



# PEQUOT LIBRARY

Annual Report

2008-2009





# PEQUOT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Pequot Library, through friendly, encouraging, professional service, strives to “teach and uplift as many as are willing to use it.”

The Library provides quality materials that reflect the needs and interests of the people of Fairfield and its vicinity.

The Library promotes books of literary merit for the enjoyment of adults and children.

The Library encourages children to develop and maintain an interest in books and reading through programs and special activities.

The Library develops, maintains and displays its special collection of historical materials, which includes rare books, manuscripts, photographs and genealogical reference materials. The collection is for the use and enjoyment of the community, researchers, scholars and writers.

The Library sponsors and encourages the use of its historic building for cultural, educational and community events.

## PEQUOT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*Approved by the Board of Trustees*





# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 2008-09

### OFFICERS

R. Kelsey Biggers, Jr., *President*  
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### EX OFFICIO

Christopher D. Rosow

### PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

Gertrude Grace Sill	1977-1981	Lawrence A. Norton	1993-1997
Hoyt O. Perry	1981-1985	Virginia K. Cargill	1997-2000
Radley H. Daly	1985-1989	Jane K. Dean	2000-2002
Nancy S. Gilliland	1989-1991	Thomas G. Rudkin	2002-2004
Henry W. Munroe	1991-1993	Christopher D. Rosow	2004-2006



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends of the Pequot Library Association,

As the storm winds of the economic crisis that we've all endured begin to lift and clear, it is even more apparent now how important it is to have Pequot Library as an anchor in our community during times of change. We hold fast to some of the best traditions, but combine them with fresh new ideas and approaches to running a contemporary library. The variety of our programs and events serve an ever-growing and increasingly diverse set of audiences for whom we are a cultural center of the community.

As you look through this Annual Report, take note of the number of supporters this library has—individuals, businesses and corporations. That support is broad and deep and includes families who have made the Library part of their lives from generation to generation. For those who have stood by us, know that you have the heartfelt appreciation of all of us at the Library.

I also want to thank the members of the Board of Trustees for their hard work, their competence and their creativity. The Board has not been daunted by the economic conditions in which we find ourselves, but has continued to look forward and find ways to improve this wonderful organization. Thanks go to our outstanding Staff for their excellent work and dedication, and the hundreds of volunteers who selflessly give of their time.

The future is full of challenges and opportunities and change. In times like this, we can't take Pequot Library for granted. It is only with your help that Pequot Library can continue to fulfill its mission of bringing literature, music, art, science and the humanities to the community.

It has been an honor to be the president of the Board of Trustees and I look forward to continuing to serve this great library which means so much to me and my family.

Sincerely,

R. Kelsey Biggers, Jr.

*President*



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE MADE IT THROUGH THE WORST OF IT...

Just over a year ago, as we all know too well, the bottom fell out of the economy and we tumbled into one of the worst economic crises in the past since the Great Depression of the 1930s. It effected almost everybody, including Pequot Library. Our annual giving was down, the town of Fairfield cut back our annual grant, and our endowment plummeted. By November, it was clear that, like almost every other not-for-profit in the country, we were in for some hard times at Pequot Library.

Together, we tightened our belt, sometimes in painful ways, put our shoulder to the wheel to work doubly hard to make up for some of the losses, and set out to weather the storm.

I am happy to report that we made it through the worst of the crisis, and despite the cut-backs and shortfalls, we were able to do so without curtailing hours, programs or services. In fact, we rallied in a really remarkable way to produce some of the most exciting programs, and successful special events in recent years. We made significant improvements in our Library Services, working our way out of a log-jam of unprocessed books to the position we find ourselves in today where we are leading the other libraries in the time it takes from when a book is ordered to the time it gets put up on the shelf.

Across the spectrum of activities at the Library, then, the Board, the staff, the volunteers, and you, our members, stepped up and delivered and made sure that the Library was able to honor its commitment to bring the best in literature, the sciences, music, art, and the humanities to you and the communities we serve. It was a year we can all be proud of, and I would like to thank you all for all you did to get us through.

In the following pages, I give an overview synopsis of the past year. Details on all the programs and activities that took place in Fiscal Year 2008-2009 are found elsewhere in this report, including the hundreds of volunteers and donors who all made this possible.

