Summer 2014

FOCL&POINT

Library Friends Honor Their Own With Awards

ifty to 60 people gathered at Middlesex Community College in June to pay tribute to library Friends groups and individuals for the special work they have done.

The weather was sunny both outside and inside as eight awards were presented by the Friends of Connecticut Libraries at the annual meeting.

A special guest was Lillian Levin of Glastonbury, a former threeterm FOCL president. "It was through her efforts that you no longer have to pay tax on your book sales," said Paul McIlvaine, current FOCL president.

As a surprise that was not on the agenda, the special award for meritorious service that was named after Levin was given to Mary Engels of the Middletown Library Service Center, for the almost 30 years she has given to help FOCL flourish.

(Continued on page 2)



Lillian Levin, left, who dedicated so many years to library Friends that a special award was named after her. presented the award to Mary Engels, director of the Middletown Library Service Center. Engels said she loves working with "people who call themselves Friends."

Author Mines Retirement for Light Mysteries

A uthor Susan Santangelo's love of mysteries began at a young age.

"I really admired Carolyn Keene [listed as author of the children's Nancy Drew mystery series] until I learned there was no Carolyn Keene," Santangelo said. "That was as much of a shock as learning there was no Santa Claus."

Instead, she learned a group of people wrote the mysteries under that name.

But that didn't dim her attitude about this kind of book, she said when she spoke at the FOCL annual conference.

"I always, always, always loved the mystery genre," she said.

Santangelo, author of "Retirement Can Be Murder" and three other Baby Boomer Mysteries, is a member of the Baby Boomer generation herself. She has been a feature writer, drama critic and editor for daily

(Continued on page 10)

Inside this	Around the State	8	Fall Conference	12
issue:	E-Book Symposium	11	Renew Membership	12



Fred Biamonte of Branford says he likes arranging programs because he can find events he enjoys.

(Continued from page 1)

Focused Project Municipalities over 25,000: Fred Biamonte, Branford

The Friends of the Blackstone Library in Branford presented the most diverse, educational, and interesting set of programs ever put together at the library. The programs included lectures on artists, staging of plays, music performances and a variety of other programs. Amontillado" and "The Black Cat."

There was music in abundance at the Blackstone including a program on classical music in classic cartoons, a women's a cappella chorus in the American barbershop tradition, the Beatles Legends band, a piano quartet featuring an evening of classical music and a concert by Branford High School.

A watercolor demonstration and a discussion of famous cases by forensic scientist Dr. Henry Lee provided

Fred Biamonte, a skilled psycho biographer, was a large contributor to this project. He provided lectures on several artists including Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, Norman Rockwell, John Singer Sargent and others. The Blackstone series included a production of "Macbeth" and a session discussing the tragedy of "Macbeth." Other plays presented were Edgar Allan Poe's "The Cask of

additional variety.

The Branford community has been greatly served by Fred Biamonte and the Friends of the Blackstone Library.

" I love doing this because I get a chance of picking the people I want to hear," Biamonte said, in accepting the award.

Focused Project Municipalities Less Than 15,000: Nancy Henderson, Terryville

The Terryville Friends bought a dollhouse at a tag sale. It was well worn and in need of significant repair. The Friends hoped the dollhouse, once restored, could be used as a future fund-

(Continued on page 3)



Nancy Henderson of Terryville completely revamped a dollhouse for the Friends to raffle.

(Continued from page 2)

raiser. When the idea was announced at a Friends meeting, one person sprang to action.

Nancy Henderson, a Terryville resident, business person, and treasurer of the Friends Group has a passion for dollhouses and doll furniture. Nancy took it upon herself to fully restore, redesign and decorate this dollhouse.

Once a mini-

Victorian mansion, the house is now a traditional mansion with modern touches throughout showcasing both hardwood floors and carpet. Nancy handcrafted furniture including a stuffed sofa, shelving and a fireplace.

