



New Castle Library Friends

Footnotes

News for enthusiastic supporters of the New Castle Public Library



“A well-stocked, well-staffed library is like a gardener who plants books, knowledge, and dreams, and grows readers, learners, and doers.”

~Laura Purdie Salas

Thank-You from Last Year's President



A sincere thank-you to all the wonderful board members who helped in ways large and small to get what had to be done done. They all brought their assorted and numerous skills and good humor to the tasks. Thank-you also to the incredibly generous Friends' members who work on the newsletter; sort books, transport books up, out, and in, and staff tables for the Separation Day Book Sale; staff tables and act as docents on ADIONC; and, cook, bake, donate, or whatever, whenever asked. Finally, to the New Castle Library staff, thank you for your dedication to the library, books, and learning, and for your amenable and enthusiastic assistance.

All the support and kindness has been greatly appreciated.

Irene Biggs

Friday & Saturday, May 17-18, 2019



A Day in Old New Castle (ADIONC) 2019 ***A lively celebration of history***

Planning is well underway for this year's event, which is shaping up to be one of the best in recent memory (weather permitting)! The New Castle Library Friends have actively contributed by selling advertising in the program and booking publicity, and will be supplying volunteers for the day of the event. Here are a few of the activities on the schedule:

Dancing on the pier

On Friday, May 17, ADIONC will kick off with a riverside dance including hors d'oeuvres, live music, dancing on the wharf, and deck tours of the tall ship A.J. Meerwald; wine and "Midnight Oil" beer tastings are included.

The homes and gardens tour

Now in its 95th year and the longest continuously running event of its type, this year's tour includes 11 private homes as well as the Amstel House, Dutch House and Old Library museums and gardens.

Activities and entertainment

Merriment and entertainment on the Green and in Battery Park will include a range of activities and crafts, including historical reenactments, plundering pirates, rope making, glass blowing, face painting, deck tours of the tall ship A.J. Meerwald (from 12-4) and much more!

To purchase tickets, go to www.historicnewcastle.com.

Saturday, May 18, 2019

Call for volunteers (and free admission for those who help)!



New Castle's first big event of the year is almost upon us, with final preparations being made for A Day in Old New Castle 2019. This major community fundraiser has provided us with over \$4,000 of income in each of the past three years, so it's important that we support the event by providing volunteers to help out. The organizing committee is seeking our assistance in these important areas:

1. **Ticket sales at the Courthouse.** This is where our assistance is most needed.
2. **Additional support.** We may be called upon to serve as greeters, or as docents for the homes and gardens tour. (Arasapha is coordinating this part of the event and will be glad to accept our help.)

The committee is also looking for people to distribute publicity materials as soon as possible.

If you're able to help, please email Mel at meltera@gmail.com. Volunteers working the day of the event receive free admission to the home and garden tour and a deck tour of the A.J. Meerwald (deck tours from noon-4:00 p.m.).

Recap: Annual Meeting



Not a snowflake or raindrop was to be seen, which finally allowed the rescheduled Friends' Annual Supper Meeting and Program to take place the evening of March 22nd. As the attendance at this event has outgrown the allowable capacity of the lower level Community Room, it was held on the main floor. It was a grand evening with many familiar, and some new members, and plenty of camaraderie and delicious food and drink.

After a short business meeting, which included a review of our finances and membership, the passing of new, revised by-laws, and the election of our 2019 board members, Ed Okonowicz offered a lively program about Delaware. Our members, being so well read, made us all proud with their knowledge of the First State.



Melody Terasaki

New President of New Castle Library Friends

The March 22, 2019, annual Library Friends meeting welcomed Melody Terasaki as the new president of the Friends. Mel is a career educator, born and raised in the mid-west, but a Delaware resident for the past 20-plus years. Graduating from Hope College with a degree in English and history, Mel was drawn to teaching through an internship with the Upward Bound Program. She went on to graduate from Michigan State with an MA in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

This degree and Mel's sense of adventure led her to work overseas for 10 years for the Department of Defense in their Dependent Schools for children of military personnel. Her first assignment was at U.S. Naval Base Subic Bay in the Philippines, before moving on to Yokota Air Base in Tokyo, Japan.

