lovely collection of art books—many of them special titles donated by patrons. And let’s not forget The Artist’s Magazine, a gift from our Westport Art Group. Furthermore, thanks to FOWL, patrons also follow their artistic impulses beyond our walls with free passes to the Harvard Art Museums, including the Fogg Museum, Busch-Reisinger Museum and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum.

For a list of current exhibits at the Library, please see “What’s New” at left, or visit our website.

Hope to see you at the Library this summer.

Sue Branco, Library Director
sbranco@sailsinc.org
Hi Robin, I think you are one of the newbies on the Library staff. Yes, I was previously a library volunteer but began working here part time in November 2015. It’s a great job that works with my other job as mother to a 15-year-old son. My goal is to try to learn all the Library patrons’ names.

Have you always lived in the Southcoast area?

Most of my childhood was spent in Swansea. But I met my husband while he was in a rock and roll band called Sayre. At the time, they lived at what is now the Westporter on Main Road. After our wedding, we moved out to LA to do a music project in 1990 and didn’t return until 1997. I had taken acting lessons with Trinity Rep Theatre in Providence so, while in LA, I joined a casting agency and got my Screen Actors Guild Card. One of my roles was the crew member with the boy cut hair and a maroon jumpsuit in Star Trek VI.

So, do you have a favorite celebrity story?

I was in Minneapolis in the late 1980’s working at an auto show and sighted Prince along with two bodyguards at a club called First Avenue which was the location for his film Purple Rain. The next night, we went to the Pacific Club and saw Prince again, but now sans the bodyguards. He seemed approachable, so I actually asked him to dance! He replied “I would love to dance with you, but not this song, how ‘bout the next?” It turned out that the lights went up and there was no next song, which he probably knew all along.

Westport seems to be a polar opposite from Hollywood. How did you end up here?

My husband grew up in Somerset but always wanted to live on the Westport River. When we moved back East, we lived in a condo next to the Back Eddy and later built our home on the river.

Since you have an artistic bent, how do you express it here?

My “Vavo” taught me to crochet, which led to my interest in cross-stitch, needlepoint, and Hardanger, which traditionally is embroidery with white thread on white even-weave cloth. I belong to the Westport Needleworkers who meet here twice a month at the Library. My involvement in the Macomber Quilt Project (which was recently on exhibition in the Library) working with the students from the elementary school here in Westport was lots of fun and rewarding. I also belong to the Mayflower Sampler Group in Duxbury, whose members do all kinds of needlework and raise money for the preservation of antique samplers.

Do you have any time left to read?

My favorite genres are historical fiction and women’s literature. The Widow’s War by Sally Gunning was my most recent read. I highly recommend it.

---

A Chat with Robin Winters, Library Aide
By Denise Micale

---

Rosie visits: Practice reading aloud to our canine friend.
Call to book a ten-minute slot (limit of 6 each session)

- Friday, July 15, 10-11 a.m.
- Friday, August 19, 10-11 a.m.
- Saturday, September 24, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Story Hour and Lap-Sit continues through the summer.
Events

FOWL Board Meetings:
Thursday, July 14 at 6:30 p.m., Community Room. Dates occasionally change. Please call the Library (508) 636-1100 to confirm date if you plan to attend.

Save the dates:

5th Annual Summer Paperback Sale (adult fiction): July 25-August 5, Community Room during Library hours. A great opportunity to find a few paperbacks to read in the last weeks of Summer. Many hundreds of books covering 3-4 tables. Includes the larger soft-covers, which is the format most new authors and literary fiction are published in today, as well as the familiar ‘pocket’ size. Potboiler or prize-winner, it will be there. Stock replenished often. All books $1 - $2.00.

BIG! FOWL’s 2016 Annual Used Book Sale: Community Room. One of the largest sales in the area. Hundreds at 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 10 and 17. Over 8,000 books in 20 categories, fills entire Community Room. One of the largest sales in the area. Hundreds of children’s books are $.25 each to encourage reading. Others $1 - $2 plus a selection of specially-priced books.