## STAFF

We could not have done all this without the extraordinary, talented, dedicated staff at the Library. It is a joy and an honor to work with these people who give so much of themselves to ensure the success of the Library and its programs. They are listed in the Annual Report, and perhaps the best way to get to know them is to come into the Library and get involved. You can also read about them in the Staff Highlights section of our Fall 2009 newsletter.

With the tightening of our budget, it is a small staff doing big things. Each member of the staff has multiple responsibilities, and has to work harder than ever to keep up. They deserve our thanks, our respect, and our support.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout the year, the Library continued to present the kinds of thoughtful, pertinent, fun, and well attended programming and exhibits that are fast becoming the hallmark of Pequot Library. The full schedule of programs and events is presented in calendar form in the Annual Report. As you glance through it, you will see a Library dedicated to lifelong learning and its role as a cultural hub for the entire community. We serve a growing universe of audiences, and there was something for everyone.

One program that we were particularly proud of was the mortgage crisis workshop we hosted that was organized by Congressman Jim Himes on March 14th. Those who were on the panel were: First Selectman Ken Flatto, State Representative Kim Fawcett (D-133), State Representative Tony Hwang (R-134), Samone Wright, Program Specialist, The Workplace, Inc., Rose Holebrook, Marketing & Customer Service Coordinator, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, Joan Carty, President & CEO, Housing Development Funds, Carol Sydnor, Director of Homeownership Programs, Mutual Housing Association of Southwestern Connecticut, and Valarie Shultz-Wilson,

President & CEO, Urban League of Southern Connecticut.

For the whole morning, this panel gave advice to a swelling crowd of folks from all across the region who came here to find a way to deal with the impact of the mortgage crisis on their own lives. It was a very gratifying program, and all those who participated appreciated the Library's role in hosting and publicizing it.

Despite a heavy snowfall, Andrea Stillman, the one-time personal assistant to Ansel Adams, drew a huge crowd for her beautifully illustrated talk on that true genius of American photography. For that program, we had on display our rare and important edition of Adam's first book, *Taos Pueblo*, which is part of our Special Collection at the Library.

At our Annual Meeting last year, internationally known decorative arts expert Alice (Nonnie) Frelinghuysen, the Anthony and Lulu Wang Curator of American Decorative Art at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, gave a stunning lecture on Louis Comfort Tiffany. She is considered the leading expert on 19th century decorative arts and specializes in the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany and his firm, and she presented new research she has conducted on the Tiffany windows here at Pequot installed in the back of the 1897 stack wing by Mary Wakeman, and put it into the context of what was happening in America at that time. In the crowd was her father, who was proud as can be. It was right in keeping with our efforts to be an inter-generational institution, bringing grandparents, parents, and kids together in all sorts of programs.

These and countless other one-of-a-kind educational programs last year were all in addition to the regular series that form the foundation of our programming at the Library, our Meet the Author series, our series of free Young Person's Concerts, and our concerts in collaboration with the Westport Arts Center, all of which drew record numbers of patrons.

### CIRCULATION RISING

As busy as we are with programs and activities, parties and special events, we are still, at heart, an outstanding public library offering the best in carefully selected

books for our patrons to read. Over the past year, the staff has made significant progress in improving and streamlining the technical services that make all that possible—the ordering, processing, and management of over 160,000 volumes.

Detailed circulation statistics can be found elsewhere in the Annual Report, which can now be accessed at our website, [www.pequotlibrary.org](http://www.pequotlibrary.org). But to summarize, our circulation is up approximately 15% over last year. In this basic function of a public lending library, we, of course, serve the surrounding neighborhood, but we also serve the entire community of Fairfield. Of our total circulation, over 11% is material requested by patrons at either Fairfield Main Library, or at Fairfield Woods. That compares with 6% of material requested by our patrons at Pequot for material at the much bigger town libraries.

### SEEKING APPROVALS FOR REVISED PLANS FOR AN ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY

Almost a decade ago, the Board of Directors addressed the inadequacies of the quantity and quality of space for essential services at the Library head on, planning first for the restoration of the original building, which was successfully completed in 2006, and then the construction of a new wing to house children's collections and activities, special collections and rare books, and urgently needed space for offices and the behind-the-scenes work that keeps the Library's services and programs running smoothly. In 2004, plans were approved by the Conservation Commission and the Town Planning & Zoning Board.