This fully electrified mansion features chandeliers, lamps, and LED lighting, all of which operate on batteries. And as a special touch, she hung a framed painting of the Terryville Public Library in the dollhouse living room.

The Friends held a drawing in the library for this beautiful dollhouse at \$5 per ticket. Because of Nancy's talent and dedication, the proceeds from this very successful fundraiser have been used to fund programs for adults and children throughout the year.

Suzanne Zinnkosko, holding award, was praised for helping libraries in Killingly and

Woodstock. With her, above, are John Ferland of Woodstock, Lois Bouchard of West Woodstock, and at right, her daughter, Cheyenne.

Focused Project Municipalities Less Than 15.000: Suzanne Zinnkosko. West Woodstock

Suzanne Zinnkosko moved to Connecticut in the spring of 2011 and left in the summer of 2013. In that short period of time she used her organizational skills to accomplish extraordinary things for the libraries and Friends Groups in Woodstock and Killingly.

From early 2012 until May 2013, Suzanne served as president of the Friends of the Killingly Public Library. She initiated and ran two large book sales, started an annual outside beautification day, found outside funding to revitalize the Killingly Library's courtyard

and coordinated numerous events.

Then, she found time to help the libraries in her new hometown of Woodstock. (NOTE: Woodstock has four libraries)

In early 2012, the West Woodstock librarian asked her to run a small book sale on the day they dedicated the restored law library. This sale blossomed into something special for all four libraries in town. In just three months, the libraries accumulated more than 3,500 books, and the sale raised approximately \$2,100.

John Ferland, president of the Woodstock IV Friends, said the book sales have gone over especially well in the town because it has no bookstores.

Page 3



(Continued from page 3)

But the biggest challenge came in fall 2013. The town's four librarians asked Suzanne to help form a Friends Group in Woodstock. We know forming a Friends group for one library is not easy, but the Woodstock Friends Group would have to satisfy the needs of four separate and independent libraries.

Suzanne instituted a system that guaranteed the money raised by each library would be directly controlled by that library. Suzanne and her group resolved all issues and won the trust of all four librarians and their respective boards of directors. The Friends of the Woodstock IV Libraries became a reality in January 2013.

Suzanne has moved out of state but the Woodstock IV libraries continue to benefit from the Friends organization founded by this organizational whirlwind.

"I'm very pleased that we've been able to establish, for the first time, a Friends group for the four libraries," Zinnkosko said.

"My sincere thanks to Suzanne Zinnkosko," said Laura Ziphin, assistant director of the Killingly Library.

"Suzanne, thank you for moving into Woodstock," Ferland said. "Truly the difference she made to our town was amazing."

Individual Achievement Award, Municipalities **Over 25,000:** Larry Kibner, Meriden

Larry Kibner of Meriden not only served on the board of the Meriden Friends but has painted the entire library.

Larry Kibner is a Friend of the Meriden library like no other. He has served terms as president and vice president of the Friends. He was an appointee to the State Library Board and has represented the Meriden Library at the Connecticut Library Association's Legislative potlucks and many other functions.

Larry's experience as a former Meriden city counselor has made him an excellent spokesperson for libraries especially with elected officials. But what makes Larry a unique Friend and worthy of this

teer work as the Meriden Library's official painter. Larry has painted every wall in the 52,000-square-foot Meriden Library. The Friends pay for the paint and supplies, but it is Larry alone who gives up his evenings, weekends and holidays to paint walls and trim in the quiet hours when the library is closed. Larry is the only nonstaff member to have a key to the building. This past year he painted all the columns in the main library, the Friends Bookstore and the public restrooms. He is a perfectionist when it comes to wall repair and paint-

ing and his work has changed the appearance of the aging building. He has literally saved the library and the city of Meriden tens of thousands of dollars.

Larry received the Spirit of Meriden Award, which is the highest honor the city can bestow. Officials noted many of his contributions to the community, but it was his work at the library that was celebrated by the town fathers.

