

# RICHMOND READINGS

The Newsletter of The Richmond Memorial Library • Marlborough, Connecticut 06447  
www.richmondlibrary.info 860/295-6210

Fall 2007

## Library Website Redesigned with Local History

The Richmond Memorial Library unveiled its new website and web address this summer including its newly added Marlborough history section. By going to [www.richmondlibrary.info](http://www.richmondlibrary.info) users will find a new look to the site. “We hope that more and more customers will discover features that we are continuously adding to our website,” said Library Director Nancy Wood.

By clicking on Marlborough History, customers will be linked to the content about Marlborough and its history. This is an ongoing project that will grow as more content is added. First to be included was a survey of the historic structures of Marlborough. With a grant from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, data from previous historic surveys and information from the Marlborough Historical Society was entered into a format that allows for searching by style of architecture, dates built or even by street. “Using blog technology made this project feasible for us”, said Library Director Nancy Wood. “We hope that by looking at Marlborough’s historic homes and this site, people will be encouraged to find out more about our historic heritage. One of my favorite entries is the history of Route 2. How many of us drive on that road every day and have little idea of when it was completed or that it was done in stages?”

The project started with gifts given in memory of former resident Jim Considine by his family and friends. It then branched out to include a historic home survey because of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation grant. Finally, support came with a grant through the offices of State Senator Mary Ann Handley, a long-time supporter of Connecticut history projects.

“We are always looking for more content of interest for this site,” said Wood. “If you have Marlborough-related documents, photographs or postcards that you would like to share, we would love to scan them and put them on our site. Just contact us about this.”

Other features of the library website include a variety of resources with wide appeal. By clicking on the InfoAnytime icon, customers can enter into an interactive conversation with a reference librarian. As this service is available 24/7, it can be extremely useful when a desperate student needs some homework help or a question answered. Downloadable audio books are available through our home page. This free service enables you to download and listen for three weeks up to five books at a time. There are online book

clubs to join and readers can sign up for any number of clubs and portions of the week’s selection will be emailed to them each day. There are two weblogs which provide you with a place to get library news and enter your feedback to us – one is a general library blog and the other is just for teens called SWDYT and if you have to ask, you’re too old for it! Want to find if we have a new DVD – just click on the general blog and then click on New DVDs at Richmond. Also available on our home page are links to Marlborough specific sites – Town government, RHAM, Elmer Thienes, Marlborough Arts Center and the Marlborough Business Association.

Last but not least, the website links you to searching tools including CONNECT, our online catalog where you can locate materials in our library as well



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## Website

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as other CONNECT libraries, check your library account and renew your borrowed library items – all online. By clicking on the search button and then choosing ICONN, the Connecticut Digital Library, you are immediately connected to the State Library's outstanding group of databases with full text articles. Find hundreds of magazines and newspapers to search here – everything from the *American Ethnologist* to the *Wall Street Journal*. All ages are welcome here. There are special databases just for kids like KidsInfoBits, academic databases for college students, links to other libraries' catalogs commonly known as ReQuest as well as full text articles from popular magazines like *Time* and *People*. Need to find an article in *Crain's New York Business*? It's here, one of the thousands of full text magazines in the Info Trac One File database, all part of ICONN.

Here are some tips when using our online resources. If you need to enter your library barcode to gain access from home, remember barcodes are entered without spaces. Call us if you don't know your password, we're happy to help you. When renewing items, there is a \$5.00 "blocking" threshold on fines and charges. If you owe more than \$5.00 on your library account, you will not be able to renew online. Also if you have renewed your item too many times, the system will not allow you to renew indefinitely. Last, give us your email. If we enter your email into our system, you will automatically be notified the day before your item is due – a wonderful reminder to help you avoid a fine and let us provide you with excellent customer service.