In 2006, after coming to a much greater appreciation of the architect of the historic portion of the Library, Robert H. Robertson, and the importance of the Special Collections, a carefully considered decision was made to engage Robert A. M. Stern to complete the final design for the Library addition.

The architects at Robert A.M. Stern have done a brilliant job of working within the approved footprint they inherited from the previous plan. They reviewed the space needs with the staff and the Design Review Committee, and came up with a much better design

both aesthetically and functionally.

This is about providing high quality spaces for all that the Library is currently doing; it is not about changing the scope of the Library's programs and activities. With the construction of the addition, the Library will have all the space it needs, and we will have completed the work of the families that built the Library in the first place.

The restoration of the original Library won awards for its authenticity and strict attention to detail. The new plans for the addition address the Library's current inadequacies with the same focus on quality and high standards in a plan inspired by the design, workmanship, and intimacy of the original building. It will provide room to carry out its mission in spaces especially designed to meet current standards of service, stewardship, and environmental ethics. We are planning to achieve at least LEED Silver Certification for green buildings, a standard set by the United States Green Building Council.

Stern's plans have already received "administrative approval" for the Inland Wetland Permit from the Conservation Commission, meaning the town's staff reviewed the Library's plans and did not find enough discrepancy between the old and new plans to warrant going before the Commission again. The next steps will be to go before the Town Planning & Zoning and the Historic District Commission once again in the coming months where, hopefully, the plans will meet with the same, expedited approval.

The Library and the community are committed to moving forward as quickly as resources allow, eager to continue to provide the Library's patrons with all of the services and programs they have come to expect, and more. In the meantime, obtaining these re-approvals of our plans is something the Library can be working on right now during this period of economic uncertainty. All of our Patrons will be kept up-to-date on the progress of this important effort.

### EXHIBITS IN PERKIN GALLERY

Enid Munroe continues to amaze us all. She knows so many gifted photographers and artists from all across

the region, and has been working tirelessly over the past several years to bring one great photographic exhibit after another into the gallery. The exhibits she arranged for us in Fiscal Year 2008-2009 were:

Jeff Simon

Nathaniel Gibbons

Cary Shapoff

John Hafey's students at Greens Farms Academy Each exhibit drew a whole new group of people into the Library, often for the first time. All the exhibits delighted the patrons of the Library as they came to check out books or participate in programs. The gallery itself, restored through the generosity of the Perkin family, is just the right size for these kinds of shows and has become a real asset for the Library since it was restored in 2006.

### ART SHOW

Last year's Art Show, like this year's, was a wonderful event, and there are so many people to thank, but above all, I want to express the appreciation of the entire Library to Sissy Biggers, who has been chair of the event for the past several years. Assisted by Shawna Barrett and Brooke Coleman, who curated the exhibit, last year's show was both beautiful and a big success.

The Art Show is a true community event. From the artists to the volunteers, it brings people together in a common endeavor with the Library at the center as the beneficiary.

### BOOK SALE

Pequot Library's Annual Book Sale is a Phenomena. It is so huge, it is so much work, it brings in so many good people, and raises such a significant portion of our annual operating fund, that it is impossible to describe it in a short report like this. There is a cadre of unbelievably dedicated volunteers, led by Co-chairs Doug Fried and John Hartwell. They are joined by a Book Sale Steering Committee who help bring this enormously popular event to a successful conclusion year after year. Members of that Committee are Llewelyn Almeida, Ruth Ann Baumgartner, Lee Freeman, Paige Gillies, Colin Green, Shelley Hall, Peg

North, Linda Teja, and Stephanie Weaver.

2010 will represent the 50th Anniversary of the Book Sale, and big plans are being laid to celebrate that accomplishment. These plans include a program on the history and the process of the Book Sale that will enable us to lay out all that is involved with receiving, sorting, pricing, putting out, and selling over 130,000 books each year.