On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!
Summer reading logs. Pick up rules and join:
- open registration beginning 6/22, register anytime for summer reading, (all ages)
- Workshops meet Tuesdays 6/28 thru 8/2 at 10 a.m. ages 6 and up
- Wednesdays 6/29-8/3 10 a.m. Drop-in Story Time ages 5 and under
7/11 7 p.m. See unique critters presented by Rainforest Reptile Shows sponsored by FOWL.
7/21 1 p.m. Puppet Workshop led by Jacek Zuzanski of Dream Tale Puppets Theatre: ages 6 and up
7/21 6:30 p.m. classic fairytale: Rumplestiltskin featuring five table-top puppets performed by Dream Tale Puppets Theatre and sponsored by the Westport Cultural Council and the Helen E. Ellis Trust.
8/9 11 a.m. A program by Sparky’s Puppets wraps up our Summer Reading Program. Sponsored by the Westport Cultural Council and the Helen E. Ellis Trust.

Note: The Awards Picnic follows for all who took part and their family members. Reading certificates will be awarded. Daisy D. Dots will be on hand for face painting. Enjoy a book walk around the grounds also. Sponsored by FOWL.

Two Summer Concerts to play at Westport Library
The Friends of the Westport Library (FOWL) will host local favorite band Fourteen Strings (Matt Smith, Dave Conlon and Jay Costa) who will bring their blended rock, folk and traditional music to the Westport Library lawn for a family friendly concert on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. They will be joined by special musical guest Jonathan Danforth on fiddle.

The Allegro Chamber Players will perform on Monday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. Rain or shine. Bring lawn chairs and snacks. A trio of performers on flute, violin and cello led by Michael Monte share classical, jazz, show tunes, current hits and children’s music. (Supported by Westport Cultural Council through a grant from Helen E. Ellis Charitable Trust.)

There is no admission fee but donations to FOWL are welcome. Bring a blanket or chair and join us on the lawn (or indoors in case of rain) at 408 Old County Road, Westport MA. For additional information, please contact the Library at 508-636-1100 or www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library/pages/friends-westport-library-fowl

Westport Library Book Club

Read For Fun, Followed By Lunch
The Westport Library Book Club group meets the second Friday of each month in the Community Room at 10:30 a.m. It’s a wonderful assemblage of people from several local communities. We choose our selections on the recommendation of members. The conversations are lively and enjoyable and participating in the group is a great way to meet people.

Please join us or contact Brianna McAvoy, Facilitator, for more information at briannamcavoy@gmail.com.

July 8: The Sisters Brothers
Patrick deWitt
Quirky and stylish revisionist western. When a frontier baron known as the Commodore orders Charlie and Eli Sisters, his hired gunslingers, to track down and kill a prospector named Herman Kermit Warm, the brothers journey from Oregon to San Francisco.

August 12: The Beauty of Humanity Movement
Camilla Gibb
Raised in the United States but Vietnamese by birth, Maggie has come to Hanoi seeking clues to the fate of her father, a dissident artist who disappeared during the war.

September 9: Go Set a Watchman/To Kill a Mockingbird
Harper Lee
A historic literary event: the publication of a newly discovered novel, the earliest known work from Harper Lee, the beloved, bestselling author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning classic, To Kill a Mockingbird.

You can help

FOWL Book Sale Donations April through August:
Donations accepted for our book sales. Donation bin will be in the lobby. Please: no encyclopedias, textbooks, law books, magazines, books in poor condition, VHS tapes, cassette tapes.

Volunteers Needed for Annual Book Sale:
Please help us on Tuesday, September 6 to prepare books for the annual sale on Friday, September 9. A side benefit is that you can immediately buy books that seize your interest at our bargain prices of $1-$2. It’s fun.

Contact Denise Micale at dsmicale@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed: Aspiring reporters or photographers for the newsletter
Contact Denise Micale at dsmicale@gmail.com.

Bring your Lees receipts to the Library—we earned $3,148 in 2015. Thank you, Lees Market. Keep those receipts coming!

Volunteers Needed: Aspiring reporters or photographers for the newsletter
Contact Denise Micale at dsmicale@gmail.com.
**New to the Collection Highlights**

### Adult Fiction:

**Alice & Oliver**  
**Charles Bock**  
Deeply humane portrait of a young family’s journey through a medical crisis, laying bare a couple’s love and fears as they fight for everything that’s important to them.

**The Excellent Lombards**  
**Jane Hamilton**  
As seen through the eyes of young Mary Frances "Frankie" Lombard, whose idyllic life on the family apple farm begins to fray, it is a poignant coming of age story.