In 1994, Mel moved stateside fluent in Spanish and Japanese. She was hired to teach English as a Second Language at the University of Delaware and she settled in Newark. This position was followed by her present job of 20 years in the Colonial School District in their ELL program, working with English language learners. Today, Mel works with 100 students at Pleasantville Elementary, K-5.

Mel has two adult children: a son and a daughter. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening and exercise. She also works closely tutoring the parents of her students, as well as offering tutoring services within the community.

In the classroom, one of the basic skills Mel focuses on is reading. She feels strongly that reading is a "super-human power". She said, "If people can read, they have the potential to be propelled anywhere in the world. Libraries allow people to read at whatever level they are at." This belief is the foundation

for Mel's love for our library. At the end of the day, Mel wants her students to be involved in the library and experience its impact.

Mel's love of books, people, and libraries drew her to a part-time position at NCPL as a Page. She has moved on from that position to volunteer on the Library Friends' board, and now takes the helm as the president of the Library Friends. We are thankful to have Mel share her time, talents, and leadership as the Friends continue to support our library, its staff, and its patrons.

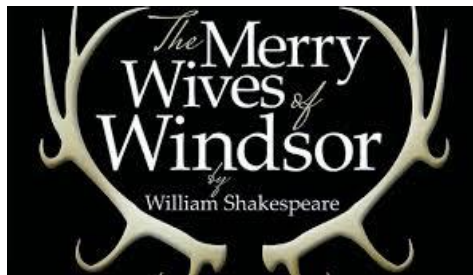
Presidential Pondering's

Like most, if not all of us, I find it somewhat shocking to be changing the calendar to April, 2019. Yes, we're thankful spring has finally sprung, but the entire abstraction of time's constant movement eludes my grasp no matter how hard I try to realize it. So much has been written about "how quickly time flies,"--there's no sense in restating it, but there is sense in recognizing the reality of it in our lives. I'm talking about living consciously, purposely, meaningfully.

Just after winter break and into the new year, I challenged my young students to think of just one word that could be/would be their focus for the rest of the school year. #Family, #Study, #HardWork were a few of their hashtags; mine was #TODAY--cognizant of the finiteness of time. So I offer each of you my hope, that at the start and end of each day, you will recognize your gift of time and use it more wisely. I send you all my energy for #TODAY.

Mel Terasaki

Summer Shakespeare is Back!!!



Save the date of Thursday, July 11th, at 7 pm for our annual presentation on the play being presented by the Delaware Shakespeare Festival at Rockwood Park this summer. Linda Emerick will be providing a lively program on ***The Merry Wives of Windsor***. More details will follow in the next newsletter

Library after Hours Update

by Nicole Ballance,
Principal Library Assistant

The Library after Hours program had many exciting programs within the last couple of months and has grown in popularity as well. There are many new and improved Library after Hours programs coming in the spring, so be on the lookout.

In January we hosted a new program: *DIY Hot Cocoa Kits, Karaoke, Trivia, and PJ Party*. The idea was to make it a “Cozy Night in at the Library.” Participants came dressed in their PJ’s with bottles of wine and beer in hand. Karaoke was set up in the children’s area for anyone who was brave enough to sing. More sang than anticipated and we were told they had such a good time; they are looking forward to another Karaoke Night! Board games were set out for anyone not as interested in Karaoke. Participants had an hour to assemble their hot cocoa kits (all ingredients were lined up for people to pick and choose what they wanted to add to their kits), play board games, and sing karaoke. The last hour of the program was used for trivia. The participants agreed that the evening was great and are looking forward to something similar in the future.



In February we hosted a crowd favorite: Candy Heart Bingo. About 35 participants played along using candy hearts as their bingo card markers. This year, we approached bingo a little differently and projected the called numbers onto a screen. We played enough rounds to fill 2 hours. Winners were able to pick from a number of different prizes: something from the prize table or a book.

For March, we brought back a program from the inception of LAH: Beer stein/wine glass painting. 35 participants were given a wine glass or beer stein to paint. Stencils were provided, but we quickly learned that the material used to create the stencils was not conducive to the project. Without stencils, participants used their imaginations and painting skills to create their own masterpieces.