### BOOKS FOR TEACHERS

Thanks to the extraordinary on-going generosity of the Renée B. Fisher Foundation, we were once again able to offer our Books for Teachers voucher program this year. A grant of \$16,000 from the Foundation this year enabled us to offer a voucher for \$100 worth of books to 274 teachers in under served school districts in Bridgeport and New Haven. This program is one we are all very proud of. It is an inspired example of philanthropy at its best, and we estimate we provided books for approximately 9,000 students in these districts. The teachers say it best. Here is an excerpt from the report filed by one teacher on how she used the books.

“When I saw the opportunity for teachers for the voucher I was thrilled, since I just completed my first year as a teacher of 6th grade in Bridgeport and did not have very many books of my own or that interested my students. It was so wonderful today to be able to pick out really great books to begin my own classroom library. I cannot wait to show all of my new students the books they will be able to read. I even picked up some cookbooks that will be great when I do my math cookbook project with fractions again this year! Thank you, thank you, and thank you again! Also, all of the people helping were so pleasant, helpful and patient. It made the event even more enjoyable! With much gratitude, Tara Pietrowicz, Bridgeport, CT”

### OPENING OF FAMILY AND LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION COMES AFTER MONTHS OF HARD WORK

On Saturday, January 31, 2009, the Pequot Library's Family and Local History Collections, which were in storage during the Library's recent renovation, re-opened to the public. This collection, part of the Library's nationally important Special Collections, is one of the best genealogical resources in the region and includes an extensive array of local histories from throughout New England and the rest of the original colonies from the mid 16th century to the late 20th century. The collection offers resources for filling in the gaps in family trees and understanding the social, political, economic, and cultural context in which family members lived. It took a Herculean effort and a lot of careful planning, on the part of the staff working closely with the Collection Committee, where all the strategies and procedures employed were carefully reviewed.

The first thing that had to happen was that the rest of the material that was stored in the basement after the renovation had to be shipped up to the New England Library Network (NELINET) and William B. Meyer depository in Franklin, Massachusetts.

Before that could be done, however, we had to regain item-level control of each book within the collection. With this work complete, the NELINET system can now account for every single item in our collection that is in their facility, and we can use that capability to retrieve materials that we need for programs or exhibits. While the retrieval process works adequately for those purposes, it is entirely too cumbersome to enable researchers at any level to actively work in the collection that is still in Franklin.

Now, after all this work, the Family and Local History Collection is once again back up on the shelves in a controlled environment and open to an eager public. We have provided a public access computer, and moved Rod's desk out into the new reading area so that he can be close at hand for both patron assistance and careful supervision of their use of the material.

To celebrate the completion of this enormous amount of work and to alert the public to the fact that

the collection was, after a hiatus of almost three years, available again for them to learn about their families and the communities in which they lived, we got one of the best-known genealogists in the country to come and give a lecture.

Loretto Szucs, the Senior Editor at Ancestry.com and the author of many widely read and popular books on genealogy, agreed to be a part of the celebration. We flew her in from Chicago, and she addressed a crowd of over 200 people interested in genealogy, who were just about as happy as they could be.

With the collection up and available, I am happy to report a surge in usage that has been keeping staff genealogist Rod MacKenzie as busy as he has ever been.

### **COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

February 2009 was Lincoln month at Pequot Library, in celebration of the 200th anniversary of his birth. It was also the month that we collaborated once again with Fairfield University. They brought one of the foremost Lincoln scholars of the day, Harold Holzer, a Lincoln biographer and Senior Vice President at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, to lecture at the Open VISIONS Forum on Monday, February 9, 2009. We have many important items in our Special Collections relating to Lincoln and the Civil War and we mounted an exhibit of them that include a satellite installation at the Library at Fairfield University. We also continued our very well received work in bringing Fairfield high school students into the mix with programs and inviting them to come to the lecture and meet Mr. Holzer.