**Redemption Road**  
**John Hart**  
A damaged cop that refuses to help herself, an ex-cop leaving prison after serving time for a murder he didn't commit and a serial killer who is unknown in the town he has been preying upon for years are just some of the plot twists.

### Adult Nonfiction:

**One Dough, Ten Breads**  
**Sarah Black**  
For anyone who’s ever wanted to bake homemade bread but doesn’t know where to begin, *One Dough, Ten Breads* is the answer.

**Putin Country**  
**Anne Garrels**  
Garrels crafts an intimate portrait of Middle Russia.

**Downsizing the Family Home**  
**Marni Jameson**  
Using her own personal journey as a basis, Jameson helps you figure out a strategy to downsize and create a mindset to accomplish the task quickly, respectfully, rewardingy.

**Switched On**  
**John Elder Robison**  
Remarkable book about a man with Asperger’s Syndrome who goes through a new brain therapy which provides him remarkable emotional changes.

### Adult Biography:

**The Lady With the Borzoi**  
**Laura Claridge**  
Left off her company’s fifth anniversary tribute but described by Thomas Mann as "the soul of the firm," Blanche Knopf began her career when she founded Alfred A. Knopf with her husband in 1915.

**Lab Girl**  
**Hope Jahren**  
An illuminating debut memoir of a woman in science; a moving portrait of a longtime friendship; and a stunningly fresh look at plants that will forever change how you see the natural world.

**Sailor and Fiddler**  
**Herman Wouk**  
Herman Wouk, one of America’s most beloved and enduring authors, reflects on his life and times from the remarkable vantage point of one hundred years old.

### Large Print Fiction:

**The Railwayman’s Wife**  
**Ashley Hay**  
In a small town on the land’s edge, in the strange space at a war's end, a widow, a poet and a doctor each try to find their own peace.

**‘Til Death Do Us Part**  
**Amanda Quick**  
Calista Langley operates an exclusive “introduction” agency in Victorian London, catering to respectable ladies and gentlemen who find themselves alone.

**Extreme Prey**  
**John Sandford**  
After the events in Gathering Prey, Lucas Davenport finds himself in a very unusual situation—no longer employed by the Minnesota BCA.

### Large Print Nonfiction:

**The Three Battles of Wanat and Other True Stories**  
**Mark Bowden**  
Features the best of his long-form pieces on war, as well as notable profiles, sports reporting, and essays on culture.

**Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the fate of the American Revolution.**  
**Nathaniel Philbrick**

### Adult DVDs:

**Brokenwood Mysteries**  series 2

**Call the Midwife**  series 5

**Everest**

**Grantchester**  series 2

**Mr. Selfridge**  series 4

**Burnt**

### Adult Books on CD: Fiction

**The Last Mile**  
**David Baldacci**

**At the Edge of the Orchard**  
**Tracy Chevalier**

**The Summer Before the War**  
**Helen Simonson**

**Deep Blue**  
**Randy Wayne White**

### Music CDs:

**Louis Armstrong's All-Time Greatest Hits**

**Pilgrim**  
**Eric Clapton**

**Star Turtle**  
**Harry Connick, Jr.**
How Far We’ve Come

On the coffee table down stairs sits a stack of books, waiting for my attention at the end of the farming day. On top: an ordinary sized slightly battered blue-green hardback, spine carefully Scotch taped, entitled The Solitary House by an obscure English/Canadian mystery writer, E.R. Punshon.

Copyright, 1918. Whew. Almost an antique.

The ease of its arrival, via the Westport Library, the Commonwealth Catalog and SAILS from UMass Amherst, has given me furiously to think. From the comfort of my computer chair in my own home, at any time of the day or night, I can research and request almost anything I’d like to know or write about. A world, almost a century of books at my fingertips. Miraculous.

How vastly different from my University of London grad school experience of many many years ago. Then, no matter where one went to do book research, even to Harvard, it never ever involved the ease of a chair in one’s dorm or home, let alone any time day or night.

In my case, the researching for the required thesis entailed extracting a Admittance Card for the British Museum Library from the college bursar and daily trips down Oxford Street, viewed from the top of a lumbering double decker red bus, either number 73 (Oxford Street) or 9 (Piccadilly). After a slither down the bus stairwell, hop off and cross at what was then the armpit of Tottenham Court Road, turn right onto Bedford Avenue to finally join the briefcase/satchel clutching crowd at the long and wide BM granite steps, to await the opening door.

