

FOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2018

Membership: 43 Individual Members (as of December 2018)

18 Business Members (as of December 2018)

Meetings: January, February, March, May, September, November

Accomplishments throughout the year included:

January: Thursday night Second Hand Prose sales were suspended for January, February and March. Funds were appropriated for children's Hedgehog Tote bags, and a Wildlife Encounter program during February school vacation

February: A movie license was purchased. Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce membership was renewed. A retirement gift (Maine B&B) was presented to Director Charlie Matthews. Members supported the Hedgehog Activities during School Vacation Week by baking hedgehog cookies, preparing craft supplies, sponsoring a Wildlife Encounter program, and assisting Children's Room staff at the week's events.

March: Guidelines and application forms for the Leonard Smith Scholarship were updated. A new 'mailbox' for scholarship applications was made. Three library staff members attended the Public Library Association conference in Philadelphia with a stipend from the Friends

April: Second Hand Prose at Night re-opened on Thursday, April 19. National Library Week was celebrated with a well-attended 12:00-1:30 pizza lunch for the staff. Christina Sweeney's name was added to the plaque in the lobby denoting her 20 years of service. During the staff lunch Bob Gagnon was honored for his 40 years of service; Duane King was honored for his 10 years of service; Linda Pilla and Marguerite Grant were recognized for their 5 years of service; and appreciation was expressed to Library Voluteens & Volunteers. An ad thanking our Business Members was placed in the NLW edition of the HLN. The Children's Room received monies for National Poetry Contest prizes.

May: Monies were authorized for 2 Humanities-To-Go programs; Adult Reading Bingo; and the Children's Summer Reading Program. A rolling easel for the lobby, and several die cuts for the Children's Room were purchased. Officers elected for the 2018-2019 year were: Connie Owen, President; Sue Gould, Vice President; Barbara Blue, Treasurer; Susan Malen, Corresponding Secretary; and Margaret Femia, Recording Secretary. The Friends authorized use of their non-profit status for the Rodgers Memorial Library to subscribe to the new G-Suite program for in-house use.

June: The Leonard A. Smith Memorial Scholarship was awarded to home schooled Avonlea Westhoff. A 'Friend Raising' membership drive was planned and implemented with Certificates of Appreciation presented to Business Members.

July. Second Hand Prose coupons were given to Adult Summer Reading Program participants. The Friends helped stock Benson's Little Free Library with books from Second Hand Prose. A memorial brick was purchased for Mary Sinclair, mother of Library Director, Linda Pilla.

August: Second Hand Prose remained open twice a month throughout the HOT summer. Book donations from Second Hand Prose were made to Benson's Little Free Library. Monies were authorized for Light Pole Banners to be installed in the parking lot.

September: Many new members were welcomed at our September meeting. Monies were authorized for the renewal of the MPLC movie license. Monies were appropriated for Victorian Tea refreshments. Large Print Book shelving was purchased.

October: The Friends sponsored the very successful Humanities to Go program 'A Visit with Queen Victoria'. A Victorian Tea was held with Victorian refreshments served. A Victorian costume/hat prize was awarded to Barbara Costello. Thursday night Second Hand Prose at Night was suspended until April 2019. A Pumpkin Patch event was held on the lawn of HML in conjunction with Sunday SHP and National FOL Week. Wilson Farm supplied pumpkins to sell. Alvirne's B Naturals chorus performed during the afternoon.

November: Friends sponsored the Humanities to Go Program 'New England Lighthouses & the People Who Kept them'. Friends helped decorate the library in preparation for Santa's visit in early December. At the final meeting of the year monies were allocated for a water dispenser for the staff room, a laptop computer storage cabinet, a karaoke machine for circulation, and new plants for the library. Library Director, Linda Pilla, explained Google's G-Suite system which is now being used by the library using the Friends 501(c)(3) status.

December: Once again the Friends supplied cookies, and a coloring page when Santa visited the library. Note cards with original artwork by Janice Walsh depicting the Alvirne Chapel, Alvirne Hills House, and Rodgers Memorial Library were sold at the GFWC Christmas Craft Fair. Several members assisted Library staff at the December 26 Blood Drive.