The sheer volume of the work and the number of hours that he donated astonished everyone.



award is his volun-

(Continued from page 4)

Larry says, "I just get a real good feeling every time I finish the job."

In receiving the award, Kibner said, "it was a surprise, a pleasant one." He said he wanted to thank the person who nominated him, Frank Ridley, a member of the Meriden Friends and the FOCL board of directors.

Individual Achievement Award, Municipalities 15,000 to 25,000: Eunice Kelly, Simsbury

(Posthumous) Many people contribute to the success of a Friends group, but occasionally one person's impact is so profound that their loss im-



pacts the hearts of everyone in the organization. Such a person was Eunice Kelly of Simsbury. For decades, Eunice contributed on every level. She served

Eunice Kelly

as president of the Friends during the expansion project that resulted in today's beautiful library. Following that role, she served as a director on the board and spearheaded the Friends of Simsbury Public Library "Investor Angels" – a foundation designed to provide the library with sustaining funds well into the future.

In addition to her leadership roles, Eunice never hesitated to roll up her sleeves and engage in the physical labor required to assist in library activities. She was dedicated participant in Simsbury's annual used book sale.

Eunice was a galvanizer and a motivator. She could charm people into pitching in before they knew it.

To keep the library in the public eye, she wrote a weekly column titled "View From My Window." Nothing was as gratifying to her as the bond she had with her readers.

Eunice is missed by husband Bud and her three sons, but also by all the people whose lives were made better by her work at the Simsbury library.

Group Award Municipalities 15,000 to 25,000: Friends of the Ridgefield Library

The Ridgefield library is reaching an important milestone this spring — the completion of a major renovation and expansion project, more than 10 years in the planning and execution. This achievement would not have been possible without the extraordinary support of the Friends of the Ridgefield Library.

The construction expands the library from 25,000 to 43,000 feet. The new library is replete with state-of-the-art technologies and is fully compliant with the American Disabilities Act guidelines.

It features several new spaces, including a dedicated teen room and a technology resource center. With a price tag of more than \$20 million, it has taken a partnership among the town, the library and more than 1,300 donors to bring



Rhonda Hill accepts a group award for the Ridgefield Friends.

the vision of the 21st century Ridgefield Library to reality.

The Friends of the Library have been at the forefront of this effort from day one.

The Friends pledge of \$100,000 was the first major gift for the new library and was followed by several other important commitments. The Friends provided funds to create a professional video for donor solicitations.

An additional \$100,000 pledged in 2013 put the campaign on top of its \$20 million goal. All told, the Friends contributed \$300,000 toward this project.

The Friends involvement in the project has gone beyond the purely financial. Individually and as a group, the Friends board and members have provided countless hours of volunteer service.

When election law restrictions prohibited the library itself from

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

advocating directly for passage of a bonding referendum for construction funding, the Friends took up the challenge and organized and implemented a comprehensive "Get out the vote" campaign that resulted in passage of this measure and a \$5 million contribution from the town.

As the move into the new building was near, the Friends organized volunteers to work with the staff to add Radio Frequency identification tags to the library's 110.000-item collection. The Friends recruited and trained volunteers to provide guided tours of the new building.

The Friends have pledged support for new purchases and services that would attract demographic groups that are not traditional users, such as middle-age men and businesspeople. The Friends committed to fund a package of items that will allow the library to position itself as a center for creativity through technology, often referred to as a maker space. Other enhancements include a 3D printer, a portable audio recording studio set-up and iPads.

"The project started 10 years ago when the Friends president said we need to put money towards this," said Rhonda Hill, current president. Her group had to work to establish a good relationship with the library board, going from what she called "contentious" to "idyllic."



for the Friends of the Terryville Library.

The Friends group wanted to make sure people who hadn't been using the library would visit.

"We though it important to have every resident of Ridgefield come into the library in a year," Hill said. The purchase of the 3D printer brought in a huge number of men, with a long list of people wanting to take the class to learn how to use it. she said.

