



## Friends of the Brownell Library

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Dear Friends,

What a wonderful, and active, year this has been at the Brownell Library! Use of the facilities, circulation, programs and computer usage has increased and it is a joy to see the Library play such a vital role in the community. As we enter the cold months of winter, let us remember the warmth, comfort and service the Brownell Library brings to us all.

Thank you to all the members of the Friends, staff, volunteers, Foundation and Trustees for making the library a special resource in this community. Your dedication and commitment are truly appreciated. The Friends would especially like to thank everyone who supports the library through membership dues and the generous donations of quality books, videos, and audio materials. Without you, our wonderful books sales would not be possible. Those who purchase books from the Eternal book shelves and attend our book sales find great books at great prices and your support assists in making many programs and purchases possible that benefit the Brownell Library and the entire community.

The Friends of the Brownell Library were able to provide funds to support the popular children's summer reading program, entertainment, refreshments, and T-shirts, provide the youth library with the Red Clover Award winning books, and sponsor the programs by Matthew Witten. Multiple copies of adult bestsellers, adult programs, a new set of the Encyclopedia Britannica and membership in the American Library Association were also provided by the Friends.

If you would like to volunteer to sort books or would like to hear more about becoming a member of the Board of Directors, please leave your name and phone number at the front desk of the library and a member of the Friends will contact you.

We are looking forward to another successful year of supporting the programs and purchasing materials that are so important to the library community. Please help make this possible by becoming a member of the Friends, donating books and purchasing books at the Eternal book sale and the special book sales. Thank you again and hope to see you at the library.

Sincerely,

Cindy Chadurjian, Chair

Board of Directors, Friends of the Brownell Library

**Friends of the Brownell Library Board of Directors**

Lisa Allen ~ Janet Allard ~

Cindy Chadurjian ~ Bridget Meyer ~ Meg Provost

**Invitation to Our Friends**

**All Friends are cordially invited to the  
Annual Meeting of Friends of the Brownell Library  
Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
at the Library in the Friends' Book Sale Room  
Refreshments will be served**

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**O SCHOOL BUS TO THE OPERA: THANKS TO THE FRIENDS OF BROWNELL**

By Penny Pillsbury

When I was a farm girl in Hinesburg in the 1950s and 60s, my brother, parents and I would faithfully gather to hear *Lawrence Welk* every single Saturday, until my brother and I just couldn't stand it anymore. Also in Hinesburg, at the same time, another child had a different Saturday musical ritual that didn't involve accordions or the Lennon Sisters, Toni Hill grew up listening to the Metropolitan opera on the radio and started her record collection with *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Years past, Toni and I left Hinesburg and childhood. She has returned to become our special Brownell Library Opera Expert. In March a big yellow school bus rented by the Friends pulled up to Brownell's back door. Sixteen (*mostly*) opera innocents hopped aboard for a trip to the Palace 9 Cinema to see the Metropolitan Opera's performance of *Madama Butterfly* by Puccini.

Toni met us with an Italian toast, handed out a colorful flyer she created and offered us an interesting talk about *Madama*, to help us understand what we were about to see and hear. Since then the Friends have sponsored Toni and two more opera bus rides to *Tosca* and *Aida*.

It is a beautiful thing when someone's passion and lifetime of enjoyment can be shared with those of us who are yearning to learn. "Opera is everything to me," says Toni. We school bus opera lovers are beginning to understand why.

We expect that we'll continue our School Bus opera trips in 2010 with Bizet's *Carmen* on Wednesday 3 February 6:30pm. The sign up sheet will be on the desk.



### **Youth Library**

Our new Red Clover and Dorothy Canfield Fisher Books for the 2009-2010 school year are already getting heavy use. Extra copies purchased by the Friends help us keep up with demand for these popular titles in our Statewide Book Award Contests. 10 Red Clover titles for Gr. K-4 are shelved in the Picture Book Room, with 3 copies

per title. 30 DCF titles for Grades 4-8 are on top of the shelf in the Juvenile Fiction area, with 2 copies per title.

Our monthly programming for homeschoolers last year from November to March had a successful year, with its best attendance ever. April 1 2009 was Voting Day.

