



Friends of the Avon Free Public Library
Thank you!
The Year in Review



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the many programs made possible by a membership in the Friends of the Avon Library and from our Book Sales. As a Board, we have been proud to underwrite a variety of projects to keep you interested in and supportive of the magnificent job being done by our Librarians and Staff. Here are the 2022/23 highlights:

Adult Programs

Over \$4,000 was dedicated to both on-line and in-person lectures, covering topics from classical art to films to history to yoga.

Teen Programs

We help keep teens aware of all that the Library has to offer. In addition to supporting the Teen Advisory Board, one of our biggest promotions was an amazing night of Laser Tag.

Children's Programs

It's never too early to engender a love of libraries. We invested over \$12,000 in reading programs, music, a Ballerina Holiday, a miniature kitchen, and our annual Ice Cream Social.

Sunday Afternoon Music Programs

Hundreds of you appreciated the \$4,400 spent for the return of our winter concerts. They ranged from Pop to Folk to Classical to Hot Jazz, and each played to a full house in the Community Room.

Summer Intern

We invested \$5,775 to help develop interest in a career as a librarian, and to support our staff during its busiest season.

Conference Table and two Benches

During the 2021 replacement of the geothermal heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems at the Library, several trees had to be cut down on library grounds. The wood from two maple trees was milled, dried, and used to create this furniture, preserving the history of the trees in an environmentally supportive manner. As Leona Mae Page, our Library Secretary, enthused: "Thank you for bringing new life to old trees! It's wonderful having such engaged and supportive Friends."

Museum Passes

Did you know the Library offers discounted entry fees to a variety of popular museums? Worth every penny of the \$1,600 we use to qualify for these bargains. Check out the full list at www.avonctlibrary.info/services/museum-passes.

Membership Goal: During the coming year, with your support, in order to keep the level of underwriting as high as we achieved in 2022/23, we hope to increase our membership to 550. Please consider renewing your membership, or beginning to join in our support of an important community resource.

Thank you, and I hope to see you at many of the exciting programs we are already scheduling for the 2023/2024 season!

Sincerely,
Lisa Berman, Board President

Restock Your Bookshelves at our Annual Book Sales



Friday October 13, 4 – 8 p.m.

Preview Sale

Free to Friends or \$5 admission fee

Saturday, October 14, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Adult and Young Adult Books

No Admission Fee

Sunday, October 15, 12 – 3 p.m.

Bag Sale \$5 per bag!

No Admission Fee

Saturday, October 21, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Children and Teen Book Sale

No admission fee

Week by Week Programs and Events



We encourage you to use the Library's weekly highlights e-mail to keep you updated on our events. It is our hope that you will find this a targeted and timely notice of the wonderful programs at the Library. If you are not already receiving these, go to our Home Page: <https://www.avonctlibrary.info>, then scroll down to the block that begins: "Sign up for Library Emails." And remember, both the Library and the Friends have Facebook pages.

VOLUNTEER



The Friends Board meets at 2 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the months from September through June.

We are particularly looking for a **Secretary** to record monthly Minutes and a **Communications Director** to develop newsletters, social media posts, flyers, etc.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of The Friends in one of our vacant positions, please contact Lisa Berman at avonfriends@avonctlibrary.info

Friends Board of Directors 2023/24

President: Lisa Berman; Vice President: Joan Reiskin; Treasurer: Mary Anne Maher

*Secretary: **Volunteer needed**; Membership Chair: Deborah Feigenbaum;*

*Children's Programs: Erin Dawson; Communications **Volunteer needed***

Directors: Margery Lawrence and Susan McCabe

2023/24 Friends Membership Drive

The Friends of the Avon Free Public Library is an independent organization that plays an important part in bringing innovative new programs, as well as some old favorites, to the community. Wait till you see what's in store this year! Please consider being part of the fun. Whether you are renewing your membership or are joining us for the first time, we appreciate your donation.

Your October membership in the Friends of the Avon Library demonstrates that you realize the value of the Library to life in our town – and we're grateful. Your continuing support matters.

Here are our membership categories

<i>Individual -</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Senior Couple -</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Family Bookworms -</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Book Lover -</i>	<i>\$50-\$99</i>
<i>Bibliophile -</i>	<i>\$100-\$199</i>
<i>Book Collector -</i>	<i>\$200 & up</i>

To become a Friend of the Library, simply complete the membership information form below and return it with your check payable to The Friends of the Avon Library to:

Friends of the Avon Library
281 Country Club Road
Avon CT 06001

or donate with your Credit Card or through our PayPal account by following the "Join the Friends" button on the Library's Home Page: <https://www.avonctlibrary.info/friends/>.

Your donation of *any* amount will help to support us as we support our library, and you can proudly say that you are officially a Friend of the Library. And remember, the Friends of the Avon Library is a 501-c3 organization, so your donation is tax-deductible.

YES! I will be a Friend in 2023/24!

- Individual* _____
- Senior Couple* _____
- Family Bookworms* _____
- Book Lover(s)* _____
- Bibliophile(s)* _____
- Book Collector(s)* _____
- Other* _____

Name _____

Address: _____

Email address _____ *Phone* _____

I would love to be even more involved:

- Friends Board Member/ Committee Chair*
- Annual Book Sale/ Booktique*
- Special Events*

Friends of the Avon Free Public Library
281 County Club Road
Avon, Ct. 06001

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Residential Customer



What the Friends of the Avon Library mean to the Librarians:

Library Director, Glenn Grube: *I think it's a common misconception that if you have a Library card you are a member of The Friends of Avon Library. The Friends are an independent group, who through their Membership Drive and Book Sales provide funding for a wide range of library programs. They enrich the Library experience at every age and interest level. This year's return of their Sundays at Three winter concerts was a standing-room-only series that brought hundreds of people to the Community Room, and hours of enjoyment to our diverse community.*

Reference & Adult Services Librarian, Tina Panik: *Whether our programs are online or in person, the Friends are always there to support us in funding engaging speakers and talented authors. I'm proud of the fact that, with their support, the Avon Free Public Library has such a robust panorama of public events.*

Circulation & Outreach Services Librarian, Patricia Valsecchi: *The great collection of museum passes, funded by the Friends, allows hundreds of families each year to visit local attractions—from the Norman Rockwell Museum to the Mark Twain House—with free or discounted admission.*

Teen Librarian, Stephanie Smith: *Teens have very busy schedules these days and we are so grateful to The Friends for funding creative programs that help spur their interest in regularly visiting the Library.*

Children's Librarian, Marisa Hicking: *I wish everyone could see the looks on the faces of children participating in the many programs funded by The Friends! They are delighted and excited by new learning experiences and they are building a lifelong appreciation of what libraries can do for them. I can't thank The Friends enough for always responding so positively to our requests.*