**\$\$ FINE FINANCES \$\$**

*Present this coupon at  
Richmond Memorial Library  
to pay off  
any single library fine.*

*Not valid for lost items  
or replacement cards*



Expires 12/31/07



## East of the River Reads... Again!

It's that time of year when our nine East of the River Reads libraries get together for our community read. This summer many of you have been reading this year's selection, *Mr. Emerson's Wife*

by Amy Belding Brown. *Booklist* said, "The line between historical and fictional is murky in this nineteenth-century tale of love among the Transcendentalists.

Lydia is a strong, independent

woman in her thirties, sworn to remain single. Then she meets the brilliant Ralph Waldo Emerson and is swept off her feet..." We won't tell you more but hope you are enjoying this historical novel and will join us at three events we have planned. On Wednesday, September 19 at 7 PM, Jordan Pecile, retired Professor at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy will lead a discussion of the novel at the Welles-Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main Street, Glastonbury. Author Amy Belding Brown visits the area on October 3 at 7 PM at the Douglas Library in Hebron. Last year was standing room only, so plan to attend these events as our towns come together and read. On October 14 we have planned a bus trip to Concord, Massachusetts. See the places you have loved reading about. Call the library today for more information, 295-6210.



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## Credit Where Credit Is Due

Liberty Bank, Summer Reading Sponsor

Marlborough PTO, Summer Reading Sponsor

Richmond Memorial Library Association, Summer Reading Sponsor

Friends Committee of the Richmond Memorial Library Association, Summer Reading Sponsor

Sara Regina for donation in memory of Tyler Cormier

Many thanks to the Town of Marlborough for its annual grant to the library

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# Mystery Solved! How We Had a Great Summer at RML

As another summer comes to an end, so does another fun summer reading program. We tried some new things this year with the “Get a Clue” theme, and offered programs and mysteries for all ages. And while it’s still fresh in our minds, we’ll be thinking up ideas for next year! So if you’d like to tell us what you did or didn’t like from past summers, please send us an email (you can find our addresses on the website at [www.richmondlibrary.info](http://www.richmondlibrary.info) – or in this newsletter.)

Probably the most successful program we had this summer was our kick-off night with performer and Connecticut native and resident, Steve Roslonek. Over 250 people attended our ‘SteveSongs’ show and got to hear this truly talented performer. And while we were late to the SteveSongs bandwagon (thanks to Joanne Gomez for the tip), we have no problem in saying “Move over Laurie Berkner! Make way for SteveSongs!”

Also in June, Marlborough native Pam Montstream gave us a clue about Letterboxing, while Bridgeport’s Discovery Museum brought their CSI Crime Lab to RML for kids in grades 4 & up. We had a faithful bunch for ‘Shady Stories’ in July, where we were treated to some great weather on Tuesdays, and Virginia resident Lynn Ruehlmann had a small but captivated crowd for her “Clued In!” show which included riddle and paper-cut stories. Aerospace Educator Gary Pozzato and his ‘Go for the Stars’ show was a big hit at the elementary school where he and his talking robot educated Netto Camp and library patrons alike on the mysteries of the universe.

The end of July went out with a bang (or shall we say a ‘poof!’) as we bid goodbye to faithful friend (and can we say for some, ‘obsession!’) with the release of the last Harry Potter book, the *Deathly Hallows*. We

partied in the library ‘til after midnight with a super bunch of kids who did everything from making potions to drinking Butterbeer to dare we say, screaming in the library?! Farewell dear Harry and company, though we’re sure to meet again.

Marjorie Warner entertained us in August with her ‘Singing ‘Round the Campfire’ show, and we were excited to see another Connecticut resident with an official children’s CD now available, and in the library of course.

In the end, kids who completed the Incentive Game on their summer reading sheets were entered in a drawing for some great prize packs featuring the dog Ike LaRue and other goodies.

Over 60 adults signed up for summer reading this year, and those who were brave and up to the challenge took part in the ultimate Scavenger Hunt for mystery lovers. Congratulations to those dedicated winners who went home with Barnes & Noble gift cards and other prizes.