Group Award Municipalities Less Than 15,000: Friends of the Terryville Library

After several book sales the garage used for book storage was cited for several fire hazards. The

mayor declared that many renovations would have to be made to the garage or it could no longer be used.

Without a storage facility, there would be no book sales. Without the book sales there would be no Friends of the Library. The mayor then gave the Friends permission to use a house that the town owned next to the library. The town had retained this property anticipating a library expansion at some future date. The thrill of saving the day was dampened by the condition of the house. It had not been occupied for six years, had a leaking roof and was lightly abused.

The first chore was to repair the roof. In keeping with the Terryville community spirit, a local contractor did the work at a vastly reduced cost.

The Friends then set in scrubbing and waxing everything in the building. Receiving many gallons of paint from the local hardware store, the Friends painted every room in the house. Spouses were recruited to make interior repairs.

Everything was ready, except the house had no book shelves. So shelves were collected.

There were a few shelves from the old garage and Friends donated many of their own bookshelves. A former book store owner supplied several shelves. Shelves and furniture also came



Mary Engels, center, accepts the Lillian Levin Meritorious Service Award. With her are, from left, FOCL President Paul McIlvaine, Frank Ridley, Linda Grayson, Peggy Brissette and Carl Nawrocki.

(Continued from page 6)

from a museum, the local Lion's club and many townspeople.

With everything in place, the Friends held a reception for the public and local dignitaries and then the first book sale. The sale was a great success.

Now, the Friends hold a book sale in the house every third Saturday of the month. The people of Terryville call the new book sale home "A little GEM."

"We are so appreciative of this recognition," said Sandy Klimkoski, president of their Friends. "This has never happened to us before."

When the town gave them the neglected house to use, "it was spider city but it was a place," she said. But if the mayor thought the Friends would never accomplish anything, "I guess he didn't take a close look at who he was talking to," she said. As they worked to clean it up they did as much of the work themselves as possible. "When we found we could not do something, we turned to our husbands," Klimkoski said.

Lillian Levin Meritorious Service Award: Mary Engels

The FOCL Board is indeed fortunate to have had Mary as a member for nearly 30 years. As liaison to the Connecticut State Library, she brings all the organizational resources together that enable FOCL and its Board to function.



Lunch line at the annual meeting.

Her contributions go well beyond our organization. She knows the library community in Connecticut and how all the individual Friends groups and people within the community have functioned over the years.

Her advice and counsel is sought after on nearly a daily basis. Most of all, Mary is a good Friend to FOCL and to libraries in the state.

We will miss her wonderful attention to detail, enthusiasm and friendship. We do wish her well as she embarks on this new adventure. [Engels is retiring in October.]

"Working with you has been the greatest joy of my career," Engels said, in accepting the award. "People who call themselves Friends. People who love libraries and aren't librarians."

But she added that Connecticut is lucky to have state support for the Friends groups, something that not every state has.

Friends Around the State

We encourage all Newsletters editors to put us on their mailing lists so we can have a rich exchange of information to pass on to fellow Friends organizations. If you'd like to see your news here please put Friends of Connecticut Libraries, Middletown Library Service Center, 786 South Main St., Middletown, CT 06457 on your newsletter mailing list, or send by email to friendsctlibraries@gmail.com. Note: We only include events run, sponsored, or funded by Friends Groups. To make our job easier, in your newsletters, please include that information when describing events.

Friends of the Essex Library

invited everyone to their annual



meeting for a "Lively Conversation & Lunch" at the library.

Ellen Madere, a professional organizer featured in Real Simple Magazine, gave an informative presentation on "Getting Organized" and included some funny stories and a lot of helpful ideas. A delicious buffet luncheon was prepared by the board of the Friends. (The event was free but seating was limited, and reservations were required.)

In Essex Library's email newsletter, Librar-E-Lations, library director Richard Conroy complimented "our wonderful Friends of the Library" saying that "we would not be able to accomplish nearly as much as we do without the generous help they provide to us, both financially and in the form of volunteer activities."

