

Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library Newsletter



Co-Presidents: Jerry Skotnicki and Suzanne O'Rourke

May 2019

Prepared by Judy Musacchia

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Suzanne O'Rourke and Jerry Skotnicki

As our year comes to a close, we offer congratulations and special thanks to all who have contributed to all of the Friends' initiatives. The vision and energy of the Board set a basis for creative expression representing the introduction of new programs, while sustaining or expanding existing activities.

In particular, we acknowledge with appreciation the tireless efforts of our enthusiastic and fun-loving volunteers. The volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. It is through their dedication and commitment that we continue to thrive.

2019 SPRING BOOK SALE



The Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library held its annual Spring Book Sale May 1 through May 4 this year and raised more than **\$15,000** to support the various programs sponsored by the Friends.

The Westfield area community donated over 60,000 books and approximately 100 volunteers prepared the meeting room for the sale, accepted the books, sorted and shelved them, served as cashiers and floor support during the sale and helped restore the room after the sale. In addition, the Westfield Department of Public Works, the Westfield Board of Education and the Westfield Fire Department provided material and logistical support. The staff of the Westfield Memorial also supported the sale through volunteer efforts, purchases, dealing with increased traffic during the sale and sacrificing amenities such as their break room during the sale.

The Friends would like to thank everyone who donated books, served as volunteers, lent support and attended the sale for helping make it a success!

NOMINEES FOR 2019-2020 FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

The nominating committee is pleased to announce that the current slate of officers will remain intact for the upcoming year.

Co-Presidents:	Jerry Skotnicki & Suzanne O'Rourke
Vice President:	Marcy Lechner
Recording Secretary:	Fran Lemberg
Corresponding Secretary:	Harriet Davidson
Treasurer:	Debbie Bailey
Assistant Treasurer:	Camille Hayden
Advisors:	Cindy Colicchio & Christine Mason

Congratulations to the returning officers and thanks for a job well done. The Friends enjoyed a very successful year under their leadership and look forward to much success in the upcoming year.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

We are happy to report that the fourth Little Library has been installed by the Westfield DPW in Mindowaskin Park. It is by the entrance to the parking lot that is next to the police department. There is an area with benches and it has been placed there so anyone can sit and peruse the books before making a choice.

In the months since they have been installed we have been monitoring them and adding books when needed and replacing books so there will be a varied selection.

Since they have been so successful, especially the one located at the south side of the train station, we will be adding two more Little Libraries. If anyone has a suggestion about location please share it with us. Also, volunteers are needed to make sure that books are available. The locations should be checked every two

weeks on any day of the week. We have a new supply of books from the book sale . If you would like to help it would be appreciated.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!

Metropolitan Opera Subscription Series Convenient Charter Bus from Westfield

Registration for the 2019-20 season is still open for any person from Westfield or surrounding communities. For as little as \$30 a night plus bus fare you can experience one of the best opera houses in the world. Transportation is conveniently provided by charter bus from Westfield to Lincoln Center.



If you are interested in participating as a subscriber or a Standby and would like more information, please see our web site www.fwmlnj.org - and look under "culture" and "opera" - or contact Ulf Dolling at 908-347-3563 or uhdoll@aol.com

Sept. 25	MACBETH (Verdi)
Oct. 30	LA BOHEME (Puccini)
Dec. 18	THE QUEEN OF SPADES (Tchaikovsky)
Jan. 29	LA DAMNATION DE FAUST (Berlioz)
Feb. 19	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO (Mozart)
Mar. 18	DER FLIEGENDE HOLLANDER (Wagner) <i>New Production</i>
Apr. 1	MADAMA BUTTERFLY (Puccini)
May 6	KAT'A KABANOVA (Janacek)

MUSEUM PASS MILESTONE!!!

Over **10,000** passes have been used by patrons of our library since the program began in April of 2018.

The Museum Pass program is funded by the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library and offers passes for free admission to 24 museums in New Jersey and New York. Check out our list of varied offerings--we guarantee that you will find a museum that appeals. Most of our passes offer admission for 2 adults and/or entire families and other benefits (like discounts at museum shops, restaurants, and express members' lines.)

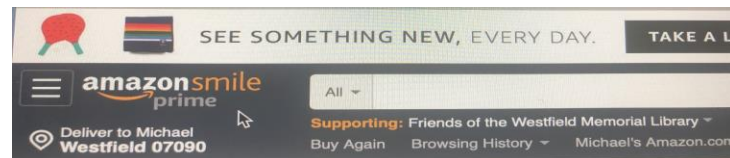
Premiere Museums (passes which may not be combined with other museum passes) are: American Museum of Natural History (NY), Grounds for Sculpture (NJ), Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum (NY), Jewish

Museum, Museum of Modern Art, and Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (NY.)

In addition, library card holders are eligible for a \$3.00 discount on admission to the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, NJ. Each visitor must present his/her WML card to get the discount.