The next Library after Hours program will be on Friday, April 12th at 7 PM and seats are still available. April’s theme is “Planter Painting/Plant Exchange.” Participants will need to bring in their own planter to paint. A terracotta planter will work best. Participants are encouraged to also bring in a clipping of a house plant to share with other participants. The library will provide some clippings for people who do not have plants to share.

As per usual, Library after Hours is a BYOB, 21+, program. All LAH programs require registration so please call us at 302-328-1995 to register for any of the LAH programs. Hope to see you there!

Stay tuned for the summer themes in the next newsletter.



Looking ahead to the 2019 adult “Summer with the Library” program

*by Sally Hatton,
Adult Services Librarian*

If you thought that summer reading clubs were just for children, we are pleased to announce the 2019 program for adults. This year’s theme is “**A Universe of Stories.**”

The fun starts on June 1st, when adults can register online or at the library. Participants can keep a record of the titles they read with the online database, BeanStack, or log their books at the library if they do not wish to use BeanStack. Participants can also participate in the Reading Challenge and attend any or all of the programs we have planned. Weekly drawings and two grand prizes, awarded at the end of the program, will add to the fun.

Along with showing some of this year’s Oscar nominated films, and continuing with the Monday Cultural Film Series, we have booked a Delaware Humanities presentation by Eric Mease that ties in with the 50th anniversary of the 1969 moon walk. This program, “We Came in Peace: 50 Years on the Moon,” is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 7 p.m.

A “**Classic SciFi Week**”(July 15- 19) will feature a discussion of the book **The Martian Chronicles**, by Ray Bradbury, and a special showing of the 1951 movie classic **The Day the Earth Stood Still**, starring Michael Rennie and Patricia Neal.

Look for the June – August adult program brochure in May, and the official “**Summer with the Library**” brochure on June 1.



June 8th is Separation Day, and you know what that means!!

The New Castle Library Book Sale!!!

Please set aside some time on New Castle's Day of Days and visit the Library to pick up some summer reading at bargain prices.

Our loyal and steadfast volunteers have been toiling in the nether regions of the Library for a whole year and look forward to moving those boxes of books into the light and on to a better place - the bookshelves of our neighbors and friendly visitors to our town!

The sorters are weak from their long stint underground and will need all the help you have so generously provided in the past. Come to help us on Friday evening to transport, Saturday morning to set up, and

Saturday afternoon to take down. We also need folks to staff the sales tables and sell chances for our amazing raffle baskets.
And speaking of raffle baskets...

We have selected some interesting books as the foundation of the baskets but are seeking some fabulous donations to really make those chance tickets fly off the roll. Can you help us?

Our books include cook books from The Silver Palate, Provence cooking and baking, Baseball, Picasso (Amy gave us a wonderful assortment of art supplies for that one!), Martha Stewart (are we tired of her yet?), custom motorcycles, American seacoasts, picture books of Britain and Ireland, knitting/crochet (with exceedingly gorgeous yarn from Susan), small bites and French cheeses.

The basement is so full of good stuff that if you have a donation, I'm sure we have a basket for it!

April Book Recommendations

**If there is a book you would like to recommend, email us
at nclibraryfriends@gmail.com**



Amy Bishop-Ryan

Anything is Possible by Elizabeth Strout

This novel returns to the fictional rural town of Amgash, Illinois, the protagonist's hometown in Strout's 2016 novel *My Name Is Lucy Barton*. It is a novel told in a series of interconnected stories, each featuring a tale of small-town life that illuminates a more profound truth. Strout shows compassion for her characters, but never sentimentality. Their stories are told with respect, nuance and a pitch-perfect ear for dialogue.

Eileen Burk

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

This novel by nature author Owens is set in a cove on the North Carolina coast and follows the life of Kya Clark, who has lived alone in this swamp since childhood. The author's details of the natural setting serve as a palette for Kya's understanding of life. Misunderstood and ridiculed by the townspeople, the "Marsh Girl" finds herself at the center of a crime drama. This coming of age story contains its fair share of tragedy, mystery, and grit.

Roberta Yarker Smith

Commonwealth by Ann Patchett

The novel begins with an illicit kiss that leads to an affair that destroys two marriages and creates a reluctantly blended family. In a series of vignettes spanning fifty years, it tells the story of the six children whose lives were disrupted and how they intertwined.