

JOIN US...

- Enroll me as a new member
- Renew my membership
- Give a membership to the person below

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Individual/family: \$10.00/year

Additional contribution: \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

I would also like to help with Friends activities at the Library -- my area(s) of interest are:

Make your check payable to,
and mail it with this form to:

**Friends of the
Norwalk Public Library System**

and mail it to:

PO BOX 507

Belden Station

Norwalk, CT 06852-0507

LIBRARY HOURS

NORWALK PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAIN LIBRARY

1 Belden Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850

All Departments

Monday and Thursday

9:00 am - 8:30 pm

Wednesday

12:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Sunday - CLOSED

SOUTH NORWALK BRANCH LIBRARY

10 Washington Street, SN, CT 06854

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday and Saturday

9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Tuesday

12:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Sunday - CLOSED

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Library System Closed Holidays

BOOK DROP OPEN 24 HOURS

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LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Norwalk Public Library System offers a large
range of public activities, including:

Chess Club - Guest Speakers - Story Hours for
Pre-Schoolers - Focus Programs - Book Discussions
Reading programs - Musical Concerts
Art Workshops and Displays - and much more.

Your Library Card is FREE -- It is a Connecticut
which can be used at all other Connecticut libraries.

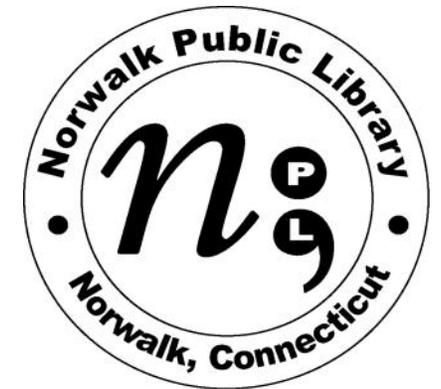
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND
ACTIVITIES -- VISIT:

www.norwalkpubliclibrary.org

*There is not such a cradle of
democracy upon the earth as
the Free Public Library, this
republic of letters, where neither
rank, office, nor wealth receives
the slightest consideration.*

--Andrew Carnegie

Become a Friend of the



Help Build a Better Library

WHO "WE" ARE...

Friends of the Norwalk Public Library System is a very active, non-profit all volunteer organization. We initiate and assist with volunteer projects in the Norwalk Public Library, such as:

- ☑ Art Workshops for kids in the South Norwalk Branch and student art exhibits at Belden Avenue.
- ☑ Sponsoring guest authors and lecturers for free evening programs.
- ☑ Organizing library book sales to raise funds for special Library needs not provided for in the budget.
 - ☑ Maintaining a web site with useful information on our Library and Friends activities.
- ☑ Taking the Library into the community -- Living Library exhibits; workshops at local events including the Festival of Words, SoNo Arts celebration, and others.
- ☑ Networking with others friends groups in Connecticut to share ideas.

The Friends of the NPL System
Received an
Outstanding Friend's Group" Award
from the Friends of Connecticut Libraries

The Friends' volunteers
are the backbone of our organization.

LIBRARY HISTORY...

The collection of written knowledge in some sort of repository is a practice as old as civilization itself.

In 1853 the City of Norwalk, in a letter to the editor of the then *Gazette*, was urged to "organize a library." Though the public library first appeared by the fourth century BC, the private library was more prevalent. Aristotle, for instance, amassed a large private collection. Ancient geographer Strabo said Aristotle "was the first to have put together a collection of books and to have taught the kings in Egypt how to arrange a library."

Between 1855 and 1878 - when the private Norwalk Library Corporation was chartered - the community had limited use of a Reading Room at the Norwalk Institute (until the Civil War), the YMCA Library, a Book Club (30 members), and the Mercantile Library.

In 1879 the Norwalk Library Corporation, charging \$2.00 to each member enabled the City's first Public Library.

On July 18, 1896 the library was legally incorporated by the City of Norwalk - housed, temporarily at 67 Wall Street, and then at 20 Wall Street (next to the Boston Store).

The Carnegie Building, built in 1902, at 1 Belden Avenue - on land formerly the Lawn Tennis Club and donated by a Norwalk citizen - became the main building of the **Norwalk Public Library**.

The South Norwalk Branch Library, built in 1913, located at 10 Washington Street in South Norwalk, had its Grand Re-Opening on Saturday, September 16, 2006. Original funding from the Carnegie Foundation.

Among many other amenities, the expansion and renovation includes a large meeting/community room, computer room, quiet reading room, a children's activity room and children's reading room.

The new South Norwalk Branch Library offers greater access to current technology and additional benefits for it's public and the greater South Norwalk community.



HOW WE HELP...

- ☑ For the South Norwalk Branch Library 21st Century Fund -- we've contributed \$25,000 to help purchase computer equipment and furnishings . (www.snlibraryfund.org)



The "Friends" present a \$25,000 check to the South Norwalk Branch Library 21st Century Fund



Among many other contributions, the Friends purchased a van for Library use.

- ☑ We underwrite the cost of Musical Concerts at the Library.
- ☑ We've purchased Pentium PC's and printers for public use as well as special-use equipment.
- ☑ We support programs and prizes for children, teen reading, staff appreciation lunches, and help with grounds maintenance.
- ☑ We arranged for the mural in the Main library and paintings for the Children's Library.
- ☑ Purchased furniture.& equipment for the Teen Room, Children's Library and Reading Area at the Main library.
- ☑ The Community Room at the South Norwalk Branch Library is named The Friends of the Norwalk Public Library System Community Room in honor of the contributions made by the Friends organization.
- ☑ And more, and with your help, much more.

Want to help? Join us Today...

info@nplfriends.org
www.nplfriends.org