Our mini-success story of the summer however, was the teen summer reading program, aptly named YNK@ your library. (That stands for ‘you never know’ for all you not up on your abbreviated teen-speak.) We had over 40 teens sign up for the program, which was the first teen-only summer reading program in a long time at RML. There was positive feedback about the set-up of the program – teens got to write up reviews or post a blog review about books they’ve read and earn ‘MarlBucks’ by playing Deal or No Deal @

RML. We also offered a weekly Clue @ RML game and Superhero Challenge. In the end, participants got a chance to redeem their earnings at the Teen Auction or Silent Auction that followed. The top prize-getter walked away with an iPod

Shuffle for \$100 MarlBucks! We had such fun with this program and would love to see it grow and expand next year. Check out our Teen Blog at our website,

[www.richmondlibrary.info](http://www.richmondlibrary.info) or [marlteens.wordpress.com](http://marlteens.wordpress.com)

or more teen-related library happenings.



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## Museum Passes and More

Many of you took advantage of our selection of museum passes this summer. Our passes sometimes admit you at no charge and sometimes at a reduced charge. But did you know there are lots of free places to be found in Connecticut? Start your search at

[http://www.free-attractions.com/state\\_pages/connecticut.htm](http://www.free-attractions.com/state_pages/connecticut.htm)

Meanwhile, the most borrowed passes this summer were those to the Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport, the Children's Museum in West Hartford and the State Parks and Forest Day Pass. After all, what's better than spending a hot day at Hammonasset?

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## Staff Changes at Richmond

Patty Kulju has joined the library staff as children's paraprofessional. Patty will be doing children's story times and programming. A graduate of Wellesley College, she holds a Master's degree in Child Clinical Psychology from the University of Cincinnati and has public and school library experience. She has big shoes to fill, as long time story timer Carol Bartok has moved from the children's department to circulation. Carol did a wonderful job as our beloved Story Time leader for more than 20 years, as the many hundreds of children who participated in Carol's story times can attest.



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## Mystery Solved

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In all, 442 Marlborough readers participated in this year's Get a Clue so it's no mystery Marlborough loves to read! Thanks to all our sponsors for their help and donations again this year so that we could offer such a wide variety of programming for all ages: Liberty Bank, Marlborough PTO, Richmond Memorial Library Association and Friends Committee of the Richmond Memorial Library.

## Calendar

- September 10 through October 19 – Story Time Session I, registration required
- September 10 – RML Board Meeting, 7 PM
- September 18 – RML Friends Meeting, 7 PM
- September 19 – East of the River Reads Book Discussion of *Mr. Emerson's Wife* with Jordan Pecile at Welles-Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main Street, Glastonbury, 7 PM
- October 3 – East of the River Reads Libraries present *Mr. Emerson's Wife* author Amy Belding Brown at the Douglas Library, Hebron, 7 PM
- October 4 – Charitable Giving Strategies: Giving Wisely throughout the Year with Financial Planners Robert Moquin, CRPS and Michael Langlois
- October 8 – *Library closed, Columbus Day*
- October 9 – RML Friends Meeting, 7 PM
- October 13 – Friends Fall Book Sale, 9 am to 1 PM
- October 14 – East of the River Reads Bus Trip to Concord, MA, registration required, leaves Glastonbury commuter lot (Main Street at Rts. 2&3) at 11 AM.
- October 15 – RML Board Meeting, 7 pm
- October 29 through December 5 – Story Time Session II, registration required
- November 12 – *Library Closed, Veterans Day*
- November 19 – RML Board Meeting, 7 PM
- November 22 – *Library Closed, Thanksgiving Day*
- December 24 and 25 – *Library Closed, Christmas Holiday*

Contact us at our new email addresses:

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Ann Grybko, Assistant Director —

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Eileen Washburn, Children's/Teen Librarian —

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Interlibrary Loan —

[illmarl@richmondlibrary.info](mailto:illmarl@richmondlibrary.info)