Friends of the Guilford Free

Library and the Guilford Foundation co-funded the creation of a new digital database of historical photographs from the library's collection of photographs, some of which date back to the 1880s. The photographs are now digitally preserved and available to anyone with Internet access.

The Friends also joined with Faulkner's Light Brigade to cosponsor "Long Island Sound Lectures," a series of four talks by representatives from the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the Department of Marine Science at the University of Connecticut and the South Street Seaport Museum in New York. Each lecture covered a different aspect of the Sound.

Friends of Bethel Public Li-

brary, at their annual meeting, presented six renowned cartoon-



ists, illustrators and painters whose work has appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, The New Yorker, New

York Times, Playboy, and National Lampoon. The program was titled "The Artists of Plain Jane's Speak" because the six artists – Joe Farris, Jack Medoff, Orlando Busino, Dana Fradon, Frederick Carpenter and John Smallwood-Garcia – have been meeting at Plain Jane's, a local restaurant, for more than a decade. It was a rare opportunity to view the works of these talented artists and hear them speak about their careers, inspiration and camaraderie.

Friends of the Case Memorial Library in Orange had state

archaeologist Nicholas Bellantoni as their guest speaker at their annual meeting. He discussed



what was found buried beneath the Lincoln Oak on the New

Haven Green when it was toppled by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. In addition, at the meeting, the Friends presented the Lucy Scillia scholarship to a graduating high school senior. The scholarship is in memory of Scillia, a librarian and longtime member of the Friends who was dedicated to fostering a love of reading.

In the Friends newsletter library director Meryl Farber thanked the Friends for "their immeasurable energy and support" and for raising funds that "help to provide materials, programs, museum passes and other enrichments that benefit the Library and the community."

Friends of the Watertown

Library at their annual spring luncheon had local author, and their Friends' newsletter editor,

A Question and Answer With Two E-Book Publishers

Two publishing representatives — Skip Dye, of Random House, and Adam Silverman of Harper Collins — responded to questions posed by Kate Sheehan, of the Bibliomation consortium, and from the audience at a February state meeting.

Question: Are there any plans towards standardization?

Skip Dye: A group of publishers gets together and talks about this but it's very early in the process.

Adam Silverman: "You'll never get to one. You'll have a suite of choices."

S.D. "We ultimately want the reader and the author to connect. We've come a long way in three years but we still have a long row to hoe."

Q: With Amazon and the big publishers how do you see the future of libraries?

S.D. Libraries know their communities and have the power to bring people together.

A.S. "I ended up being the librarian at Occupy Wall Street," which showed him the power of libraries. People would drop off books more than food because that is what protesters wanted.

Q: Publishers say they love libraries but it's costing a fortune to buy e-books so it's hurting libraries. There seems to be a perception that libraries are incompetent as far as e-books.

S.D. Libraries need to decide whether readers want digital or print.

A.S. "I'm not sure how publishers can help." He hasn't actually entered a library building lately because he downloads the library's e -books from his home. "I don't think of it as a place to go and pull books from the shelves."

Q: What is the fear of libraries owning e-books?

S.D. Publishers believe in ownership but they want to make sure

libraries can keep a book safe. Also, books go through changes. Q: People want to buy used ebooks. "Is that in our future at all?"

S.D. "Right now we're dealing with other issues. That's down the line."

A.S. "The idea of reselling digital would cross several disciplines. It's way in the future."

Q: When patrons complain about not enough copies of a certain e-book she tells them she can buy about 10 print books for the cost of one ebook. Why do e-books cost so much and why should patrons have to wait for someone to return an e-book before they can check it out?

S.D. We're still looking at that.
We also have to make sure the content works on all devices.
A.S. "The fear is you'll buy one copy for \$15 ... and cripple our businesses."

