

FINDING FUNDS



The major source of income for the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs is the May Annual Appeal and the July Book Sale. Because of a record number of donors, the Appeal has netted over \$7,800 so far. Many thanks to all who contributed.

But don't wait until next year to make further donations. Simply send a tax-deductible gift to LFOB, PO Box 1421, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557 and you will help the library remain a vibrant center of the community.

The Book Sale was once again an exciting success, garnering nearly \$5,000. Some 30 volunteers and a host of local community organizations helped make the Book Sale a highlight of the summer. So many thanks to all who helped. §

ZOE ADDS ZEST

With the hiring of Zoe Pechter as the new Children's Librarian in early June, the Oak Bluffs Public Library senior staff is now complete. Miki Wolfe came aboard as the Reference Librarian in late December and Sondra Murphy was appointed as the permanent Director of the Library in January. All three are young, energetic and full of ideas on how to make the Oak Bluffs Public Library a major force in the community.

Zoe was born in Summit, N.J. and attended Andover where she was a prize-winning debater. After gaining a degree in fiction writing and serving on the Board of Trustees at Sarah Lawrence, Zoe fulfilled a long-time goal. "I'm so into books and always dreamed of owning my own book store," she says. "I had the idea of arranging books by categories and was able to do that when I opened Riley's Reads in Vineyard Haven in 2003. I had no understanding of business and just learned by doing."

The unique book store was named after Zoe's cocker spaniel, who was a popular fixture among the shelves (unhappily, Riley died last year). "I began volunteering at the West Tisbury Library and Nelia Decker, the children's librarian there, told me I should go to library school," says Zoe. "After I closed down Riley's Reads in 2011, I obtained a masters degree in Library and Information Science at Simmons College in Boston"



"There were over 30 applicants for the position," says Sondra, who had also held the Children's Librarian title. "What stood out to me is that Zoe had already been working with books and children in her store on the island. Having the island connection is really important for this job. In her interview I felt as if she belonged here, she seemed perfect and her bright personality was something I was looking for."

And to top off a special year for Zoe, she and Simon Thompson will be marrying in September 2013. A master carpenter, Simon is building a home for the two of them in Chilmark. §

THE DYNAMIC DUO

Marilyn Miller, the outgoing president of the Library Friends, and Ron Zentner, the three-term treasurer, met in 1981 when both were Chemical Bank (NYC) employees taking a six-month systems training intern program. They have rarely been apart since then. Both went on to satisfying careers in technology, Marilyn for 16 years as an IT Development Project leader for TIAA-CREF, and Ron for 31 years as a senior technology officer for JPMorgan Chase, both in New York City.

Ron and Marilyn first visited Martha's Vineyard on a day trip from Cape Cod in 1983. Returning in 1998 while checking out possible retirement locations up and down the East Coast, they finally explored the Island thoroughly on foot and by car in various seasons. In short order, they ended up buying a



house in Oak Bluffs, selling their home in Jersey City, moving permanently to the Island in 2004 and getting married a year later. "We found that Martha's Vineyard was the place for us. We loved the Island and felt very comfortable here," says Marilyn.

Sometime around 2006 Ron and Marilyn were encouraged to become active with the Friends. Ron became only the organization's second treasurer in the spring of 2008, succeeding the legendary Dick Brown. Marilyn, who had been secretary, became president in June 2010, taking over from Gail Barmakian, the newly elected selectman. In March 2013 Marilyn was replaced by Colleen Morris and became the clerk of the corporation. Ron will serve as treasurer for one more term.

Both Ron and Marilyn agree that "working with the group to become incorporated, expanding and fine-tuning the Book Sale and overseeing our first direct mail membership and fundraising campaign have been most satisfying during our terms. We both hope to develop current and new members for leadership roles and to keep LFOB growing and vital in the community as we celebrate its 25th anniversary this year".

The entire Library Friends membership extends their heartfelt thanks to this dynamic duo for all their work on behalf of the Oak Bluffs Public Library. §

The mission of Library Friends of Oak Bluffs is to promote the library as an active, dynamic, education and information center in the community and to support and enhance the library's programs, services and collections.

Library Friends
of
Oak Bluffs Inc.
CELEBRATING OUR 25TH YEAR

BOOK ENDS

WHERE THE BUCKS WENT

All of the money collected by the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs helped augment programs and activities not fully funded by the Library's taxpayer supported budget.

For instance, in 2013 we supplied extra copies of high-demand books, sponsored the exciting Golf Night, contributed to the highly successful Branding effort, paid for Kiosks for training in technology and purchased tee-shirts and supplies for the summer reading programs.

In addition, the Friends helped fund the Ice Cream Social, Trivia Night, and the Stuffed Animal Sleepover, as well as such popular annual events as the Holiday Open House, the spring Easter Egg Hunt and the fall Halloween Party. All these are in addition to sponsoring lectures and purchasing E-readers. §