In addition, the Library collaborates with many other organizations throughout the State to broaden our effectiveness at reaching a broad and diverse population. Below are a few examples of all we do with our regional collaborative partners:

#### **Books for Teachers as part of Pequot's Annual Book Sale**

*Free books to 360 teachers and over 8,000 students in Bridgeport and New Haven*

#### **Mercy Learning Center, Bridgeport**

*Hosting events, donating books*

#### **Connecticut Fund for the Environment, Hartford**

*Helping to educate families throughout the state about the environment*

#### **Connecticut Audubon Society, Fairfield and Hartford**

*Collaborating on exhibits, programs, and other activities to increase awareness of wildlife*

#### **Horizons with Greens Farms Academy**

*Serving children grades 1-5 in under served schools in Bridgeport*

#### **Fairfield University**

*A major cultural collaboration around Open VISIONS with both Fairfield High Schools*

#### **Music for Youth, Westport**

*Free Young Persons' Concerts for children from all across Connecticut*

#### **Fairfield Museum and History Center**

*Sharing programs, exhibits, staff resources, collections to serve all in Fairfield County*

#### **Fairfield High Schools**

*Collaborative programs, use of collections for projects, hiring of students as Pages.*

#### **Local Day Cares and Preschools—Trinity Church, Congregational Church, Greenfield Hills, etc.**

*Reading programs and other activities*

#### **Giant Steps**

*Helping autistic children*

#### **Homes for the Brave**

*Free books for veterans of Fairfield County*

#### **Concerts with Westport Arts Center**

*Drawing audiences from hundreds of miles in every direction*

#### **Connecticut Chapter of the AIA, Hartford**

*Partnering for the state-wide design award program with exhibits, meetings, programs*

#### **Art/Place**

*Providing exhibits for artists from all along the coast*

#### **Connecticut Genealogical Societies**

*Programs, exhibits, and collection sharing with all the major groups in the State*

## Center for Contemporary Printmaking of Norwalk

*Exhibits and programs for all ages*

## Eagle Hill School, Southport

*Providing supplemental Library services*

### ONE BOOK ONE TOWN

One of our strongest collaborative relationships is with the other Fairfield Libraries. Last fall, librarians from Fairfield Main Library, Fairfield Woods Library, and Pequot Library began a long process to select a book for Fairfield's second annual One Book, One Town reading promotion project. Robyn Filippone and myself represented the Library throughout the book selection process, although after the book was selected, Robyn carried the ball for the rest of the program. One Book, One Town, a concept developed at the Library of Congress Center for the Book, encourages entire communities to read the same book during the month of March, and to participate in a variety of programs inspired by the book.

2007's book, the hugely popular *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson, was a hard act to follow. After many animated discussions, the group chose *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick, a Caldecott Award-winning novel published with young people in mind, but that appeals to younger and older audiences alike. Much of the story is told through pictures only, charcoal sketches ranging from cityscapes to mechanical mice, each drawing helping to move the story along.

Fairfield and Pequot Libraries collaborated on a series of programs relating to the many topics of interest in the book. Pequot's programs included a clock-making workshop, a very well attended lecture by me on the architectural history of the great train stations of the world, a silent movie double feature featuring local pianist Vernona Gomez accompanying the films on the piano, and an inter-generational book discussion over pizza. All were enthusiastically received.

### NATIONAL MAGAZINES FOCUS ON PEQUOT

"Restoration by the Book," an article by Eve M. Kahn about the restoration of Pequot Library's unique Robert H. Robertson building, appeared in the October 2008 issue of *Traditional Building*, a magazine dedicated to the celebration of public architecture. *Traditional Building* is one of the best known magazines in the historic preservation field; articles can also be read on its website, TraditionalBuilding.com. Eve Kahn is also the Architectural Critic for the *Wall Street Journal*, and the article helped bring international attention to the superb job we did restoring the building.

In addition, under the Stewardship section of the magazine, *Style 1900*, there was a profusely illustrated article titled "Preserving the Pequot Library" by architectural historian Jane Margolis. It did a wonderful job of capturing the beauty of the building and the care that went into its restoration. It also included a great picture of one of the William Morris books printed at the Kelmscott Press that is part of our Special Collections. I picked up a copy of the magazine in the book store in Traverse City, Michigan, while visiting my daughter, who is attending a nearby school.

### GIFTS TO THE COLLECTION

Two major gifts of private collections have been made to the Library in the past year. The first is Southport resident Doug Bonnell's collection of books on music history, theory, and criticism. Doug has a life-long love of music and this collection is tight, focused and all at a high level of excellence.

In Spring 2008, we had a sad but extremely touching call from long-time supporter of the Library, Dr. William Kueffner. His wife Nancy had passed away and he wanted to fulfill her wish of making sure her books were donated to Pequot Library. Nancy was head of education at the Cloisters—the branch of the Metropolitan Museum devoted to the art and architecture of medieval Europe—and her collection focuses on those areas.