Friends, continued

(Continued from page 8)

Cindy Eastman as guest speaker. She read from her new book, Flip-Flops After 50: And Other Thoughts On Aging I Remembered to Write Down, which was published in April.

Friends of the Lucy Robbins Welles Library in Newington is sponsoring two musical programs this summer, "Summer Jazz Standards" with The Mary Ellen Lonergan Trio, which specializes in jazz standards and The Great American Songbook, and Take Two Jazz Duo, with John Brighenti on keyboard and Erin O'Luanaigh on vocals, performing jazz songs from the 1920s to the 1980s. The Lucy Robbins Welles Library is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. As part of the celebration,



on Aug. I, at the library, the Friends are sponsoring three simultaneous screenings of *The Wizard of Oz*, which was first shown in 1939, the year the library opened. The screenings include one for adults who just want to watch the movie, one with busy, active children in at-

tendance, and a sing-along version. Crafts, games, and 1939 snacks will be available. All ages are welcome. And costumes are welcome. Registration is required for the sing-along only.

Santangelo, continued

(Continued from page 1)

and weekly newspapers in the New York metropolitan area, including a stint at Cosmopolitan magazine.

A public relations and marketing professional, she produced special events for Carnegie Hall's centennial. But then she retired. So what would the lively, diminutive woman do next?

When her husband, Joe, said he was going to retire, she worried about what it was going to mean for them. She was from the world of journalism and public relations and he was from the world of law and politics. What activities did the two have in common?

When she decided that they should write a book together he suggested it be about state politics while she suggested a mystery.

"I said 'How hard could it be: You kill somebody off, you plant a few clues and you solve it.' "

He had another idea. "He said you write the book and I'll critique it," Santangelo said.

After finishing, she sent it to publishers and got rejected. A lot.

One editor wanted more killings. But Santangelo said she wanted a gentler book, where the murder was just part of the plot rather than the only focus.

She also discovered Sisters in Crime, a group formed in 1987 by women to help women write mysteries and crime stories.

Santangelo said she realized what she had written was a rough draft rather than a finished book.



Author Susan Santangelo autographs a book after her talk.

She also learned you can publish books yourself and founded Baby Boomers Mystery Press.

The cover of her first book was a photo that her husband took. It was supposed to be of one of their English cocker spaniels sitting on a porch in summer. They used a neighbor's porch, but first had to shovel off the snow.

Then their dog would not stay put. So the designer added paw prints leading to the back cover, with a photo of the dog there.

Santangelo followed that with "Moving Can Be Murder," "Marriage Can Be Murder" and "Class Reunions Can Be Murder." She just finished "Funerals Can Be Murder," which will be published in October by Suspense Publishing, and is now writing "Second Honeymoons Can Be Murder."

The books "have cut out arguments with my husband

because he knows it will end up in a book."

She writes for one to 1½ hours every morning, but does not outline the book first. "Frequently I'm surprised at how it ends up."

She doesn't base characters directly on real people but some may be inspired by them, she said. Sometimes that means eavesdropping on people talking in stores or on cell phones.

Santangelo's books are available in stores and on Amazon. She urged Friends to take advantage of an Amazon program that benefits nonprofits.

While a Connecticut native, Santangelo now divides her time between Old Saybrook and Cape Cod.

Part of the profits from the Baby Boomer Mysteries is donated to the Breast Cancer Survival Center, a state-based nonprofit that she founded after being diagnosed with cancer.

What Do We Want To Do About E-Books?

The advent of the e-book is a publishing game changer in how we buy, use and own books.

Traditionally, the use and ownership of a book either by private citizens or libraries is governed by the copyright principle of first ownership. That is, the first buyer controls the current and future use of a book.

E-books are different; the buyer actually buys access to a book in the publisher's computer system. Rules governing access are defined by contract law, not copyright law. First ownership may or may not apply.

This is the heart of the issue, how do we balance the need for libraries to provide clientele services in the new technology environment with the legitimate needs for the publishing community to act as the conduit between writers and the public.