Once inside the Reading Room (of course with capital letters) faced with the concentric circles of waist-high brass and leather-bound, therefore heavy catalogs (or rather, catalogues) with worn leather hand straps on the spines, one had to wrestle the thigh-high volumes out and heave them up onto the shelving top just to open them. Inside: gigantic pages with strips/entries, either typewritten or handwritten, frequently both. I would find a numbered flat desk, walled to separate me from the adjacent toiling Reader, find out library provided request slips for the books I wanted, deposit said slips at the Central Desk, return and await book delivery, dropped off at my desk by a “clerk” as regular people, even those with gold-edged cards, were never allowed back in the stacks. Sometimes only the slip arrived, on it a box ticked indicating the reason for no book: In Another Library, Misplaced (lost? never!), Damaged in The War (no indication of which one), or With Another Reader. Research went very slowly.

Whee, not so these days. I think I’ll go see what else by old Punshon lurks in the ComCat, just because I can do so, right here, right now, at my computer.

Suze Craig, Editor, @ the Library

Spotlight on FOWL’s Bookstore in the Library

Ah, the serendipity of a Used-book Store. The buyer enters with an idea of what he wants but tries not to be too specific as to title or author; those searches have all moved to internet search engines. Instead he finds a category and inspects the titles, then a cover and a fly leaf, looking to be drawn in. He forms a pile with ‘maybes’ and ‘definites’. Lastly, he goes through again, adding up the bargain prices, deciding how many he can carry, and then purchases. He takes home a lot of entertainment and knowledge for little money, and he feels great.

With the closing of so many used-book stores it is hard to find this serendipity, perhaps explaining why library used-book sales are very popular. Yes, FOWL runs a wonderful sale in September, but year-round there is an in-library bookstore with the same low prices, $2.00 each, 25 cents each for children’s books. After entering the lobby, look to the right before reaching the doors to the circulation area. Bookshelves cover a long wall. Section one has hard-cover fiction, section two trade-size soft-cover fiction. Section three has non-fiction, cookbooks, gardening books, décor, and even some children’s books.

On a recent visit I estimated inventory at 700 volumes and found 5 books I had not yet read by favorite authors. Michael Habib, a dedicated volunteer, checks once or twice weekly to restock the shelves. About 3,000 books per year sell from these shelves, and the browsing pleasure is free.

Oh yes, if you wonder why there are no pocket-format paperbacks on these shelves, check out FOWL’s carousel in the lobby where you can recycle these, bring some and/or take some at no charge. And in the July Summer paperback sale and the Annual Book Sale there are hundreds of pocket-size for $1.00 each, trade size for $2.00 each.

Kate Kastner, FOWL President

Like us on Facebook for news and upcoming events: facebook.com/westportfreepubliclibrary
FOWL aids the mission; of the Westport Free Public Library.

All activities are run by volunteers—people who believe in a public library. Funds raised through member dues and book sales go to the Library to purchase books, CDs, DVDs, museum passes, and to fund children’s programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. In 2014, member dues and book sales contributed over $17,000 to Library funding. If you’re not yet a member, fill in the form to the right to join today.

FOWL’s services and activities:

Museum Passes:
- Boston Museum of Science
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Buttonwood Park Zoo
- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- New! Harvard University Art Museums

Bookstore at the Library located in the Library lobby
Summer Paperback Book Sale
Programs/Special Events
Annual Book Sale with Members’ Preview Night
Paperback Exchange Carousel located in the Library lobby

Yes, I would like to volunteer. I am interested in:
___ Book Sale Committee ___ PR/Marketing

It’s easy to donate or renew:
1) Mail: P.O. Box 3342, Westport, MA 02790
2) Drop off form and payment at Library

Name: _______________________________
Mailing Address: _______________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
Phone: ______________________________
Email:_______________________________

Membership levels:
$10 Individual $50 Patron
$20 Family $100 Bibliophile
$30 Sponsor $ ____ Other
FOWL is a 501c3 non-profit; your donation is tax deductible

Vol. 4, Issue 3                   July—September 2016
@ the Library

Board Members:
- Lisa Arnold
- Leona Andrade
- Michael Habib
- Myrna Altshuler
- Kate Kastner
- Denise Micale
- Myrna Altshuler
- Sandy Stankiewicz
- Lisa Arnold
- Leona Andrade
- Michael Habib
- Myrna Altshuler