Having just finished reviewing the Library's Special Collections and drafting the "Introduction and

Guide” to its use, I realized immediately how well this fit into several of the thematic categories that guide describes. They illustrate perfectly the way we can use the content of the Special Collections to guide the enhancement of our overall collection. In the end, it is not just about books. It is about the affection we all felt for Nancy and which she felt for the Library.

Both collections will be catalogued and added to the collection and, together, will give us even stronger resources to help us meet our goal of bringing Literature, Art, Music, Science, and the Humanities to the Community we serve.

### CONCLUSION

As I said last year, it has been a year of getting stronger at Pequot Library. From programs to governance, from collaboration to collection management, Pequot Library has made huge strides as it works to be the

great library our community deserves. It is a place of continuity and tradition, where members of the community are brought together in a unique inter-generational environment. It is also a place of innovation, where the latest and best Library practices are identified and adopted early.

There is a strong commitment to service that runs through all we do at the Library, and we look forward to serving the entire community at an even higher level of excellence in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Snyder, Ph.D.

*Executive Director*



# LIBRARY STAFF

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Daniel Snyder

## HEAD LIBRARIAN

Robyn Swan Filippone

### ADMINISTRATION

*Financial Manager*

Linda McCormack

*Development Associate*

Elizabeth Hanusovsky

*Development Assistant*

Robin Jerrild

*Book Sale & Maintenance*

Bob Repko

*Auditorium Coordinator*

Carol Pietrzak-Kish

### ADULT LIBRARY SERVICES

*Front Desk Manager &*

*Library Services*

Victoria Konopka

*Technical Services*

Marianne Pysarchyk

*Library Services*

Adair Heitmann

Leslie Mahtani

Lesley Voonasis

*Genealogist*

Rod MacKenzie

### CHILDREN'S SERVICES

*Children's Librarian*

Susan Ei

*Children's Library Assistant*

Victoria Konopka

### PAGES

Nabid Ahmed

Benjamin Engel

Kathryn Fernberg

Samantha Hickey

Alexandra Kowal

Alex Krayson

# PROGRAMMING CALENDAR

## A YEAR IN REVIEW: ADULT AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN 2008-09

Pequot Library is a center of community for its patrons and, in the difficult times of the past year, that role was more important than ever. Through the programs and services the Library offers on a daily, weekly and monthly basis, we strengthen the bonds of the community, engaging readers and broadening horizons. The Library's mission is to bring literature, music, art, science and the humanities to the community, both young and old, and, as you can see in this year-long, full schedule of programs, it does just that.

The best way to stay informed about all these programs and Library news is, as you know, to become a member of the Pequot Library Association and to sign up to receive eFlyers. These brief emails alert PLA members to upcoming programs and events and are just one of many great benefits of membership. Our website, [www.pequotlibrary.org](http://www.pequotlibrary.org), also features a calendar of events, postings with Library news, links to our library catalogue and so much more.

The following list gives you a taste of all Pequot did in 2008-09 to earn its reputation as a thriving regional cultural center.

### JULY 2008

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- Events:* 47th Annual Book Sale
- Children:* Build-a-Temple Workshop  
4th of July Bike Parade & Heritage Recipe Contest  
Greco-Pequot Olympic Festival  
Greek Architecture Walking Tour  
*Know a Nutmeg* Book Discussion Group

### August 2008

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- Perkin Gallery:* *Pinholes & Pixels* Exhibit, by Paul Jones and Miggs Burroughs

### September 2008

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- Lectures:* Meet the Author – Nalini Jones, *What You Call Winter*
- Music:* Jazz to the Max, with Westport Arts Center - *Rossano Sportiello & Nicki Parrott*  
Music for Youth – Young Persons' Concert
- Perkin Gallery:* *Sasco Moments and Beyond* Exhibit, by Jeff Simon
- Children:* Families Explore the Rare Books

## October 2008

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- Events:* 10th Annual Art Show
- Music:* Music for Youth – *Brazil Guitar Duo*  
Jazz to the Max Gala, with Westport Arts Center – *Bill Charlap* and *Renee Rosnes*
- Children:* Printmaking Workshop for Kids  
Family Pumpkin Carving and Beardsley Zoo’s Zoomobile “Creepy Crawlies”

