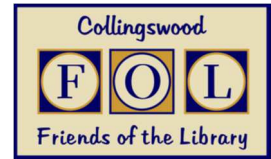


# Friends Focus



The Newsletter of Collingswood Friends of the Library

Winter 2018

## Treasurer's Report



It was another successful year for us thanks to our members who faithfully support Friends and the Collingswood Free Public Library, as well as patrons and neighbors who support Friends. On-going book sales, memberships and donations continue to fund our contributions to the library and raise awareness throughout the community. Again we want to thank MKM Foundation for their continuing support of Friends of the Library and Collingswood Free Public Library. Here is a listing of some of the donations and activities sponsored by Friends of the Library in 2017:

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- Purchased books and magazines for children and adults
- Awarded FOL scholarships to high school and middle school students
- Purchased museum memberships for patrons and family members for eleven (11) local museums.
- Purchased DVDs on a monthly basis
- Published periodic newsletters
- Hosted Comic Book Day in May
- Sponsored storyteller programs to supplement the Summer Programs at the library
- Provided prizes for summer program contests for children and adults
- Participated in the Book Festival to raise awareness of Friends of the Library and donated books through the Book Festival
- Sponsored web hosting for library's web site
- Purchased computer equipment and computer software
- Purchased supplies, furniture and other equipment for the library and staff
- Sponsored fax service for the library
- Sponsored *Collingswood Reads* book club
- Purchased board and video games



Friends have successfully worked with the Director and the Board of Trustees to support the library for many years and look forward to many more years working together.



## **Museum Membership Update**

**Two more museum memberships added to the collection:**

**Museum of the American Revolution and Mütter Museum**

As a reminder, there are ten (10) other museum memberships also available for checkout at the Library:

Camden Children's Garden (reopens March 24) – Battleship New Jersey (reopens February 4) – Academy of Natural Sciences – Garden State Discovery Museum – Grounds for Sculpture – Independence Seaport Museum – Morris Arboretum – National Liberty Museum – Penn Museum – Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Adult cardholders in good standing may check out one pass at a time, and each pass may be checked out for up to four days. For more information, or to find out which passes are available today, call the Library at 856.858.0649.

### **President's Message:**

As a new year and a new chapter unfold, find time to do something different. I feel this year more than ever I need to venture outside my comfort zone in my everyday life and when I am reading. The library offers so many award-winning books. Just look at our online catalog, it will be hard for you to choose what to pick up next. Whether you decide to brush up on the classics or books that are soon to be movies, we have them and so much more waiting for you here at the library. Hope to see you there.

*Anita*

*What in the world would we do without our libraries?*

–Katherine Hepburn

**Director's Message:**

A few years ago, we decided to start a book club at the library. It had been a long time since we'd had a book club here, and we thought it might be a good way to kick-off our initiative to offer more adult programming. What we didn't anticipate is how well the book club would succeed! Collingswood Reads was born in the Spring of 2015, and it has been growing ever since. This book club meets monthly to discuss popular and important titles, from fiction to non-fiction and spanning the literary spectrum, from YA to Adult, science fiction, biography, and beyond.

We have opened-up the group to teens, allowing us to explore books and topics across the generations. In association with the Collingswood Book Festival, we read the Collingswood Town Book each fall, and ask the Collingswood High School AP Literature class to join us for our discussions. The mix of ages and perspectives always makes for fascinating conversations!

The Collingswood Reads Book Club is a safe space for the community to gather, and our book picks often spark a dialogue about today's social issues. Topics we've discussed include race relations, suicide, domestic abuse, discrimination of all kinds, social media and technology, parenting, and so much more.

One of the challenges of running a book club is acquiring enough copies of each title. Generally, the library's budget can only cover one copy of each book for our collection. For the book club's selections, Friends of the Library have made it possible to buy additional paperback copies. After the book discussions, we make the additional paperback copies available for our borrowers to use in hosting their own book clubs. To highlight this collection, we've added a special shelving area to feature copies of past book club picks for all to enjoy.

If you'd like to follow the Collingswood Reads Book Club, you can join our mailing list by emailing [LibraryAdmin@collingswoodlib.org](mailto:LibraryAdmin@collingswoodlib.org). We also host a page on our website devoted to the book club at <https://collingswoodlib.org/about/book-club>.

Helping the library buy extra copies of book club books is just one of the countless ways in which our friends help the library and its users every day. Thank you for your ongoing support of programs like Collingswood Reads, Summer Reading, and Comic Book Day – coming up on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Carissa*



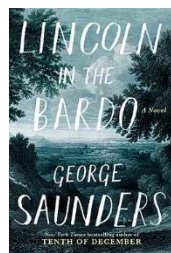
## Ready, Set, Read!

### Collingswood Reads Book Club 7 pm – Peter P Childs Community Room

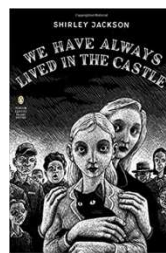
Based on suggestions from the Book Club holiday party, we're releasing the titles for our book club in advance. Come join us for a lively discussion each month.



February 28



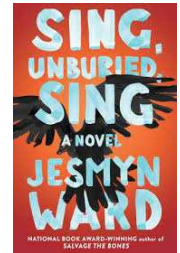
March 28



April 25



May 23



June 27

Instead of tossing those used printer cartridges; you can drop them off at the Library. Friends will then recycle them at Staples and receive rewards. There is a brightly colored box in the lobby for your convenience for dropping them off. Thanks!

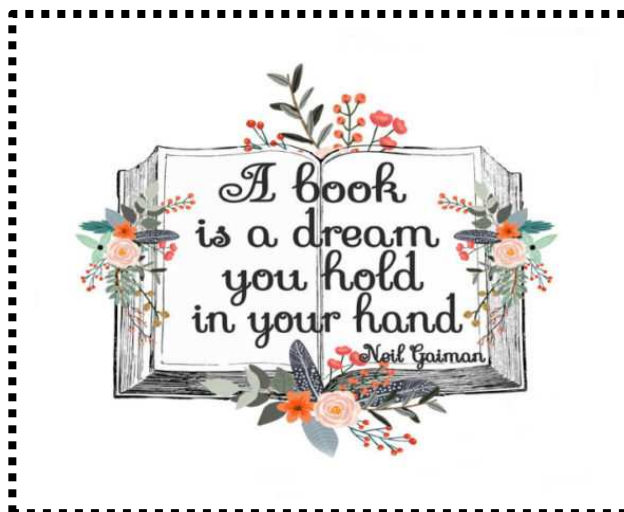


**This newsletter is published by  
Collingswood Friends of the Library**

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Friends meet on the Second Monday of the  
month at 6 pm in the Director's office.

All members are welcome to attend.



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