For the Red Clover Vote, Erna Deutsch reviewed with K-3<sup>rd</sup> Graders all the titles they read, and 18 children each voted for their favorite. *Scaredy Squirrel* by Melanie Watt and *When Dinosaurs Came with Everything* by Elise Broach received 4 votes each. Statewide, the winner was *Scaredy Squirrel*. Each child received a copy of the book they voted for, as a souvenir of their participation in the program.

On the same day, 12 students in 4th-8<sup>th</sup> Grade joined Mary Graf to fill out their Voting Forms and share their choices with the group. Several students were torn between 2 or 3 titles. Each student read at least 5 books, and one read all 30! The group winner was *Cracker!* by Cynthia Kadohata, with 3 votes. Runners up, with 2 votes each, were Shannon Hale's *Book of a Thousand Days*, Lynne Jonell's *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat*, & Gary Schmidt's *The Wednesday Wars*. Each student selected a paperback edition of a previous DCF Award Winner for a prize. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney was the statewide DCF Award Winner.

A number of DCF titles from recent years were added to the Fifth Grade Reading Lists from Fleming School, which made the lists more current. All of the DCF Books from previous years can be identified by their yellow DCF Stickers.

In the Picture Book Room, our special Red Clover section has all the previous Red Clover titles back to 1996. Kids often return to this shelf to re-read their favorites.

Thanks to the Friends for their continued funding of these two student-voted Book Award Contests. The Youth Collection is enriched by their support.



### **Brownell Library Foundation: Ensuring the Future of the Library**

Are you interested in:

- Enriching programs and activities,
- Supporting extraordinary endeavors which will enhance library services,
- Helping the library keep pace with changing technology,

- o Adding new or innovative services, or
- o Broadening the collection?

The Brownell Library Foundation is here to help! Established in 1995 to help with the very successful capital campaign, the Foundation allows people to make tax-deductible gifts to the Library.

As a 501(c)3 organization, we work with patrons who wish to make special gifts to the library including gifts of stock, large cash donations, or bequests of homes, deeds, or other financial items. We also work with donors family members who give gifts in their loved ones' names to ensure the continuity of their generous legacy to the Library.

If you are interested in making a financial gift to the library, you can download a donation form from our website, <http://www.brownelllibrary.org/about/foundation.html>, drop off a check made out to **Brownell Library Foundation** at the front desk. Thank you!

Currently, there are two vacancies on the Brownell Library Foundation Board. We are looking for two energetic, library-loving people to join our team of dedicated volunteers. There is a bimonthly meeting commitment, as well as some events at the library. If you're looking for a way to serve your community and indulge in your love of books, and raise a little money for the Brownell Library along the way, then please check us out. If you are interested in joining us, please call Elaine Sopchak, Foundation chair, at 324-2546.



## Friends of the Brownell Library Book Sales

*Saturday, December 5-Friday, December 11, 2009*

*Saturday, February 6-Friday, February 11, 2010*

*Saturday, April 10-Friday, April 12, 2010\**

*(\*this sale will be coordinated by the Brownell Library Foundation)*

*Be sure to check out the library and the website for more information on our book sales*

### WE LOVE DONATIONS

“Great books at great prices” that has been the motto of the Friends of the Brownell Library for years. For our book sales in the basement “book sale” room and our Eternal Book Sale to be a success, the Friends are always looking for donations in good saleable condition. Through the generosity of the library, our patrons and the community, donations have been plentiful and appreciated. We welcome donations of books, DVDs and CDs. Please bring donations to the front desk of the library.

We can not accept donations of magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias pre-2005, Readers Digest  
Condensed books or items that are mildewed, dirty, torn or written in.



## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM 2010

**I would like to join or renew my membership with the *Friends of the Brownell Library*  
for 2010:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

“Friend in Kind” – Financial contribution

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5    \_\_\_\_\_ \$10    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ other

*Please make checks payable to:*

**Friends of the Brownell Library  
6 Lincoln Street  
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

If your employer has a matching gift program, please use it to magnify your contribution.

“Friend in Deed” – Volunteer support

If you are interested in learning more about the Friends’ Board of Directors or help with the book sales, please provide us with your contact information. Our volunteer coordinator will be in touch.

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