## November 2008

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- Events:* Annual Meeting with Guest Speaker, Alice Cooney (Nonnie) Frelinghuysen, the Anthony and Lulu Wang Curator of American Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York
- Lectures:* Meet the Author – Film by George Butler, *The Lord God Bird: the Story of the Ivorybilled Woodpecker*
- Music:* Music for Youth – *Joseph Genualdi, Violin Virtuoso*  
Music for Youth Benefit Performance – *H.M.S Pinafore*
- Perkin Gallery:* *Father/Daughter Photographers: George Silk and Georgiana Silk* Exhibit, by Georgiana Silk
- Children:* Election Day Craft Workshop  
Santa’s Arrival in Fairfield  
Fireside Tales for Fathers and Kids

## December 2008

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- Music:* Music for Youth – *Synergy Brass Quintet*
- Perkin Gallery:* *The Bronx River - Original Tintypes* Exhibit, by Nathaniel Gibbons
- Children:* “Gifts of Joy” Marionette Show  
Holiday Open House and Caroling Party

## January 2009

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- Events:* Mid-Winter Book Sale  
Reopening of Genealogy Collection
- Lectures:* Artist’s Talk and Demonstration – Nathaniel Gibbons  
Genealogy Lecture by renowned genealogist Loretto Dennis Szucs  
Andrea Stillman, *Ansel Adams and His Body of Work*
- Music:* Music for Youth - *Simone Dinnerstein, pianist*
- Theater:* Bare Bones Theatre - *The Re-Education of Horse Johnson* by Doug Taylor
- Children:* Go Crazy with Duct Tape on a Wintry Afternoon  
Writing Workshop – Rita Papazian, *From Memory to Memoir*  
Sled Dogs Demonstration and Lecture, with George Linardos of the Siberian Husky Club/Rescue of Southern New England

## February 2009

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- Lectures:* Open VISIONS Forum with Fairfield University – in honor of Lincoln’s Bicentennial, Harold Holzer Reception and Lecture, featuring roundtable discussion with Fairfield AP and Honors students  
Meet the Author – Benjamin Wallace, *The Billionaire’s Vinegar: the Mystery of the World’s Most Expensive Bottle of Wine*, featuring a winetasting  
Rare Book Workshop on Lincoln and the Civil War
- Music:* Music for Youth – *David Carpenter, viola*
- Theater:* Bare Bones Theatre - *The Night Word* by Edward Cahill
- Children:* Families and Rare Books on Lincoln and the Civil War  
Oral Traditions – African Tales, with Storyteller Tammy Richardson  
Valentine’s Day Children’s Candy Making Workshop

## March 2009

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- Events:* One Book, One Town (OBOT), with Fairfield Main and Woods Libraries:  
Brian Selznick, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*  
OBOT Silent Movie Double Feature with Live Music - Georges Melies’ *A Trip to the Moon* and Buster Keaton’s *The General*, with live piano music by Vernona Gomez and featuring our “French Cafe”
- Lectures:* Meet the Author – Lansing Lamont, *You Must Remember This: A Reporter’s Odyssey from Camelot to Glasnost*  
OBOT Lecture: Dan Snyder, *Great Railroad Stations of the World*  
Meet the Author - Bliss Broyard, *One Drop: My Father’s Hidden Life, a Story of Race and Family Secrets*
- Music:* Jazz to the Max – with the Westport Arts Center, *Bucky Pizzarelli*  
Music for Youth - *Carducci String Quartet*
- Theater:* Bare Bones Theatre - *A Night in November* by Marie Jones
- Children:* OBOT Kid’s Clockmaking Workshop  
OBOT Dinner with Hugo Cabret, intergenerational book discussion  
Dr. Seuss Rules!  
Weathering the College Admissions Process: What High School Parents Need to Know

## April 2009

---

- Events:* 4th Annual Pequot Library Golf Outing
- Lectures:* *She Paints with Light - A Sunday Conversation* with Janet Lennox Moyer
- Music:* *The Virtuoso Harp* featuring Jian Liu  
Music for Youth - *The Knights Chamber Orchestra*