State Sponsors Symposium To Air E-book Issues

The relationship between libraries and e-book publishers is something like that of the Hatfields and the McCoys, although with no actual shots fired.

But this "feud" has lasted a shorter time because e-books are still a new field.

To bring that relationship into the open, the state of Connecticut organized a statewide symposium on e-books Feb 28 that drew about 130 people — including librarians, Friends members, publishers and state officials — to the University of Hartford.

The American Library Association decided the best way to deal with the issue was a twopart plan, said Alan Inouye, director of the ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy at the symposium. The ALA would:

I. Talk directly with the publishers.

2. Get the word out to the public about the issue through newspaper opinion stories, letters to the editor and other media outlets.

Inouye said he learned that publishers knew little about libraries. They didn't understand that a small-town library differed from a big-city library, which differed from a state library, which differed from a consortium.

They worried that if they let libraries circulate e-books, the publishers would lose money. Maybe the content would be stolen in some way and posted on the Internet. Publishers who *would* deal with libraries wanted to make it difficult for patrons to borrow e -books, calling that difficulty "friction."

"Do we sell an e-book to a library and then everyone in the country can borrow it?" Inouye said the publishers thought. But "that's not consistent at all with the way libraries are run."

Publishers wanted a few companies, such as Overdrive and 3M, to handle e-books because they were uncertain how to handle thousands of libraries.

Publishers also think e-books are more valuable than print because they won't wear out, libraries wouldn't have to handle book returns, etc. Libraries, on the other hand, thought publishers were being unfair and hostile. Libraries didn't understand publishers and digital publishing. Quickly changing technology made it even more difficult.

Each of the five big publishers developed its own policy on ebooks and libraries, from Penguin, which offers libraries a one-year lease, to Macmillan, which offers two years or 50-some checkouts. Some titles are not available to libraries and some publishers won't sell to a consortium. This makes it difficult for libraries to manage.

Libraries are also concerned with how far they should go in building their own platforms, with archiving e-books and with patrons' privacy.

Libraries are important to publishers because they:

• Sometimes want the older books.

• Are the place people can still find books as the number of bookstores shrinks.

• Offer readers exposure to materials beyond the bestsellers.

Skip Dye, vice president of library and academic sales at Random House, said libraries have what publishers want.

"We don't get circulation information. [We] don't see what's happening at a specific library," Dye said. "That is the really golden ticket that libraries have to offer that I would like to have, not just for e-books but for all books." Friends of Connecticut Libraries Middletown Library Service Center 786 South Main St. Middletown, CT 06457

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #379 MIDDLETOWN, CT

We're on the web! www.foclib.org/

Newsletter edited and designed by Marjorie Ruschau

Time To Renew Your FOCL Membership

The 2014-15 FOCL membership year begins Sept. 1. Group and individual membership letters and forms will be mailed at the end of August, but you can also print out forms or fill them out online at http://foclib.org/foclmembership/

The sooner you send in your book sale and event dates, the sooner we can publicize them in our online calendar! Any questions? Contact us by email at <u>friendsctlibrar-</u> <u>ies@gmail.com</u> and put membership in the subject line.

FOCL Board of Directors

President, Paul McIlvaine, Brookfield; **Vice President**, Barbara Leonard, Avon; **Secretary**, Sue Harkness, Ashford; **Treasurer**, Peggy Brissette, Stonington.

Rob Sweeny, Enfield; Gail Dunnrowicz, Manchester; Zeena Garber, Waterbury; Linda Grayson, Woodbury; Jennifer Hadley, Wesleyan University; Tom Hall, Stratford; Carl Nawrocki, Salem; Richard Lowenstein, Westport; Frank Ridley, Meriden; Marge Storrs, Simsbury; Anita Wilson, Newington.

Save the Date

Annual Friends Conference Central Connecticut State University New Britain, CT

> Saturday Nov. 15, 2014

Proposed topics: — Asking for Money — How to Improve Your Book Sale