Before you visit, be sure to check each museum for their hours and exhibitions. For general information please go to the library website (www.fwmlnj.org) or check out the Museum Pass bulletin board in the library.

SUPPORT THE FRIENDS WHILE YOU SHOP!!!

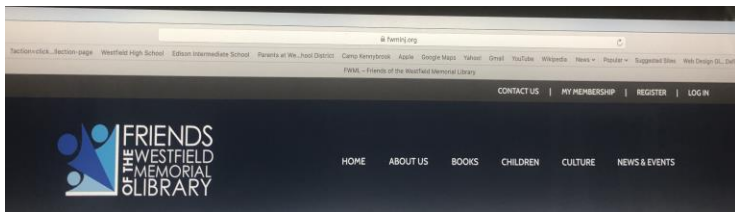


The Friends participate in AmazonSmile which is Amazon's online charity giving program. By listing as a charity on AmazonSmile, the Friends receives a percentage of every sale that selects the Friends as a recipient. It's a seamless way to contribute to the Friends while you shop.

You may already use AmazonSmile with another organization you support. No problem. Another benefit with AmazonSmile is that the program allows you to switch to another charity and switch back to the Friends whenever you want. One day you can select the Friends from the list of charities and the next day select another organization.

While the donation percentage is small the donations add up. Funds are received quarterly from AmazonSmile and get deposited to our bank account; contributing to all our Friends sponsored programs and events. Any questions please contact Marcy Lechner at marcylechner@gmail.com or 813-335-7629. To use AmazonSmile follow these steps:

1. Go to www.amazon.com. It's the same site as www.amazon.com but with a different home page to allow you to select the charity you would like to be the recipient of AmazonSmile.
2. Select the drop down list on **Supporting:**
3. Type *Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library* in the box **Or pick your own charitable organization:** and then **Search.**
4. To confirm your selection, view **Your current charity:** *Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library* and **Supporting:** *Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library* on the AmazonSmile menu bar at the top of the site
5. Smile knowing your shopping is contributing to the Friends.



Have you visited the Friends website recently? Maybe you signed up to volunteer for the book sale or a Hale Series event? Or you heard about it from a Friend and decided to check out what is available on the site? Any way we are glad that you took the opportunity to use the site. We welcome all our Friends to visit and see what the Friends are up to. This is the place for Friends information.

The redesigned website is our online presence for the community and for our Friends membership. With anything new we always have questions. So we've put together a list of the most common things people inquire about the site. If your question isn't listed or you have a suggestion, please contact the Friends at info@fwmlnj.org. Your note will be directed to the appropriate board member. They will either respond via email or call you depending on the nature of your inquiry. Please check back often to stay in the know about all the Friends has to offer.



Website Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *Do I need to login to the site to read information?*

A: No. At any time you just want to read about the Friends programs or events just go visit the site at www.fwmlnj.org.

Q: *If I have a question or a comment about a Friends program how can I contact the Friends?*

A: Send an email to info@fwmlnj.org. The Friend email box is checked frequently. Emails are directed to the appropriate board member for follow up.

Q: *Sometimes I hear from a Friend that an email has been sent by the Friends but I never received it?*

A: The majority of Friends email are sent from the Friends email box (info@fwmlnj.org). If your email service (Gmail, Yahoo, iCloud, Mac, aol, Comcast, Hotmail etc...) does not recognize info@fwmlnj.org it will get sent to Spam. This is a common function to reduce unwanted mail in your Inbox. For your email to recognize mail sent from the Friends (info@fwmlnj.org), move it from Spam to your Inbox. Move to Inbox is usually an option available when you open an email in the Spam folder. If you do this and you continue to not receive emails please send a note to the Friends at info@fwmlnj.org and we'll work with you directly on this.

Q: *I don't want to miss out on Friends information sent to me. What types of emails are sent from the Friends membership?*

A: Within a typical year, but not limited to at all, the Friends sends quarterly newsletters, requests for volunteers for the Spring and Fall book sales, membership drive information and reminders on upcoming programs and events.

Q: *How do I sign up to become a new member?*

A: On the site go to **About Us: Membership: Become a Member**

Q: *How do I renew or update my membership?*

A: To renew, make a donation or update membership (for example my email or address home address has changed) go to **My Membership** on the header bar.

Q: *Once I have registered with the website do I always need to go to **Log In**?*

A: No, just to read the website. Yes, if you want to sign up for an event or program.

Q: *How does information get on the website?*

A: The website committee receives updates from the event and program chairpeople. Updates can be a sign up or general program information.

Q: *What if I have information I'd like to share regarding the Friends?*

A: Please send it to info@fwmlnj.org. We'll review it and contact you prior to posting.



CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' BOOK SALE!

Sunday, 9/22/19 - Tuesday, 9/24/19--Donation Days
Wednesday, 9/25/19 - Thursday, 9/26/19--Sale Days
Friday, 9/27/19 - Half Price Day
Saturday, 9/28/19 - Bag Day

If you would like to have fun (guaranteed!) helping with the sale, please email us at info@fwmlnj.org