*Theater:* Bare Bones Theatre - *Ice Glen* by Joan Ackerman  
*Children:* Children's Easter Egg Roll  
Kids and Money: Earning it, Saving it, Growing it, Sharing it

### May 2009

---

*Events:* Derby Day - 135th Run for the Roses  
Fairfield's Earth Day Celebration  
Town Hall Meeting with Congressman Jim Himes  
*Lectures:* Meet the Author - Horace Laffaye, *Profiles in Polo* and Colin Sheehan, *The United States Amateur: The History and Personal Recollections of its Golfing Champions from 1895 to 2005*  
*Music:* Music for Youth – *Di Wu*, pianist  
Errante/Cho Trio Benefit Concert - *Happy Birthday, Mendelssohn!*  
*Perkin Gallery:* *Opportunities - People, Places, and Things: a Photographic Exhibit*, by Dr. Cary A. Shapoff  
*Children:* Composting 101 and Green Cleaning Party Family Program  
Pop-up Greeting Card Workshop

### June 2009

---

*Events:* Southport's *Blessing of the Fleet*  
Launch of *Adult Summer Reading Program*  
*Lectures:* Lecture by Dan Snyderacker on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED] and Green Building  
*Perkin Gallery:* *Heirs of Da Dawg* Exhibit, by John Hafey and students from Greens Farms Academy  
*Children:* Lecture for Kids and Adults by Rowayton's 'Shakespeare on the Sound' on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
Launch of Summer Reading Program: *Be Creative at Your Library*  
Family Picnic and Campout to open Children's and Adult Summer Reading Programs  
Pequot Library Night at Shakespeare on the Sound—in Rowayton—*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
Songwriting Workshop

### ONGOING WEEKLY AND MONTHLY PROGRAMS

---

<i>Catch a Classic &amp; a Slice</i> Family Book Clubs	<i>Pequot Purls</i> Knitting Group
Genealogy Roundtable	<i>Read to Belle</i> Program for Emerging Readers
Genealogy Assistance	<i>Secret Service</i> Tween/Teen Volunteer Program
<i>Kids Knit!</i>	<i>Storyland Adventures</i> (ages 0-5)

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*The Library would like to thank the many other individuals, too numerous to list in this report, who have generously given their time and talents as volunteers over the past year, especially at our Annual Book Sales.*

# LIBRARY COLLECTION & USE STATISTICS

## NEW BOOKS ADDED

Adult	996
Children	857
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,853</b>
<hr/>	
<b>TOTAL BOOK COLLECTION</b>	<b>160,242</b>



## CIRCULATION

Adults	21,978
Children	15,492
Fairfield Main and Woods Items Checked out at Pequot	3,019
Pequot Items Checked out at Main and Woods	5,262
Interlibrary Loans	285
<hr/>	
<b>TOTAL CIRCULATION</b>	<b>46,036</b>



Reference Questions	6,188
Genealogy Assistance	780
Attendance at Library Programs	27,208
Library Visits	103,643

# FINANCIAL REPORT

(EXCLUDES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ACCOUNTS)<sup>(1)</sup>

OPERATING INCOME	2008 – 09	2007 – 08
Town and State Funds	\$341,907	\$375,694
Annual Giving Contributions	131,447	201,796
Contributions - Nonrecurring	92,353	52,749
Endowment Draw	170,000	170,000
Net Special Events	210,186	262,045
Other	54,042	49,091
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$999,935</b>	<b>\$1,111,374</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries & Benefits	\$629,049	\$609,997
Books & Materials	72,203	66,604
Computer Expenses	4,973	43,820
Insurance	17,035	21,759
Printing & Publication	34,339	31,455
Utilities	76,016	84,773
Maintenance Contracts	33,577	29,410
Other	105,896	96,922
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$973,088</b>	<b>\$984,741</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$26,847</b>	<b>\$126,634</b>
Capital Campaign Contributions <sup>(2)</sup>	60,278	64,743
Bequests	12,031	209,138
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$73,309</b>	<b>\$273,881</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents non-GAAP accounting of operations. Excludes capital campaign accounts.  
Audited statements available at Pequot Library.

<sup>(2)</sup> Cash contributions to Capital Campaign.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND GIFTS

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